

KOSHER CERTIFICATION

“The word kosher means proper or acceptable, and it has informally entered the English language with that meaning. But kosher laws have their origin in the Bible, and are detailed in the Talmud and the other codes of Jewish traditions. They have been applied through the centuries to ever-changing situations, and these rulings, both ancient and modern, govern OU Kosher certification.

You may already be familiar with some of the more well-known requirements, but you may be surprised at the extent of the regulations with which you are not familiar.

The Bible lists the basic categories of food items which are not kosher. These include certain animals, fowl and fish (such as pork and rabbit, eagle and owl, catfish and sturgeon), and any shellfish, insect or reptile. In addition, kosher species of meat and fowl must be slaughtered in a prescribed manner, and meat and dairy products may not be manufactured or consumed together.

Why do so many foods require kosher supervision? For example, shouldn't cereals and potato chips be inherently kosher since they are not made from meat, fowl, fish or insects? The answer is that all units and subunits in a food item must be kosher as well. Thus, for example, a cereal may be non-kosher because it has raisins which are coated with a non-Kosher, animal-based glycerin. Potato chips can be non-kosher if the vegetable oil used in the fryer has been pasteurized and deodorized on equipment used for tallow production. In fact, equipment used for hot production of non-kosher products may not be used for kosher production without kosherization (a hot purging procedure).” (Basics of Kosher from OU Kosher website)

Certifying agents

OU Kosher

Orthodox Union

11 Broadway, 14th Floor

New York, NY 10004

General Inquiries: 212-563-4000

kosherq@ou.org

New Company Application Information:

Rabbi Eliyahu Safran, Ms. Phyllis Koegel,

Ms. Suzanne Beck

212-613-8372

newcompanies@ou.org

Scroll K Certification

The Vaad Hahashrus of Denver

1350 Vrain St.

Denver, CO 80204

303.595.9349

www.scrollk.org

Link to information on other Kosher Certification options

<http://www.scrollk.org/vaad symb/web%20Kosher%20Symbols.html>