

Guidelines For Home-Based Businesses

Many small businesses find it cost-effective to start up in the home. This is often a good idea and can reduce overhead expenses significantly. The purpose of this section is to acquaint home-based small businesses with City of Aurora codes that regulate home-based businesses to protect your neighbors from inappropriate home business activities.

For questions or for further information, call the City of Aurora Neighborhood Support Division, (303) 739-7280.

Secure a copy of Publication 587 from the IRS, "Business Use of Your Home".



HOME OCCUPATION, as regulated by section 41-104 of the City Code, shall mean any use that meets the following requirements:

1. The storage of materials to be used in the activity shall be inside either the principal building or an accessory building;
2. There shall be no external evidence which in any way shall advertise or evidence the performance of the activity;
3. Except for parties entering the dwelling unit as a result of prior individual invitation, in no way shall the general public be invited or solicited upon the premises;
4. Performance of any personal service including, but not limited to, insurance agents, tax consultants and instruction in the arts, shall be limited to one (1) pupil, client (which may include a partnership, married couple or parties engaged in a joint venture) or customer, at any one time;
5. In no way shall the use jeopardize the health, safety or welfare of the occupants or of the surrounding neighborhood;
6. The operation of a home occupation shall not cause or encourage an amount of vehicular or pedestrian traffic not normally associated with the residential area in which the home occupation is conducted;
7. The home occupation shall not create noise, dust, vibration, smell, smoke, glare, electrical interference, fire hazard or any other nuisance or hazard which disturbs the peace and quiet of a residential area;
8. The conducting of a health clinic, hospital, barbershop, beauty parlor, tea room, or animal hospital shall not be deemed to be a home occupation;
9. The residents of the dwelling unit shall be the only people engaged in the activity; and
10. The activity is carried on only in the principal building and is incidental and secondary to the primary purpose served by the dwelling.

See the chart on page 2 for start-up requirements.
Note that a home-based business in Aurora must obtain a business license.

To learn more about operating a home-based business,
schedule a no-cost one-on-one counseling session.

Contact the Aurora BDC at (303) 326-8690 or visit www.aurorabdc.com.