

**CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HOME OCCUPATIONS**

Generally, businesses are not allowed to operate at a residential property. However, the City of Cedar Rapids allows a very limited range of service related activities to operate from a home when certain criteria are met. Regulating home businesses is the City's way of making sure the residential character of the neighborhood where the home occupation is operating is not adversely affected. If you are thinking about operating a business from your home, complete the following questionnaire to see if your business meets the qualifications for a home occupation.

Home Occupation Questionnaire

Will you...

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Run the business by yourself (or only with other members of your immediate family living in your home) with no outside employees? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Operate the business entirely within the living area of your home or an accessory structure (excluding the yard)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Use no more than 20% of the floor area of your home and no more than 500 square feet of the floor area of an accessory building for your business? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Be able to conduct your business so that the character and appearance of a residential building will be retained? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Generate traffic of not more than one vehicle at a time and a limited number in one day? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Use only mechanical, electrical or other equipment normally found in homes? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have no more than one customer at any one time? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have no signage other than one unlighted sign not in excess of two square feet in area stating only your name and occupation? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Operate your business so it does not create any noise, odor, vibration, smoke or other objectionable emissions, or traffic nuisances to your neighbors? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Operate your business so that there are no product sales occurring on the premises? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Be able to operate your business in your residence without being required to make any commercial building code improvements? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If you answered yes to all of the above questions, you may be able to have a home occupation in the City of Cedar Rapids. If you answered no to any of the above questions, a zoning inspector may be able to assist you in modifying your plans so that you would be able to have a home business.

Please note that the following occupations are prohibited as home occupations:

- Barber, beauty, tanning or nail shops
- Automobile oriented businesses
- Taxicab or limousine businesses
- Renting of rooms by a resident owner to more than two roomers
- Adult entertainment establishments