

PASADENA Municipal Code

17.50.110 - Home Occupations

A. Purpose.

1. The purpose of this Section is to allow for a home occupation business from a residential use while ensuring that the home occupation does not detract from nor is incompatible with the surrounding residential uses.
2. The uses are intended to be clearly incidental to a residential use.

B. Permit requirement. A Home Occupation Permit shall be required before the establishment of a home occupation use. After receiving an application, a permit shall be issued by the Director upon the determination that the proposed home occupation use complies with this Section.

C. Permit is nontransferable. A Home Occupation Permit shall not be transferable.

D. Property owner's authorization required. For rental property, the property owner's written authorization for the proposed use shall be obtained and submitted with the application for a Home Occupation Permit.

E. Business License required.

1. Upon approval of the Home Occupation Permit, a Business License shall be obtained.
2. If a Business License is not renewed, the Home Occupation Permit shall become void.

F. Location and size. A home occupation use shall be conducted entirely within a structure and shall occupy no more than 500 square feet of floor area. The maximum floor area shall include on-site storage areas, and any portion of the home occupation that is located within an accessory structure.

G. Limitation on activities.

1. There shall be no items other than products crafted on the premises. Items manufactured off-site may be sold through mail order or through the internet as long as the home occupation use (including storage area) does not exceed 500 square feet of floor area. The floor area maximum can be exceeded if the storage area is located off-site.
2. Guns and ammunition shall not be sold as part of a Home Occupation Permit except that a home occupation for a gunsmith or firearms collector licensed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms as a gunsmith or firearm collector is allowed.

H. Employees, volunteers or independent contractors. Only a resident of the dwelling unit shall be employed in the operation of home occupation use. No volunteers, interns or independent contractors shall be part of a home occupation permit.

I. Commercial vehicles.

1. Not more than one truck, equivalent in size to a truck marketed by the major vehicle manufacturer's as a 350 or 3500 series, incidental to a home occupation use shall be kept on the site.
2. The truck shall not exceed a height of seven feet nor larger than that able to easily fit within the universal stall dimension of eight and one-half feet wide by 18 feet long.
3. The number of off-street parking spaces accessory to a dwelling unit housing a home occupation shall not be reduced to less than that required in compliance with Chapter [17.46](#) (Parking and Loading).

J. Client/customer visits. A home occupation use shall not allow any clients or customers without prior appointments. Client/customer appointments are limited to the hours of 7 A.M. to 10 P.M., Monday through Friday.

K. Changes to dwelling or premises prohibited.

1. There shall be no alteration to the residential character of the premises as a result of the home occupation use.
2. The existence of a home occupation use shall not be apparent beyond the boundaries of the subject site.

L. Outdoor uses. No outdoor storage or display of equipment, appliances, materials, or supplies shall be allowed.

M. Signs and advertising. On-site signs advertising a home occupation use shall not be allowed. Paper and electronic advertisements are allowed (including business cards) as long as they do not include the address of the home occupation permit.

N. Additional standards. A home occupation use shall be in compliance with Section [17.40.090](#) (Performance Standards), Chapter 9.36 (Noise Restrictions) and Chapter 8.80 (Handling and Disclosure of Hazardous Materials).

O. Revocation. The Zoning Administrator may revoke a Home Occupation Permit that is not in compliance with these regulations as provided by Section [17.78.090](#) (Permit Revocation or Modification) after 15 days' written notice, unless the home occupation is altered to comply with these standards.