HOME OCCUPATION BUSINESSES

To promote business opportunities, the City of Arcata has adopted standards for "Home Occupation" businesses. These standards allow many types of businesses to operate out of a residence. At the same time, the standards protect neighbors from business traffic and business activities that aren't compatible with residential neighborhoods.

If you will operate your business from your home, the Home Occupation Affidavit needs to be completed and submitted to the Community Development Department – usually at the same time your Business License application is submitted. It is reviewed by a City Planner to ensure the business is allowed in a residential neighborhood.

Types of Allowed Business Operations

This list shows the types of businesses already determined to be appropriate for home business operations, but is not a complete list. The Director of Community Development may approve business types not on this list.

- Artist studios – ceramics, painting, photography, sculpture, and similar activities
- Tailoring and sewing operations
- Businesses with small offices: architects, attorneys, consultants, counselors, insurance agents, e-commerce, tutors, writers, and other similar occupations
- Personal trainers, and licensed massage and physical therapists

Limitations to Business Operations

- The business must be clearly secondary to the residence – the property must look like a residence
- Business activity may not be visible – no window displays are allowed
- Signs must be 2 square feet or less and attached flush to a wall
- Only standard household hazardous materials are allowed
- Materials and equipment may not be stored outside
- Only full-time residents of the home may be employees of the business
- Operating hours must be between 9 am and 5 pm, with limited customer traffic and only typical delivery services
- Electric and gas utilities may not be modified to accommodate the home business

Types of Operations Not Allowed

- Operations that cause dust, glare, heat, noise, odors, smoke, excessive traffic, or vibration
- Those using explosives, hazardous, toxic, or highly combustible materials
- Vehicle repair shops, storage yards, machine shops, wood-cutting, and welding operations
- Animal hospitals or boarding facilities, medical clinics and labs, and sex-oriented businesses

Please note that this is a *summary* of Home Occupation Businesses standards – the City's Land Use Code regarding home occupation standards and requirements is included with this informational sheet.

Good luck with your business! Please let us know if you have questions.

City of Arcata · Community Development Department
736 F Street · Arcata CA 95521 · 707-825-5955 · www.cityofarcata.org

HOME OCCUPATION AFFIDAVIT

Home Business Owners – Please complete this affidavit and return it to the City of Arcata, Community Development Department. It will be reviewed at the same time as your Business License application.

Legal Name of Business _____

Business Location _____

Name of Business Owner _____

Contact Information Phone _____ Email: _____

Brief Description of Business Activities: _____

_____

_____

_____

By signing below, I/we do hereby attest that I/we have read and understand the attached City of Arcata Land Use Code Section 9.42.090 Home Occupation standards and requirements. I/we agree to operate my/our business in compliance with said standards and requirements.

Furthermore, I/we agree to pay for all City costs incurred in the enforcement of these provisions, including attorneys' fees, if I/we are subsequently found to be operating a business in violation of the Arcata Municipal Code or other City ordinance.

I/we understand that if I/we do not feel my/our business can operate in compliance with said standards and requirements, I/we may apply for a Minor Use Permit, per Section 9.42.090 Home Occupation of the City of Arcata Land Use Code (or a Conditional Use Permit per Section 3-0204 of Arcata's Land Use and Development Guide, in the Coastal Zone).

_____	_____	_____	_____
Signature of Owner	Date	Signature of Owner	Date

NOTE: All businesses shall comply with applicable City, County and State regulations for their business. Consultation with City staff prior to commencing business operations is recommended.

– City Use Only –

Assessor Parcel # _____ Zoning _____

Business License # _____ Date Fee Paid _____

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