

Home-based Occupations

Summary of applicable regulations

City of Cleveland Heights

Home-based businesses are permitted in the City of Cleveland Heights according to the regulations set out below. Please note that the regulations applying to home occupations conducted entirely within a dwelling unit are slightly different from the regulations that apply to home occupations conducted entirely or in part in an accessory building. Some home-based businesses, such as home-based day-care operations, require an additional permit from the City of Cleveland Heights, but most do not. Please contact the Planning Department at 216-291-4878 or planning@clvhts.com with any questions. The information in this summary is current as of March 16, 2005.

Zoning Code Subsec. 1165.02(b)

Home Occupations Accessory to a Dwelling Unit in a Residential District. A home occupation may be conducted in a dwelling unit provided that the following standards are maintained:

- (1) There is no display that will indicate from the exterior that the dwelling unit is being utilized in part for any purpose other than that of a residential dwelling;
- (2) There is no merchandise manufactured or processed for sale, bought, sold, exchanged or traded in or on the premises. A home occupation involving individual works of art and involving some machine process as part of the creation of individual works of art is permitted, provided it meets all other criteria of this section, and involves no direct sales of such works of art to consumers on a regular basis from the premises;
- (3) There is no more than one person employed or engaged in the furtherance of the home occupation who is not a member of the immediate family residing on the premises;
- (4) There is no mechanical, electrical or chemical equipment used in furtherance of such home occupation, except such as causes no disturbances of any kind beyond the premises where the home occupation is located;
- (5) There are and will be no exterior alterations made to the dwelling unit for the home occupation purposes which would change the appearance of the dwelling so as to indicate from the exterior that the building is used for any purpose other than that of a dwelling unit;
- (6) There are no motor vehicles bringing clients or customers to the place of the home occupation other than for the periods from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday. All such vehicles visiting the place of the home occupation shall be parked on private property;

- (7) No home occupation shall be permitted in any portion of any dwelling unit where the conduct of such home occupation is or will be offensive to neighboring property owners or occupants of the same dwelling structure by reason of excessive noise, late hours or business activity, the intensity of the business activity or other such reasons;
- (8) The home occupation shall be conducted wholly within the dwelling unit and no aspect of the home occupation shall be conducted in any accessory building except as may be conditionally permitted according to Chapters 1151 and 1153 or in any detached or attached garage.

Zoning Code Subsec. 1153.05(h)

Home Occupation in an Accessory Building. A home occupation may be conducted in an accessory building provided that the following standards are maintained:

- (1) The accessory building or portion of accessory building used for the home occupation shall be located no less than five (5) feet from the side and rear lot line;
- (2) There shall be no display or other indication from the exterior that the building is being utilized for any nonresidential purpose, and the external appearance of the structure in which the use is conducted shall be compatible with the dwelling unit and neighboring residential structures;
- (3) There shall be no merchandise manufactured or processed for sale, bought, sold, exchanged or traded in or on the premises. A home occupation involving individual works of art and involving some machine process as part of the creation of individual works of art is permitted, provided it meets all other criteria of this section, and involves no direct sales of such works of art to consumers on a regular basis from the premises;
- (4) There shall be no person employed or engaged in the furtherance of the home occupation other than a member of the immediate family residing in the same dwelling unit as the home occupation;
- (5) There shall be no mechanical, electrical or chemical equipment used in furtherance of such home occupation, except such as causes no disturbances of any kind beyond the premises where the home occupation is located;
- (6) There shall be no storage of material, goods or equipment used for a business activity conducted off the premises;
- (7) There shall be no motor vehicles bringing clients or customers to the place of the home occupation other than for the periods from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday. All such vehicles visiting the place of the home occupation shall be parked on private property;
- (8) No home occupation shall be permitted in any accessory building, or portion thereof, where the conduct of such home occupation is or will be offensive to neighboring property owners or occupants of the same dwelling structure by reason of excessive noise, late hours or business activity, the intensity of the business activity or other such reasons;
- (9) No home occupation shall be permitted in that portion of a garage that is required by this Zoning Code to provide enclosed parking spaces for a dwelling.