

## HOME OCCUPATION FAQ'S

### 1. What is a Home Occupation?

"Home occupation," as defined in Ordinance 1206, means a business conducted in a dwelling unit by a person of legal or equitable interest in the dwelling unit. Common examples of what may fall under the label of home occupation are in-home hairdressers, medical marijuana caregivers, and dog groomers.

### 2. What is the Home Occupation Registration Ordinance?

An ordinance that provides for the registration and inspection of any building or structure in a residentially-zoned district where the operation of a home occupation within such building or structure utilizes electricity that exceeds 3500 kWh (kilowatt hours) per month or where the operation emits gases, fumes, smoke, or odors outside of the building or structure and across a residential property boundary line; and to provide civil infraction penalties for noncompliance of said ordinance.

### 3. Where can I get a copy of the ordinance?

A copy of the ordinance can be obtained at the City of Lansing Code Enforcement Office located at 316 N. Capital Street in downtown Lansing. The ordinance can also be found at the link below:

[https://library.municode.com/mi/lansing/ordinances/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=816890](https://library.municode.com/mi/lansing/ordinances/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=816890)

### 4. Why is it necessary?

Homes with high, sustained use of electricity or emission of fumes can present a clear and present danger to the electrical grid and the public health, safety, and welfare; or present a public nuisance to the residents of the City of Lansing. It is in the public interest that such home occupation be inspected for safety reasons at least annually.

### 5. Who does it apply to?

Anyone who operates a home occupation, or, an owner of a residential building who permits another to operate a home occupation, as defined in the above-referenced ordinance.

### 6. How do I comply with the ordinance?

A qualifying home occupation operator must both register as a home occupation and comply with an annual safety inspection as scheduled.

### 7. How do I register and set up an inspection?

You can register and set up an inspection by:

- a. Appearing in person at the City of Lansing Code Enforcement Office located at 316 N. Capital Street in downtown Lansing; or

- b. Mailing your registration form and payment to at the City of Lansing Code Enforcement Office located at 316 N. Capital Street in downtown Lansing and contacting the Code Enforcement Office at 517-483-4361 to schedule your inspection.

**8. Are there fees associated?**

Yes:

- a. \$265 Registration (one-time fee due at the time of registration)
- b. \$215 Inspection fee (paid annually)**

**9. What happens if I fail to comply or fail to meet compliance?**

Failure to register a home occupation may subject the property owner to a municipal civil infraction pursuant to Chapter 203 of the Code and Section 202.99 of the Code shall apply to each such civil infraction.

**10. I am a medical marijuana caregiver as defined in the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act. Do I fall under the Home Occupation Ordinance?**

If you are a medical marihuana caregiver, as defined under the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, and you elect to grow plants in your home, you may be subject to the Home Occupation registration **if** you utilize more than 3500 kWh per month or if your grow operation produces fumes or odors outside of the residence.

**11. What about HIPAA Protection?**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act is intended to protect an individual's private medical records and health information. No health information will be recorded when someone registers as a home occupation operator and inspections will not include inquiry into health information.

**12. Where can I get more information?**

Additional information can be obtained at the City of Lansing Code Enforcement Office located at 316 N. Capital Street in downtown Lansing or by contacting the Code Enforcement Office at 517-483-4361.