

As part of my permitted home occupation, can I park commercial vehicles on my property?

According to Section 47-5.3 of the Joliet Zoning Code a limousine or van bus with no more than two (2) axles or having a weight not exceeding 5,000 pounds maybe parked at a residential home when located on a paved surface and not in the front yard.

However, commercial vehicles, including but not limited to, school, tour or passenger buses, moving vans, semi-trucks, trailers, cargo carriers, heavy equipment or any wheeled apparatus having more than two (2) axles or a gross weight in excess of 5,000 pounds, are not allowed to be parked or stored at a residential home.

Can I place advertising on my personal vehicle?

The Joliet Zoning Code does not regulate advertising on vehicles.

Do I need a City of Joliet business license to operate a home occupation/business?

You will need to contact the Joliet Business License Department at 815.724.3905 to determine if a license is required.

Other agencies involved with the operation of a home occupation

Small Business Administration (contact Joliet Junior College – Small Business Development) at 815.280.1400 or www.jjc.edu

Assumed Business Name Certificate contact the Will County Clerk's office at 815.740.4660 or www.willclrk.com or the Kendall County Clerk's office at 630.553.4104 or www.co.kendall.il.us

Business Registration Kit (tax i.d. number forms) call 1.800.356.6302 or www.irs.gov

Businesses that are incorporated or a corporation should file with the Illinois Secretary of State at 217.782.7880 or www.sos.state.il.us

If you have any additional questions please contact the City during normal business hours of Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

City of Joliet

Community and Economic Development Department

**150 West Jefferson Street
Joliet, Illinois 60432-4158**

**815.724.4050
www.cityofjoliet.info**

Home Occupations

Frequently Asked Questions and Information Regarding the Operation of a Home Occupation in the City of Joliet



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What is a home occupation?

A business conducted entirely within a dwelling by the occupant of the residence, which is incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling.

Are there any rules regulating the operation of a home occupation?

Section 47-5.3.c.1 of the City of Joliet Zoning Code allows home occupations as a permitted accessory use when the following conditions are met:

- The home occupation is operated entirely within the principal dwelling and only by the person or persons maintaining a residence therein; and
- The home occupation does not have a separate entrance from outside the building; and
- The building is not altered in such a way that any portion thereof is no longer suitable for residential use; and
- The home occupation is limited to no more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total floor area on any one level; and
- The home occupation does not utilize equipment except that which is customarily found in residential dwellings; and

- There is no external evidence of the home occupation, (including, but not limited to, commercial vehicles and outdoor storage) ; and
- One (1) unanimated, non-illuminated wall sign having an area of not more than one (1) square foot may be displayed; and
- Other uses customarily incidental to the established principal use.

Why does the City of Joliet regulate home occupations?

Allowing people to work in their homes has always been a standard practice and one that most communities today allow within their zoning regulations under certain conditions.

The goal of the home occupation regulations is to accommodate businesses within residential areas without changing the character of the neighborhood.



What are some examples of permitted home occupations?

- Sales or manufacturing representative offices (no merchandise display areas or retail transactions on site except through telephone, mail or electronic device)
- Professional offices (utilizing telephone and/or a computer but having no employees or customers visiting the property on a regular basis)

What are some examples of home occupations that are not allowed?

- Medical clinics
- Construction and/or landscape companies with equipment, materials and/or employees visiting or working on the property or customers visiting
- General retail sales
- Eating and drinking establishments
- Automobile repair

Where do I call if I have questions about a specific type of home occupation not listed?

For clarification on a specific use, contact the Planning Division of the Community and Economic Development Department at 815.724.4050.