

FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT

The Meadows Franchise Systems, Inc.
A Pennsylvania Corporation
107 Browning Avenue
Altoona, PA 16602
866-868-2954
info@meadowsfrozencustard.com
www.meadowsfrozencustard.com



The franchisee will operate a Meadows Original Frozen Custard Stand featuring frozen custard and frozen yogurt.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a Meadows Frozen Custard Stand franchise is \$148,000 – \$294,000. This includes \$25,000 that must be paid to the franchisor or affiliate.

This disclosure 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 this 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 disclosure in different formats, contact Steven D. Gardner at 107 Browning Avenue, Altoona, PA, 16602, 814-979-3557.

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Don't rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read all of your 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 "<u>A Consumer's Guide to Buying a Franchise</u>," which can help you understand how to use this 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, D.C. 20580. You can also visit the FTC's home page at 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: August 25, 2017





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 REQUIRES YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US BY ARBITRATION ONLY IN PENNSYLVANIA. THIS PROVISION DOES NOT APPLY IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND AS MANDATED BY SECTION 14-216(c)(25) OF THE MARYLAND FRANCHISE AND DISCLOSURE LAW. OUT-OF STATE LITIGATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST MORE TO SUE IN PENNSYLVANIA THAN IN YOUR HOME STATE.
- 2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT STATES THAT PENNSYLVANIA LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.
- 3. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT DOES NOT PROVIDE AN EXCLUSIVE TERRITORY. THE FRANCHISOR AND ITS AFFILIATES MAY ESTABLISH OTHER FRANCHISED OR COMPANY-OWNED LOCATIONS AND MAY SELL OR DISTRIBUTE ANY PRODUCT OR SERVICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN COMPETITION WITH THE FRANCHISE.
- 4. THE FRANCHISEE'S SPOUSE MUST SIGN A PERSONAL GUARANTY MAKING SUCH SPOUSE JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY LIABLE FOR THE OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WHICH ALSO PLACES THE SPOUSES PERSONAL ASSETS AT RISK. YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER THIS WHEN MAKING A DECISION TO PURCHASE THIS FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY.
- 5. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THE FRANCHISE.

Effective Date: Attached page.



STATE COVER PAGE ASSIGNED EFFECTIVE DATES:

Maryland – March 17, 2017

Virginia – PENDING

New York – February 2, 2017

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