



# HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

## REQUIREMENTS FOR HOME-BASED BUSINESSES



According to local ordinance,\* a home-based business is an occupation, activity or hobby that is traditionally or customarily carried on within the walls of a dwelling unit, such as sewing, millinery and similar domestic crafts, instruction in a craft or fine art, offices or self-employed professionals, sales representatives and the like, and educational tutoring (e.g. music lessons and tutoring of students), provided that such traditional or customary home occupations meet all of the following criteria to be a permitted use:

- a. Home occupations shall be **clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling** for dwelling purposes.
- b. The use shall be **conducted entirely within a dwelling** or permitted accessory building and shall be carried on by **no more than two (2) employees who are family members and/or occupants** of the dwelling, and no others.
- c. **Not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total floor area** shall be devoted to the incidental home occupation.
- d. There shall be **no sales of products or goods on the premises**, except as otherwise provided for by ordinance\*.
- e. No space within the principal building shall be designed or arranged so it requires any **internal or external alterations** or construction features, equipment, machinery or materials (either by color, materials or construction, lighting, sound or noise vibration or electrical interference, etc.) not customary in residential areas or residential dwellings.
- f. No **accessory building or area outside** the principal building shall be used for such purposes.
- g. There shall be **no use of utilities or community facilities** beyond that typical to the use of property for residential purposes.

### No Excessive Traffic



The use shall not generate pedestrian or vehicular traffic beyond that customary to districts in which located.

### No Commercial Deliveries



The home occupation shall not involve the use of commercial vehicles for delivery of material to or from the premises.

### No Firearms or Hazardous Materials



The use shall not involve the sale, storage or use of any firearms or any ignitable, toxic, or explosive material.

**If your home-based business meets all of the criteria above, a business license is not required from the City of Oak Park.**

*\*Article IV Section 401 of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Oak Park, Michigan*