The second phase of the City of Chicago’s plastic bag ban will take effect on August 1, 2016, for all chain stores and franchises.

• Stores affected by this ban are chain stores, defined as (1) three or more stores having common ownership or (2) any store, regardless of ownership, that is part of a franchise.
• A store is defined as a retail establishment that sells perishable or non-perishable goods, including but not limited to clothing, food and personal items.
• The ban does not apply to any dine-in or take-out restaurant, or any store that is not a chain store organization.
• Stores shall provide reusable bags, recyclable paper bags or commercially compostable plastic bags for customers if they provided plastic carryout bags prior to the ban.
• If the store did not provide carryout bags of any type for customers before the ban, they are not required to provide reusable or compostable bags.
• Customers may still bring their own plastic carryout bags.
• Fines run between $100 and $500 each time the ordinance is violated.

Phase 1 was implemented on August 1, 2015, which applied to chain stores and franchises over 10,000 square feet. Independent non-franchise stores and restaurants will continue to be unaffected.
Click Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance for more information.