

Business License Research Report

Research date: September 23, 2026 | Last verified: September 23, 2026

Sources: Official government and regulatory sources

Research scope: Federal / State / County / City screened

No secondary-source claim is treated as authoritative without primary-source confirmation.

Business Profile

Field	Sample business details
Business name	Example Home Goods Studio
Exact operating address	1701 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Austin, TX 78702 (hypothetical residence; ownership/lease restrictions not supplied)
Activity	Make and sell non-food soy candles and desk accessories through a website; ship orders; no in-person retail
Scenario	New business
Operating model	Home-based, online only
Customers visit	No
Tangible goods	Yes
Food or beverages / alcohol	No / No
Regulated services / hazardous inventory	No regulated service stated; ordinary household-scale materials only
Employees	Owner only
DBA / trade name	Not confirmed
Special feature	No signage, outdoor storage, retail pickup, or customer traffic disclosed

Executive summary

Overall status: Required / Needs confirmation. The repeat online sale of tangible goods makes Texas sales-tax registration the clear identified requirement. The city's current small-business guidance states that Austin cannot require a home-business permit where the operation stays within stated occupancy, traffic, visible-disturbance, and noise limits. That is not a blanket property approval: the facts, lease/HOA rules, and any later customer traffic or material changes must still be confirmed.

Requirements found: 1 required item; 1 condition-based local review item.

Unresolved items: whether the seller is an individual, DBA, LLC, or other

entity; lease/HOA restrictions; storage volume/materials; employees; customer pickup; signage; and whether products later include food, cosmetics, alcohol, or hazardous materials.

Requirement table

Requirement name	Level / authority	Type	Applicability and trigger	Status / confidence	Application / fee / renewal	Official evidence
Texas Sales and Use Tax Permit	State - Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts	Tax registration	The stated business regularly makes taxable sales of tangible goods in Texas. The occasional-sale exemption does not cover a person engaged in business selling taxable items.	Required / High	Online registration or Form AP-201; no fee to apply was located. Filing/collection mechanics are outside this report.	Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Comptroller AP-220 instructions Verified Sep. 23, 2026 Official government source occasional-sales guidance Verified Sep. 23, 2026
Home-business local permit / development review	City - Austin Development Services	Local use / zoning condition	No customer traffic, visible disturbance, or noise is stated. Austin says it cannot prohibit or require permits for home businesses that stay within the stated limits. A changed fact pattern can alter this conclusion.	Needs confirmation - no permit identified on supplied facts / Medium	Confirm actual traffic, occupancy, noise, visible impact, and property restrictions before treating the operation as eligible.	Austin Development Services Small Business Permitting Verified Sep. 23, 2026

Next verification step

1. Confirm the legal structure and whether the trade name differs from the owner/entity name.
2. Confirm lease/HOA rules and retain the "no customer visits/no visible or noise disturbance" operating constraint.
3. Review requirements again before adding retail pickup, employees, signage, a commercial studio, food/cosmetic products, alcohol, or material quantities that create a safety-regulated inventory issue.