

PBIS Procedure Code 05B02

Sample Initiation

There are several ways that sampling is initiated. Most commonly, you will receive a directed sample request from OCIO-DSMD (Office of Chief Information Officer, Data Systems Management Division). When OCIO-DSMD schedules a sample to be taken at an establishment, they will send a Requested Sample Programs Form 10,210-3. Once the form is received, you are to **always** collect a RTE product sample. FSIS Directive 10,210.1, Unified Sampling Form, lists the products and pathogens and toxins for which FSIS may collect and test samples. For example, FSIS may analyze a ready-to-eat meat and poultry product for *Salmonella* and *Listeria monocytogenes*. Plus, if the product is dry or semi-dry fermented sausage or fully-cooked meat patties, then it will also be analyzed for *E. coli* O157:H7.

Inspector-generated samples are initiated by FSIS in-plant personnel, based on a suspicion about the product or process. You and your front line supervisor will determine when inspector-generated sampling should occur. Before a sample is taken, you must obtain an FSIS Form 10,210-3 from OCIO-DSMD. The front line supervisor, District Office, or Washington headquarters may also initiate directed samples.

Special project samples are taken when FSIS is alerted to a foodborne illness outbreak by a state or local government, or when there is a special project such as baseline studies.