

MAKERS FAIR FAQ

What is the Makers Fair?

The Makers Fair is a two-to-three day quarterly event hosted by the HUB to promote and share the creative talent within the UW community. Our primary goals are:

1. To our vendors: to provide students a low-cost opportunity to expand their professional skills and networks while building their small businesses.
2. To our shoppers: to provide a diverse array of products for an enjoyable shopping experience for all.

Who is eligible to participate as a vendor?

Anyone can apply to be a vendor! Our first priority is students, but we offer a limited number of spots to staff, faculty, alumni, and off-campus vendors. Both first-time and returning vendors are considered.

Please be aware, F-1 or J-1 visa regulations do not allow international students to sell items at the fair. Any questions about international student employment should be directed to the [International Student Services office](#).

What can I sell?

The Makers Fair is for **handmade or personally designed products**. We do not allow the sale of thrifted items, food, plants (unless in a handmade vessel), or pre-manufactured goods ("drop-shipping"). We understand some products, like t-shirts with a design, have to be outsourced for printing. That is okay as long as the design is of your own creation.

Can I vend as my RSO?

Yes! Many Registered Student Organizations "RSOs" choose to vend to promote their club or raise funds.

Can I vend both days?

Unfortunately, no. To provide more opportunities to different vendors and a diverse shopping experience to students on campus, vendors are only slotted for a single day.

Why do I have to pay to be a vendor?

Putting on the Makers Fair is a large and time-intensive process. Your vendor fees go toward the cost of renting the HUB's main spaces, setup/takedown, marketing, staffing, and equipment rentals, among other expenses. To maximize student participation, fees are subsidized for student makers by the HUB.

Do I need to submit a video to apply? What are the video requirements?

Yes, as of Fall 2025, video submissions are required for every vendor application. Videos must include a demonstration of the creation of a popular item you intend to sell. This may look like showing the physical process, a timelapse, or files of your custom designs. You must also verbally state or physically write your name/business name within frame. Please refer to the example videos found in this google drive: [Google Drive - Example Videos](#).

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MAKERS FAIR FAQ (CONT.)

Why wasn't I accepted as a vendor?

In every application cycle, the amount of applications we receive far outnumber the spots available at the fair. Getting on the waitlist is not a rejection, and we work to fill all empty tables as vendors drop out. You can apply to every Makers Fair cycle to increase your chances of participating. Verify that your items were in accordance with our guidelines--ineligible products will result in a rejection.

How are vendors decided? And how can I increase my chance of being selected?

A variety of factors are used to accept vendors. Students receive priority in the selection process, but other elements, including order of submission, application completion, product diversity, and table preferences/availability are assessed when slotting vendors.

We recommend getting your application in early and ensuring all questions are filled out with functioning links and videos if requested. (NOTE: As of Fall 2025, video submissions are required for all products. Please read the application requirements carefully). Remember, we receive a large number of applications and acceptance is not guaranteed. Don't become discouraged if you are not accepted! Apply again next quarter.

When will I hear back if I'm on the waitlist?

Waitlisted vendors are added to the fair as spots become available. Because of the unpredictable nature of withdrawn applications, non-payments, and last-minute cancellations, we cannot provide a timeline of when you will hear back from us. It can range from a few weeks to just several days before the fair. If you are moved from the waitlist and can no longer attend due to short notice, we understand. Please send us an email if you no longer want to be considered for that quarter.

What is the stand-by option, and how can I opt-in for it?

The stand-by option provided in the application is meant to reduce the number of empty tables due to no-show vendors. Vendors will be asked a question on the application if they are interested in this option. Choosing yes has no impact on your chances of being accepted; the regular selection process for vendors has not changed.

If a vendor does not show up, stand-by vendors will be given the opportunity to take the forfeited half table at no cost. If no tables become available, we cannot provide a space for standby vendors. Vendors accept this risk if they agree to be on standby. For more details, read our policies and guidelines.

Can I leave the fair early?

No, vendors are required to stay the full duration of the fair. If you can't be in attendance for the full fair, we suggest you request some backup from trusted friends or family members who can take over the table. Violation of any guidelines will result in automatic ineligibility to participate in future Makers Fairs.

MAKERS FAIR FAQ (CONT.)

Can I know my table number beforehand?

No, We do not provide table numbers beforehand.

Can I make changes to my application after I submit or do I need to submit a new one?

Vendors are required to stay the full duration of the fair. If you can't be in attendance for the full fair, we suggest you request some backup from trusted friends or family members who can take over the table.

Do I need vending experience to attend the makers fair?

No! All vendors are welcome, including those who are just launching their small business or side hustle. No prior experience needed. Please consult our Vendor Tips & Tricks sheet to hear advice from previous Makers Fair vendors.

I can no longer vend on my chosen day. What do I do?

We understand! With school and work schedules, conflicts arise. While we cannot guarantee moving you to another day, we will try our best to accommodate with reasonable notice.

I can't vend anymore, can I get a refund?

Refunds can be issued up to two weeks before the fair. Email thehub@uw.edu to initiate the process.