

First Thursday Fayetteville FAQ

Q: When is First Thursday?

The 2021 season of First Thursday will kick off August 5th, 2021.

First Thursday on the square is traditionally held the first Thursday of the month May through October from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Q: What is the purpose of First Thursday?

First Thursday was established to engage our downtown square with a recurring cultural arts event showcasing local music, artists, craft beer and food. There is something for everyone to enjoy at First Thursday; from free yoga classes to a slow roll bike ride, gallery showings all over the downtown area and more!

Q: What if it rains?

First Thursday is a RAIN OR SHINE event! If inclement weather is forecasted, Experience Fayetteville will decide whether to move the event inside the Fayetteville Town Center. Every attempt will be made to decide by 1:00 p.m. This will be announced on our social media and we will notify our vendors via email.

Q: What types of vendors will be included?

Experience Fayetteville welcomes applications from skilled artists, non-profits, community groups, food and beverage establishments. We do not accept applicants representing a political party, a candidate for political office, or those selling multi-level marketing products.

Q: I lost something at First Thursday! How can I get it back?

We're happy to help! Reach out to the Experience Fayetteville office at (479) 521-5776 for all lost & found items.

Q: Can I bring my dog to First Thursday?

Please do! We do ask that dogs are socialized and that you clean up after them, there are pet waste stations located around the square.

Q: What if I have other questions?

Give us a call or email, we love to chat about First Thursday! Contact Chloe Bell at cbell@experiencefayetteville.com or (479) 521-475

Vendor FAQ

Q: What can be sold at First Thursday?

Objects of art or craft produced and sold by a local artist, curator or craftsman may be sold at the First Thursday Fayetteville.

Q: How can my business be a part of First Thursday?

Even if you do not meet the requirements for a vendor booth, you can still support the cultural arts purpose of First Thursday! If your organization is interested in a partnership or sponsored activation, please reach out to Community Engagement Manager Chloe Bell at 479-935-4751 or cbell@experiencefayetteville.com.

Q: What are the vendor fees for First Thursday 2021?

Food &/or Beverage Vendors fees are \$40.00 per event, non-food and beverage is \$25.00 per event.

Q: Are not-for-profit groups required to pay the \$25 vendor fee?

Yes. Experience Fayetteville establishes a budget-friendly fee for all our vendors.

Q: Why is Experience Fayetteville requesting my First Thursday sales data?

This data helps us help you have the best night possible by noting trends, how sales may be affected by weather or crowds, and it shows the positive economic impact we have when we provide this community, art-focused event. Experience Fayetteville does NOT collect a percentage of your sales.

Q: Can I request a specific spot?

Vendor placement varies each month due to a variety of factors including electrical needs, theme activations, etc. We carefully plan our layout to ensure the success of our vendors and a fresh experience for our attendees, and therefore cannot honor specific requests for placement. If you have any needs that we need to be aware of in our planning, please let us know in your application!

Q: How do I request extra power for my booth?

Because power is limited, Experience Fayetteville will not provide electrical power or extension cords to vendors UNLESS it is necessary to operate your booth or activation. If power is required, please note that on your application.

Q: Is a tent required to participate as a vendor?

Although not required, we do encourage each vendor to bring their own 10x10 tent. This is aesthetically pleasing but more importantly offers you shade. Experience Fayetteville does not provide tents to vendors.

Q: Can I leave early?

As to not diminish or disrupt the event experience we ask our vendors to remain set up for the duration of the event. For the safety of our attendees we do not allow vehicles on the square to assist with load out until the event has ended.

Q: How can I get a refund for my vendor fees?

Experience Fayetteville will not be issuing refunds unless the event is cancelled.

Q: I am a vendor. Does Experience Fayetteville collect my sales tax?

Vendors are responsible for remitting their own sales tax to the city and state as appropriate. To learn more, visit the state website here:

https://www.dfa.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/revenuePolicyLegalOffice/starting_a-new_business.pdf

Q: What documents and certificates do I need for my food and beverage vendor application?

To complete the application, you will need the following attachments:

- At least one high quality photo of your food or beverage truck setup. This photo may be used for promotional purposes.
- Menu
- Proof of Arkansas sales tax permit if applicable

Q: Is Styrofoam banned at First Thursday?

The use of polystyrene (Styrofoam) food containers is banned by Fayetteville City Code beginning July 1, 2020. We want to make this a smooth transition for our vendors! If you have any questions, please reach out. To view the ordinance and a list of compostable product suppliers, visit the City of Fayetteville website here: <https://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/3841/Citywide-Expanded-Polystyrene-EPS-Ban>

Q: Why is First Thursday requiring that food trucks use compostable disposables?

First Thursday is excited to partner with FoodLoops to create a sustainable event experience! We will have staffed waste stations to sort compostable and recyclable items with the goal of diverting our event waste from landfills.

Food Vendors are required to serve their food items in compostable containers. Beverages are allowed in compostable containers, glass bottles, #1 or #2 plastic, and aluminum cans. FoodLoops is very user friendly; check out their website here: <https://foodloops.net>. If you so choose, you may order compostable containers from them. This is not required.

Q: I'm interested in being a food and beverage vendor. How do I file my Hotel, Motel, and Restaurant tax payment?

All food and beverage vendors must be up to date on HMR taxes to participate in First Thursday. To get started, please download the pdf here: <https://www.fayetteville-ar.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1608/HMRRegistration-Form>

Q: How can I be the exclusive t-shirt/necklace/soap vendor?

While we strive to ensure a diversity of items and set all vendors up for success, no one vendor will have exclusive rights to sell one type of product.