

## FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT



**Shirley's Franchising, LLC**  
An Ohio Limited Liability Company  
117 South Main Street  
Bluffton, Ohio 45817  
(888)501-5602  
www.shirleyspopcorn.com  
franchise@shirleyspopcorn.com

The franchise described in this Disclosure Document is for the operation of a retail shop ("Shop") that sells the exclusive line of Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn Company products and a variety of fresh and packaged gourmet nuts, snack foods, beverages, gifts and fundraising items.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a Shirley's Gourmet Popcorn Company franchise is \$206,500 to \$374,000. This includes between \$29,000 to \$30,500 that must be paid to the franchisor and/or its affiliate.

If you enter into a Multi-Unit Operator Agreement to develop at least three Shops, when you sign the Multi-Unit Operator Agreement you will pay a development fee equal to 100% of the initial franchise fee for the first Shop to be developed, plus a deposit of 50% of the initial franchise fee for each additional Shop to be developed under the Multi-Unit Operator Agreement. The total investment under a Multi-Unit Operator Agreement will vary depending on the number of Shops to be developed.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your franchise agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive the disclosure document at least 14 calendar days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to the franchisor or an affiliate in connection with the proposed franchise sale. **Note, however, that no government agency has verified the information contained in this document.**

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact Dr. James Peter Suter at 117 South Main Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817 and (888)501-5602.

You may have elected to receive an electronic version of your disclosure document. If so, you may wish to print or download the disclosure document for future reference. You have the right to receive a paper copy of the disclosure document until the time of sale. To obtain a paper copy, contact Dr. James Peter Suter at 117 South Main Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817 and (888)501-5602.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Don't rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read your entire contract carefully. Show your contract and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as "*A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise*," which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTC-HELP or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising. There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

**Issuance Date: April 25, 2018**

## STATE COVER PAGE

Your state may have a franchise law that requires a franchisor to register or file with a state franchise administrator before offering or selling in your state. REGISTRATION OF A FRANCHISE BY A STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE STATE RECOMMENDS THE FRANCHISE OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in Exhibit A for information about the franchisor or about franchising in your state.

MANY FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO RENEW UNCONDITIONALLY AFTER THE INITIAL TERM EXPIRES. YOU MAY HAVE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WITH DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS. BEFORE YOU BUY, CONSIDER WHAT RIGHTS YOU HAVE TO RENEW YOUR FRANCHISE, IF ANY, AND WHAT TERMS YOU MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT IN ORDER TO RENEW.

Please consider the following RISK FACTORS before you buy this franchise:

1. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND MULTI-UNIT OPERATOR AGREEMENT REQUIRE YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US ONLY IN OHIO EITHER BY MEDIATION (IF MUTUALLY AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES) OR ARBITRATION. OUT OF STATE ARBITRATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST MORE TO ARBITRATE WITH US IN OHIO THAN IN YOUR OWN STATE.
2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND MULTI-UNIT OPERATOR AGREEMENT STATE THAT OHIO LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENTS, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.
3. PLEASE NOTE THAT 58% OF FRANCHISOR'S ASSETS ARE INTANGIBLE. YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN MAKING A DECISION TO PURCHASE THIS FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY.
4. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THIS FRANCHISE.

### STATE EFFECTIVE DATES

The following states require that this Disclosure Document be registered or filed with the state, or that an exemption from registration be filed: California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Nebraska, Kentucky, Utah, Florida and Texas.

This Disclosure Document is registered, on file or has an exemption from registration on file in the following states having franchise registration and disclosure laws, with the following effective dates:

<b>State</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Florida	Exempt
Illinois	Pending
Indiana	Pending
Kentucky	Exempt
Maryland	Pending
Michigan	Pending
Virginia	Pending

In all the other states, this Franchise Disclosure Document has an issuance date of April 25, 2018

This is a document preview downloaded from FranchisePanda.com. The full document is available for free by visiting: <https://franchisepanda.com/franchises/shirleys-gourmet-popcorn-company>