



Home Occupations

When you operate a business from your house, it is called a home occupation. Home occupations are permitted in all residential and office-institutional zoning districts as long as they operate within certain guidelines.

Opening a Business in Your Home

Before opening your business, you will need to complete steps 1 and 2 on the **New Business Checklist**. You can find the Checklist on the City's website or at City Hall. You will not need to complete steps 3 and 4.

I want to put up a sign for my home business.

Before you put up a sign, you will need to get a **Sign Permit**. You can find the Application for a Sign Permit on the City's website or at City Hall. A sign for a home occupation can only be permitted if it meets the guidelines in (7) at right.

Examples of Home Occupations

- Typing Services
- Telephone, Catalog or Internet Sales
- Architects or Engineers
- Accountants
- Food Catering
- Handcrafting
- Lawn Maintenance with equipment stored in a building
- Cleaning or Handyman Services

A Home Occupation is a profession or occupation carried on by a person residing on the premises. Home occupations are permitted only as an incidental use inside the home and must operate within the following guidelines:

- (1) A home occupation shall occupy no more than 25% of the gross floor area of a dwelling unit.
- (2) No outside storage or display of items associated with the home occupation is permitted.
- (3) The home occupation must be conducted entirely within a dwelling unit.
- (4) Only one person may be employed who is not an occupant of the residence.
- (5) Activities shall not generate traffic, parking, noise, odors or electrical interference beyond what normally occurs in the zoning district.
- (6) Instruction in music, dancing, art or similar subjects shall be limited to no more than five students at one time.
- (7) Signs identifying a home occupation are limited to one wall or one freestanding sign per lot with a maximum display surface area of three (3) square feet and shall not be illuminated.

Graham City Hall, 201 S Main St

www.cityofgraham.com

All regulations for Home Occupations are in the *City of Graham Development Ordinance*

For questions, contact the City Planner at (336) 570-6705 or npage@cityofgraham.com