

City Business License

Updates to City Code 8-7



City Business License



CURRENT PROCESS VS. NEW PROCESS

- Current process is a business registration rather than a business license.
- A Business Registration is the act of making a list or catalogue of each business in an official capacity.
- A Business License is the City's permission that confers the right to conduct business and without such authorization the business would be unlawful.
- The new process requires a business license to conduct any business within the City and provides for enforcement and penalties for non-compliance.

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NEW REQUIREMENTS

1. Any person engaged in any business within the City must submit an application, pay a \$75 fee, and obtain a business license before operating.
2. The City shall review the application and conduct any inspections of the business property.
3. A business must display their license at a fixed location or have their license with them.
4. City Police and Code Compliance will have the authority to inspect the business at reasonable times and require the inspection of a license.
5. A business license may be suspended or revoked for City Code violations.
6. Every person that operates a business without a license may be pursued civilly and the City may impose fines for non-compliance for each day the business operates.

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EXEMPTIONS

- The revised Article 8-7 allows for exemptions from obtaining a business license:
 - Federal, state and local government
 - Schools
 - Churches
 - When licensed through the state or when the city is prevented from licensing by state statute
 - Those businesses with franchise agreements or telecommunications licenses
 - Special event vendors

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PENALTIES

- A person who fails to apply for or renew a business license shall pay a penalty of \$250.
- A person who fails to comply with any request of any city code compliance officer shall pay a penalty of \$500.
- A first violation for operating without a license is a \$300 fine and a subsequent violation is a \$1,000 fine per day.
- City may collect unpaid amounts by any method provided by law including, attachment and foreclosure of a lien on the property listed in the application of the business.