



## DAD FEST RETAIL VENDOR APPLICATION

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

### **Event Summary**

Celebrate Father's Day at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Dad Fest on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, in Washington Park! This fun-filled event honors dads and father figures with classic cars, food, and retail vendors, kids' activities, and live music.

The Office of Cultural Affairs is accepting applications for retail vendors offering original, handcrafted, and specialty products. The enclosed application packet includes all necessary details, policies, and procedures.

**Application Deadline: Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (postmarked).**

**Rain Date:** Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, in Washington Park. Vendors must be available for the entire event on both dates. If the rain date is also canceled, the event will not be rescheduled, and a refund will be issued.

For questions, contact Andre Cowan at the Office of Cultural Affairs at 518-434-5416 or [vendor@albanyny.gov](mailto:vendor@albanyny.gov). We look forward to your participation!

### **Application Guidelines**

1. **Rain or Shine Policy:** Dad Fest will be rescheduled to Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, in the event of rain on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Refunds will only be issued in cases of force majeure or if both dates are canceled due to inclement weather. Vendors will be notified of changes 48 hours in advance.
2. **Prohibited Items and Vendors:** Glass bottles, Styrofoam containers, as well as the sale, sampling, distribution, and promotion of products or materials related to political campaigns, alcohol products (with the exception of confections containing an alcohol content of no more than five percent (5%), per volume) and all CBD/THC products are strictly prohibited. See pages 5 & 6 for more information.
3. **Selection Process:** An independent jury appointed by the City of Albany will oversee the selection process. All decisions by the jury are final. The City of Albany does not hold the Grandfather-in clause to any vendor.
4. **Evaluation Criteria:** Applications will be reviewed based on specific criteria and the overall quality and integrity of the event.
5. **City Rights:** The City reserves the right to deny participation if an organization's non-profit, government, or charitable status does not align with festival guidelines.
6. **Incomplete Applications:** Failure to submit all required information will result in the application being deemed incomplete and subject to rejection.
7. **Booth Specifications:** Please provide details such as booth length, width, and category of retail items to ensure appropriate space allocation (15'L x 10'W). Due to limited space, any application over 15'L x 10'W is subject to rejection.
8. **Photo Submission:** Submit high-quality photos of your booth setup along with complete pricing. These images are crucial for the jury evaluation. Vendors who deviate from their submitted materials during the event will not be allowed to participate in future events.
9. **Insurance Requirement:** Vendors selling packaged food or body care items must provide proof of commercial general liability insurance. See page 4 for more information.



## **Dad Fest 2026 Retail Vendor Application Form**

Business Owner Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Craft Category (Check Box):

<input type="checkbox"/> Apparel	<input type="checkbox"/> Body Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic	<input type="checkbox"/> Decor	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry	<input type="checkbox"/> Packaged Food
<input type="checkbox"/> Pet Products	<input type="checkbox"/> Toy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			

Website: \_\_\_\_\_ Instagram Account (Please list username) \_\_\_\_\_

Description of attached photos: **Including pricing, material used, techniques, and booth display**  
(Please provide comprehensive and accurate descriptions to avoid duplication of vendor offerings.)

1: \_\_\_\_\_

2: \_\_\_\_\_

3: \_\_\_\_\_

**Media Release:** By checking this box, you authorize the City of Albany Office of Cultural Affairs to use photos you submitted for promotional purposes.

Two vendor parking permits will be provided onsite at this event. Provide information for the vehicle/trailer permit.  
**(Please Note: all vehicles must be off-site after load-in hours)**

Vehicle Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_

Trailer Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_

State Plate Issued \_\_\_\_\_

State Plate Issued \_\_\_\_\_

Make, Model & Color \_\_\_\_\_

Trailer Color \_\_\_\_\_

Were you a Retail Vendor at last year's Dad Festival? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Please Note: The City of Albany does not hold the Grandfather clause to any vendor)**



## Dad Fest 2026 Retail Vendor Fees

*Select the Booth Size category you are applying for:*

Category	Booth Size	Booth Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Retail Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/> 15'L x 10'W  -Selecting this option confirms that the booth dimension falls within the range	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (Refundable if not accepted)
<b>Farmers Market-</b>  For handcrafted, small-batch, or farm-derived artisan products such as soaps, candles, skincare items, woodcrafts, pottery, textiles, preserves, honey, maple products, floral goods, and other value-added agricultural or wellness-oriented crafts.	<b>Up to 15'L x 10'W only</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (Refundable if not accepted)  <b>Note: This section is not on the retail vendor row.</b>

**Payment Instructions:**

Checks should be payable to “THE CITY OF ALBANY” and submitted along with the application. **Money orders are not accepted.**

**Registration Deadline:**

All completed applications must be postmarked on **Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. The acceptance letter will be sent out on **Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.



## **Dad Fest 2026 Licenses and Insurance**

1. Vendors selling packaged food or body care items must provide proof of commercial general liability insurance.
2. Vendors must procure and maintain Commercial General Liability insurance coverage with limits of \$1,000,000 for each occurrence. As an attachment to the application, Food vendors must submit a certificate of proof of Commercial General Liability insurance, stating the name of the event, the date, and the following parties as additional insured on a primary and non-contributory basis:

City of Albany  
24 Eagle Street  
Albany, NY 12207

Albany County  
112 State Street  
Albany, NY 12207

3. Vendors are solely responsible for their equipment and property during the festival, including setup and breakdown, and must have insurance to cover losses from theft, vandalism, or other risks. Although security is provided at certain times, any loss or damage is the exhibitors' responsibility. The City of Albany, Dad Fest, and event staff are not liable for theft, vandalism, or damage. Exhibitors must secure their tents and equipment after event hours and assume full responsibility for them outside of those hours.
4. Vendors must abide by all current NYS Department of Health safety guidelines.
5. Vendors are solely responsible for collecting and paying all New York State sales tax during the event and shall properly display their New York Sales Tax Certificate at their booth.
6. Vendor may apply to be a Retail vendor if they make the items themselves; however, it does need to be original and not mass-produced.
7. Vendors agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City of Albany, including its employees and agents, from any claims, damages, losses, and expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) resulting from any negligent or intentional actions or omissions by the vendor or their employees. This obligation applies to the extent that the vendor or their employees or agents are responsible for such claims, losses, and expenses.



## Dad Fest 2026 Rules and Regulations

1. Only one business or organization is allowed per booth. Sharing, subletting, or reassigning booth space is prohibited. Vendors may only distribute, display, or sell items from the business contracted with the City of Albany for the booth.
2. Vendor may apply to be a Retail vendor if they make the items themselves; however, it does need to be original and not mass-produced.
3. The City of Albany may change the event's location, dates, and hours, or cancel it entirely at any time without notice. However, reasonable efforts will be made to inform vendors of any changes or cancellations in advance.
4. Vendors must have personnel present and in their booth at all times during the official operating hours of the event: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Load-out begins after 6:30 pm.
5. By submitting this application, you hereby consent and acknowledge that the City of Albany reserves the right to prohibit the sale, sampling, distribution, and promotion of products or materials related to political campaigns, products or materials containing alcohol, and all THC/CBD products at the City of Albany-produced events (see [albanyevents.org](http://albanyevents.org) for a complete listing). Please note that confections containing alcohol, as defined by New York State Liquor Authority's Advisory #2019-1, with an alcohol content of no more than five percent (5%) by volume, are permitted to apply and will be subject to a standard vendor jury selection process. Applications received that involve the sale, sampling, distribution, and promotion of the aforementioned items, with the exception of confectionery containing an alcohol content of no more than five percent (5%) by volume, will be subject to immediate rejection. This policy is instituted to uphold public safety and to ensure a family-friendly environment for all City of Albany-produced event attendees and excludes the City of Albany-sanctioned alcohol sales, intended for consumption by event goers, in designated "Beer Zones".
6. Vendors are banned from using polystyrene foam (Styrofoam ) containers, cups, or bowls. A first offense results in a warning, and a second offense leads to contract termination and removal from the event without a refund.
7. Vendors must provide their own supplies: water, electricity, tables, chairs, tents, and tent weights.  
**(Please Note: Cars as an electrical source are prohibited)**
8. Vendors are prohibited from bringing any animals or pets to the event, except for service animals as defined by the American Disabilities Act (ADA).
9. Refunds: Dad Fest will be rescheduled to Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, in the event of rain on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Refunds will **only** be issued in cases of force majeure or if both dates are canceled due to inclement weather. Vendors will be notified of changes 48 hours in advance.
10. Vendors must stay within the boundaries of their assigned spaces, which are 30 feet long by 10 feet wide for Food vendors, 15 feet long by 10 feet wide for Retail vendors and farmers market, and 10 feet long by 10 feet wide for both Public Information and Art vendors. The City of Albany will determine vendor placement.
11. Vendors may not hawk, peddle, sell, or advertise outside their assigned area.



## Dad Fest 2026 Rules and Regulations (cont.)

12. Vehicles of any kind are prohibited on-site outside of load-in hours (7:00 am - 9:00 am) and are not permitted near the vendor's designated area during the event. Load-out begins after 6:30 pm.
13. Vendors must make arrangements for transporting their products, equipment, etc., to and from their exhibit spaces; event personnel are not available to assist, and no storage space is provided for products, literature, etc. Driving is strictly prohibited after load-in hours.
14. Vendors are prohibited from playing music or activities that will be disruptive to neighboring vendors or event participants. A first offense results in a warning, and a second offense leads to contract termination and removal from the event without a refund.
15. Vendors must adhere to the City of Albany's tobacco-free park ordinance [38.52.14] and cannabis-related ordinances, including the provisions of the *Cannabis Law* (Chapter 7 of the Public Health Law) and the *Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA)*, both of which prohibit smoking and vaping of cannabis in all city parks. These ordinances have been in effect since January 1, 2015, for tobacco-related smoking and since March 2021 for cannabis-related smoking. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in fines, permit revocation, or contract termination. For this ordinance, 'smoking' is defined as the act of burning any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other substance containing tobacco, or cannabis as defined under the *Cannabis Law* and the *Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act* (which includes smoking of both adult-use cannabis and cannabinoid hemp, as defined in section three of the *Cannabis Law*).
16. The City of Albany does not hold the Grandfathered-In clause to any exhibitors.
17. The City of Albany may, for publicity purposes, use any photographs or information received or obtained during the event.
18. Vendors using an electric generator or other motor must soundproof the device to meet the City of Albany's standards. Due to frequent complaints, this policy will be strictly enforced. We recommend having a quieter backup generator or servicing your current one. The City of Albany reserves the right to shut down any exhibitor not adhering to this or other event policies.
19. Pricing should remain consistent based on the submitted application and cannot be altered; a first offense will result in a warning, and a second offense will result in contract termination and removal from the event without a refund.
20. Vendors must treat all Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA)/City of Albany (COA) staff, volunteers, fellow vendors, and festival guests with professionalism and respect. Abusive, threatening, harassing, or other inappropriate behavior by the vendor or the vendor's employees or agents will not be tolerated. OCA reserves the right to deny any application or immediately terminate any vendor contract without a refund based on a vendor's violation of this policy, including past violations. Submission of an application constitutes agreement to this policy and review standard.



## **Dad Fest 2026 Release & Indemnification**

I, the undersigned, understand that my participation in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Dad Fest is voluntary. By signing this release form, I acknowledge and agree to the following terms:

I am aware of and assume any risks associated with my participation in the event, including but not limited to, any potential injury, illness, loss, or damage to my person or property. I acknowledge that I am solely responsible for my safety and belongings during the event.

I hereby release, waive, and discharge the City of Albany, its employees, agents, volunteers, and affiliates from any claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury that I may sustain as a result of my participation in the event, whether caused by negligence or otherwise.

I grant permission to the City of Albany to use my image, likeness, and/or voice recorded in any format (photographs, video, and audio) during the event for promotional purposes, including but not limited to marketing materials, social media, and website content, without any compensation.

I verify that all information I have provided about my business, and my products for sale is true and accurate.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Albany from any liabilities or claims made by other individuals or entities as a result of my actions during the event.

I have read and fully understand this release form and its terms. By signing below, I confirm that I am voluntarily agreeing to the release and to abide by all applicable rules and regulations. If my application is accepted, this form will serve as a binding agreement, representing the terms of the permit. I understand that the City of Albany reserves the right to remove any vendor from participating in the event at any time, without refund, if they violate the rules and regulations or fail to follow reasonable instructions given by City of Albany event personnel.

By submitting this application, you hereby consent and acknowledge that the City of Albany reserves the right to prohibit the sale, sampling, distribution, and promotion of products or materials related to political campaigns, products or materials containing alcohol and all THC/CBD products at the City of Albany produced events (see [albanyevents.org](http://albanyevents.org) for a complete listing). Please note that confections containing alcohol, as defined by New York State Liquor Authority's Advisory #2019-1, with an alcohol content of no more than five percent (5%) by volume, are permitted to apply and will be subject to a standard vendor jury selection process. Applications received that involve the sale, sampling, distribution, and promotion of the aforementioned items, with the exception of confectionery containing an alcohol content of no more than five percent (5%) by volume, will be subject to immediate rejection. This policy is instituted to uphold public safety and to ensure a family-friendly environment for all City of Albany-produced event attendees and excludes the City of Albany-sanctioned alcohol sales, intended for consumption by event goers, in designated "Beer Zones".

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



# 2026 CITY OF ALBANY DAD FEST

## Retail Vendor Application Checklist

- Application filled out completely with all required information
- Release and Indemnification read, signed, and attached
- Three (3) photos, including one (1) clear photo of the booth display, two (2) representatives of what you plan to sell, attached to the application
- One (1) check of (\$50) made payable to "The City of Albany." **Money orders are not accepted**
- Proof of Commercial General Liability insurance if vending Packaged Food or Body Care
- Return pages 2,3,7, and 8

**APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**SEND APPLICATIONS TO:**  
City of Albany Office of Cultural Affairs  
24 Eagle Street, Room M 252  
Albany, NY 12207

Contact Andre Cowan at 518-434-5416 or write [Acowan@albanyny.gov](mailto:Acowan@albanyny.gov) with any questions.