

CITY OF GAINESVILLE
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

300 HENRY WARD WAY / P.O. BOX 2496
GAINESVILLE, GA 30503
TELEPHONE: 770-533-5842
FACSIMILE: 770-535-5636

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Certificate of Occupancy OR Home Office Affidavit
- Completed Application
- City of Gainesville Status Verification Affidavit (SAVE Affidavit)
- Private Employer E-Verify Affidavit
- Photo ID (ex. Driver's license, passport, if you are a resident alien you must provide documentation from Homeland Security ex. Permanent Residence Care or Employment Authorization Card)
- Other documents (if applicable): State License, Food Service Permit Phone # 770-531-3973, Dept of Agriculture Certificate Phone # 770-535-5955, Health Dept Permit, State Sales Tax Number, Federal Id Number

**PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING BUSINESS/OCCUPATION TAX
CERTIFICATE [BUSINESS LICENSE]**

1. Contact the **Gainesville Community & Economic Development** to secure the appropriate document for your particular business situation. This normally consists of:
 - A. **Home Office Affidavit [Required For Operating an In-Home Office]**
 - B. **Certificate of Occupancy [Required For All Commercial Locations]**

This document is required and must be obtained before the applicant can receive the Business/Occupation Tax Certificate to open for business.

Please Note: If you are buying an existing business a new certificate of occupancy must be obtained by the new owner.

GAINESVILLE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
311 HENRY WARD WAY [ZIP CODE 30501] / P.O. BOX 1435 [ZIP CODE 30503]
GAINESVILLE, GA
TELEPHONE: 770-531-6570

3. When you are ready to apply for your **Business/Occupation Tax Certificate**, bring either the **Home Office Affidavit** or the **Certificate of Occupancy** to the **Office of City Finance/Business-Occupation Tax**. After you have completed the return (application), signed a status verification document and have paid the fee, your tax certificate should arrive at your mailing address in approximately seven (7) to ten (10) days.

4. Depending upon your type of business, you may be required to have certain other documentation prior to the issuance of a Business/Occupation Tax Certificate.

A. Federal Employer Identification Number (F.E.I. #)

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service issues an **Identification Number (E.I.N.)** to any business that: **1)** has employees, **and/or 2)** plans to establish itself as a corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship (some exceptions may apply). Provide this number on your City of Gainesville Business/Occupation Tax Return at the time of application.

The telephone number to call to obtain this number or for questions concerning it is **1-800-829-4933** or online at www.irs.gov.

B. Georgia Sales Tax Number

The State of Georgia levies a sales and use tax on the retail purchase, retail sale, rental, storage, use, or consumption of tangible personal property and on certain services described in the **Georgia Code**. It is the responsibility of any business owner making transactions subject to this tax to obtain a Georgia Sales and Use Tax Number.

Provide this number on your City of Gainesville Business/Occupation Tax Return at the time of application.

The telephone number to call to obtain this number or for questions concerning it is **(877) 423-6711**. The Internet Website is: <https://gtc.dor.ga.gov>

C. State Licenses/Certification

Certain professions are required to obtain licenses/certifications from the State of Georgia. A few examples of these professions are: Plumbers, Electricians, Heating/Air Conditioning Contractors, Attorneys, Physicians, Cosmetologists and Salons. **Call PHONE #478-207-2440 for further information.**

Documentation of this certification must be presented, and the license or certificate number must be provided on the Business/Occupation Tax Return.