

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Do I need a business license to operate out of my home?

A. Yes, anytime you conduct business in the City of Ventura, whether in a commercial or residential location, you are required to first obtain a business license. Contact the City of Ventura Business Tax Office at 805/658-4715 for more detailed information.



Q: Where can I store equipment and materials related to my home business?

A: All equipment associated with the home occupation must be stored within the dwelling unit. Hazardous materials may not be used or stored on the premises.

Small home-based businesses can be a great option that supports the economic vitality of our community.



Neighborhood Preservation serves our community with compassion to promote safe and clean neighborhoods, preserve property values, support economic vitality through education and compliance. Ventura is where we live, work, and play!

The City of Ventura Neighborhood Preservation Section is available to assist you in understanding the various codes and obtaining compliance. Contact us at 805/658.4711.

There are many ways to get involved to enhance the quality of life in our community. Participate in your Community Council – attend public meetings to connect with neighbors, volunteer, raise issues, and make a difference in your neighborhood!

Find Your Neighborhood Community Council
www.cityofventura.net/involved/communitycouncils

Volunteer Ventura!
www.cityofventura.net/volunteer

CITY OF
VENTURA
NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION
www.cityofventura.net/np

CITY OF
VENTURA
www.cityofventura.net
Building & Safety Division
P.O. Box 99, Ventura, CA, 93002

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this document is available in alternate formats by contacting the California Relay Service.



INFORMATION & RULES ABOUT

HOME OCCUPATION

IN THE CITY OF VENTURA

• Home-Based Businesses



CITY OF
VENTURA
NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION
www.cityofventura.net/np

501 Poli St., Room 117, Ventura • 805/658.4711

HOME OCCUPATION IS:

Any business or professional use that is clearly subordinate to the principal use of the dwelling as a residence. Examples include:

- architects / draftspersons
- consultants
- graphic artists
- seamstresses / tailors
- tax preparation services



Q: What are the Home Occupation limitations?

- Pedestrian or vehicular traffic beyond that normally generated by residential uses in the vicinity is prohibited.
- Signs visible from the outside of the house are prohibited.
- Supplies or equipment related to the business may not be stored outside of the dwelling unit.
- Only one vehicle related to the business may be used or stored on the premises. Trucks must be limited to one (1) ton maximum capacity.
- Hazardous materials related to the business are not allowed to be used or stored on the premises, unless approved by the City of Ventura Fire Chief.

- External physical effects such as noise, smoke, odors, vibrations, electromagnetic wave interference, line voltage fluctuation, or similar physical impacts are prohibited.
- No more than 500 square feet of the premises may be used in connection with the home occupation.
- Deliveries of any supplies or equipment related to the home occupation may not exceed one per day and shall not interfere with traffic circulation.
- A maximum of one employee, other than the resident, may be employed as part of the home occupation.

DID YOU KNOW?

Working at home can provide numerous benefits including flexible schedules and fewer commutes.



Q: Where are Home Occupations allowed?

A. Home occupations are allowed in any zone that contains residential housing. Generally, a home-based business should not impact the neighborhood with regard to foot traffic, parking, deliveries, vehicle size, and supplies and equipment storage. For more detailed information, contact Planning/Zoning at 805/654-7893.

Q: What if I don't comply with the Home Occupation rules and regulations?

Our main objective is to obtain voluntary compliance with all of Ventura's municipal codes. If for some reason you don't comply, you may be subject to a range of fines for each offense and potentially other civil penalties. See our website for further details: www.cityofventura.net/departments/np or call our office at 805/658-4711.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- **City of Ventura Economic Development Division:** Offers small business workshops, free consulting services, networking opportunities and information on the permit process
econdev@cityofventura.net or 805/677-3935
- **City of Ventura Business Tax Office:**
www.cityofventura.net/businesslicense
(Finance & Technology) 805/658-4715
- **City of Ventura Municipal Code:**
www.cityofventura.net/cm/municipal-code
- **Department of Social Services:**
<http://cclld.ca.gov>
- **County of Ventura Environmental Health Division:**
www.ventura.org/rma/envhealth