

Business Ineligible for a Home Occupation Business License

- ✓ Any type of repair or assembly of vehicles or equipment with internal combustion engines or of large appliances or any other work related to automobiles and their parts with the exception of automobile detailing provided washing occurs off-site and detailing occurs within an enclosed garage with one vehicle at a time.
- ✓ Equipment or vehicle rentals
- ✓ Retail sales with stock and trade on premises with the exception of yard sales (See §11-3-13C)
- ✓ Storage of household goods, equipment or materials not owned by the resident
- ✓ Extermination services
- ✓ Pet Boarding services
- ✓ Dispatch centers or other businesses where employees come to the site and are dispatched to other locations.

Licensing Requirements

Prior to starting your home-based business, you are required to obtain a city business license. As part of this license and approval, you need to meet the Home Occupation standards (enclosed—also located in Section 11-3-13 of the Whitefish City Code).

Carefully review these standards. There are certain standards, if exceeded, require a conditional use permit. Other standards, if exceeded, indicate the business is not suitable for a residential neighborhood and needs to be located in an appropriately zoned area of our community.

If the business will be located within a rental property, the property owner shall provide written authorization for the proposed use.

If you have further questions about how these standards apply to your home-based business, please call the Planning & Building Department at 406-863-2410.

City of Whitefish

418 East 2nd Street
PO Box 158
Whitefish, MT 59937
Phone: 406-863-2400
Fax: 406-863-2419
E-mail: mhowke@cityofwhitefish.org

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HOME OCCUPATIONS

Business Licensing Requirements



Phone: 406-863-2400

Home Occupation Standards:

The following standards shall be met in order to qualify for a home-based business:

- √ Employees may only be members of the family residing on the premises plus one other person. If more than one non-family member will be employed by the business, a conditional use permit is required.
- √ The use of the home for a business shall be clearly incidental and subordinate to the use for residential purposes. No more than 1/4 of the gross floor area of the primary residence shall be used for the business. If more than 1/4 of the gross floor area will be devoted to the business, a conditional use permit is required.
- √ If an accessory building will be used for the home-based business, only an area not to exceed 1/4 of the gross floor area of the primary residence shall be used.



- √ No exterior display, including window displays, are permitted.
- √ No outdoor storage.
- √ Exterior signage shall be limited to two (2) square feet.
- √ There shall be no exterior indication of the business.
- √ No materials or mechanical equipment shall be used or the business conducted in a manner that will be detrimental to surrounding residences. Such nuisances include, but are not limited to: vibration, noise, dust, smoke, odor or interference with radio or television reception.
- √ All parking needed shall be met off-street.
- √ Pedestrian and vehicular traffic generated shall not exceed that which is typical of a residence.
- √ No more than one vehicle trip at a given time and no more than eight (8) during any one day.
- √ No byproducts for disposal or cause to



be dumped in the city sewer any hazardous waste including chemicals and cleaners, other than the volume and types that would normally be generated by a typical single family home.

- √ No home-based business shall cause an increase in any one or more utilities (water, sewer, garbage) so that the combined total use for dwelling and business exceeds the average for residences in the neighborhood.
- √ Two (2) business vehicles are allowed to park on the premise in connection with the business.



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