

City of Cameron



Merchant Guidelines

This informational pamphlet is designed to help you navigate through the code requirements of the City of Cameron. We encourage you to ask questions and be an informed merchant.

At any point you need assistance, please call us at (816) 632-2177, or visit our web site cameronmo.com

General Information

1. Business license application review.

The submission of an "Application for Occupation License" does not automatically grant the applicant a business license. The review process may take as long as 30 days, however, the City strives to complete this process as quickly as possible. Many types of businesses require special insurance, police background checks, safety inspections and zoning compliance.

2. Business districts and zones.

Not all businesses are allowed in all districts, due to noise, traffic, parking, fire codes, signage, type and hours of operation.

3. Parking

Most businesses require approved and adequate "off street parking". Any new

parking area must be paved in asphalt or concrete.

4. License renewal.

"Occupation License" renewals are due every year on June 1, regardless of when you applied for your original license.

5. Change of operation, and or expansion of business.

Plan ahead, if you need to add more employees, parking, storage, change your hours or type of operation, you may need to move your operation to a more appropriate location.

6. Adding another business at your location.

A second or third license may be required depending on licensing requirements. Again, not all businesses are appropriate for all districts. It is your responsibility to check with the "Codes" or "Zoning Officer" before adding or opening other types of business to your location

7. Multiple licenses for one location.

A second or third license may be required depending on licensing requirements. Again, not all businesses are appropriate for all districts.

8. Signage.

(Permit required). Signs are allowed on private property only. The size, number and type of sign(s) depend on the zoning district, building size, and location of sign(s).

9. Inspections

Most businesses are required to have an annual safety inspection conducted by the City of Cameron at no cost to the holder of the business license.

10. Code Enforcement

All businesses are required to comply; different types of businesses have certain requirements, check with the "Code or Zoning" officer if your type of business has any special requirements.

11. Alcohol sales.

The sale of alcohol is not permitted within 50 feet of a residential district or within 100 feet of a church or school. Except C-1 Zoning with consent.

12. Home Businesses

Permitted home occupations include office & computer work, tailoring, tutoring and child care. Prohibited home activities include auto repair, retail sales, repair shops, beauty & tattoo shops. No large trucks or heavy equipment may be parked at home.

13. Required State Licenses.

Restaurants, auto dealers, pawn shops, grocers, firearms dealers, beauty & tattoo shops, alcohol & tobacco sellers and certain other occupations require a State license, in addition to a City license.

14. Auto Repair Businesses.

Auto repair businesses are not allowed in residential districts. All business-owned vehicles must remain in operable, working condition at all times. Your license does not permit the operation of a junk or salvage yard for vehicles or vehicle parts.

Licenses are required for each business in a building for the following reasons;

1. Not all businesses fit in every business districts. (ie you have an antique shop and then you decide to open a coffee shop. Parking requirements, occupancy loads and fire safety requirements are different for coffee shops than antique shops.)
2. Insurance requirements may vary (ie you are a realtor and you decide to build a spec house. Insurance requirements are completely different for contractors than realtors.)
3. Protect “Grandfathered” and “Non-Conforming Use” (ie you may have been using a “Residential” property for “Commercial” business, this would be “Grandfathered” in and the use may continue; however, if the city is not aware of the practice and it is discovered at a latter date or you discontinue use of the property for a period of a year, the property would revert back to “Residential” and you would no longer be allowed to use the residential property for commercial use.)
4. You rent a commercial space or warehouse. (ie you store product

or inventory off site, you need to have an occupation on the storage or warehouse to protect the use if the owner does not have an occupation license or fails to list the property the city has no way of knowing it is used as commercial and if Zoning should change the property could become out of compliance.