



2026 Cafe Vendor RFP Selection - FAQ List

Q: Why are you seeking a new café vendor? Is Green Baked Goods staying?

A: As part of our Creative Business Incubator program, Arts @ Large offers a three-year lease agreement to the selected café vendor. Green Baked Goods' lease concludes on April 30, 2026 and the owners have chosen not to reapply in this upcoming selection cycle.

Q: Is Green Baked Goods still operating in the café space?

A: Yes! Green Baked Goods' current lease agreement runs through April 30, and they remain open and serving delicious baked goods, sandwiches, and beverages. Their current hours are Tuesday–Friday from 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

In their remaining months at our Community Center, Green Baked Goods has several specials and events planned. Follow Arts @ Large and Green Baked Goods on social media, or subscribe to our monthly newsletter, to stay up to date on the latest offerings.

Q: Is catering required as part of café operations?

A: Catering is **not required**, but opportunities for both small- and large-scale catering are available. Vendors who offer catering services may be considered for preferred catering opportunities for Arts @ Large–hosted events.

Q: Will the selected vendor receive priority for catering opportunities associated with Community Center event rentals?

A: Yes. If the selected vendor offers catering services, they will receive priority consideration and serve as Arts @ Large's preferred catering partner for all Arts @ Large–hosted events.

Q: What is the anticipated start date for the selected café vendor?

A: The anticipated commencement of the lease is **June 1, 2026**, following contract signing on or around **May 15, 2026**.

Q: How long is the lease term?

A: Arts @ Large anticipates entering into a three-year lease with the selected café vendor as part of its Creative Business Incubator program.

Q: Is the café vendor considered a partner of Arts @ Large?

A: No. The café vendor will operate as an independent business tenant. While collaboration and alignment with Arts @ Large's mission are important, the lease does not constitute a partnership, joint venture, or shared ownership.

Q: Is there an existing coffee partnership the vendor must honor?

A: Yes. Arts @ Large has a longstanding relationship with Anodyne Coffee. The selected vendor will be required to continue this relationship for coffee products (at a minimum) and training purposes.

Q: Are tours available for applicants interested in seeing the café space?

A: Yes. Applicants may request a tour of the space by contacting our Operations Manager at Operations@artsatlargeinc.org.

Q: Is support available for developing a business plan?

A: While Arts @ Large does not provide direct business planning services, we recommend the following organizations as excellent resources for business plan development:

- BizStarts

- Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)
- Local Chambers of Commerce
- Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)
- University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, Lubar College of Business

Additionally, Arts @ Large can provide a suggested [business plan format](#) from UWM's Lubar College of Business. Applicants may follow this format and submit it as part of their RFP application. We also encourage applicants to take advantage of free online tools and templates, including AI-based resources such as ChatGPT.

The RFP will request a **brief business plan** that includes:

1. Key customer targets
2. Expected gross income and revenue projections
3. Start-up costs and initial investment requirements

Q: Will there be an opportunity to ask questions beyond what is included in this FAQ after the RFP is released?

A: Yes. A formal Q&A period will be held after the RFP is released. Questions may be submitted to Operations@artsatlargeinc.org from **January 15–23**. A compiled list of all questions and responses will be published on **January 24**.