

A Roadmap For Doing Business In Hoover

Hoover Business Resources to Guide You Along the Way

The City of Hoover, Alabama is a great location for your business to start, stay and grow! The City's Business Resource Team stands ready to guide you no matter the stage of your business journey. The goal of the Team is to make conducting City-related transactions as smooth and seamless as possible.

This document, *A Roadmap for Doing Business in Hoover*, is a summary of what you need to know about the City as you operate your business. You can find this guide and all of the details on our website at <https://bit.ly/HvrGuide>.

The Hoover Business Resource Team will collaborate with you as you start, maintain and grow your business. (Of special note, **joint meetings with owners, architects, contractors, and other key stakeholders during start-up and expansion phases involving construction are essential.**) Please contact Hoover's Business Resource Team by telephone at **205-739-7162** or by e-mail at development@hooveralabama.gov to get started. It is our goal to provide unparalleled services to our business community.

SITE SELECTION/LOCATION SERVICES

If you need assistance finding a location for your business in Hoover, our professional economic development team will provide confidential assistance. We can also provide data regarding workforce, demographics or other pertinent information around a potential location. Visit Hoover's Economic Development website at www.hooverishome.com, or contact us at development@hooveralabama.gov / **205-739-7162** for a consultation to get started.

- Step 1:** Contact us for a consultation if any of the following apply:
 - You would like assistance with site location, economic data, demographics, etc.
 - You are considering a new commercial development or redevelopment (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1090>).
 - If water and/or sewer service provider information is critical to your project. (Water and sewer service providers vary based on the physical location of properties within the City of Hoover.)

PROPERTY ZONING INFORMATION

As you begin to review suitable locations for your proposed business, check the zoning designation to ensure the proposed business type is permitted for that location. Zoning regulations are adopted standards for types of uses to which a business can be located; and physical characteristics for the development of property such as maximum height of buildings, number of parking spaces required, and more. Special areas known as Planned Unit Developments (PUDS) typically have additional requirements and approvals beyond the zoning regulations.

- Step 1:** Check the GIS website (<https://bit.ly/HvrGIS>) to determine the zoning designation for the location.
- Step 2:** Learn about the zoning regulations for the zoning designation (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1093>).
- Step 3: If the intended use of the property is not in accordance with the zoning designation**, you may initiate action to request a conditional use or to rezone the property. Requests for conditional use or rezoning must go before the Planning & Zoning Commission and Hoover City Council for approval. Our team will work through this process with you.
- Step 4:** Contact us at zoning@hooveralabama.gov or **205-444-7517** for additional assistance.



Infinite Possibilities

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT & BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

After you have determined that your business use conforms to the zoning of the property, you will most likely change some aspect of the physical location. The steps required will vary based on the extent of modifications to the physical environment. **Joint meetings with owners, architects, contractors, and other key stakeholders early in the project phases are essential.** Please contact the City Planner's Office at **205-444-7517** or zoning@hooveralabama.gov to get started.

- Step 1: If any construction activity or a change in the use of the space you intend to occupy is taking place**, a commercial building permit is required. Depending on the extent of work, approval from external agencies may apply. The Inspections Department can be reached at **205-444-7522** or inspections@hooveralabama.gov.
 - All contractors and sub-contractors must have a City of Hoover business license; and where performing any construction work of \$50,000 or more, must be licensed by the State of Alabama.
 - Septic/sewer approval is required prior to construction or tenant improvement (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1088>).
 - The commercial building permit process is explained in detail on our website at (<https://bit.ly/Hvr338>). After construction is complete and all inspections are approved, you will be issued a Certificate of Occupancy (CO).
- Step 2: If your business will occupy a space "AS IS", with no construction activity taking place**, apply for a Certificate of Occupancy Business License (COBL) prior to applying for a business license (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1104>).
- Step 3: If your business will be advertising with a sign**, a sign permit is required. Sign permits are governed by sign regulations within the Zoning Ordinance (<https://bit.ly/Hvr342>). If your location is in a Planned Unit Development (PUD), additional approvals may be required.
- Step 4: If your business will be operating from your home**, an approved Home Occupation Application is required. More Information can be found at (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1092>).

FOOD / ALCOHOL SALES & CONSUMPTION

- Step 1: For businesses who wish to serve food, including the operation of food trucks:**
 - Obtain a health permit from the applicable county health department.
 - If you are operating a food truck, you must obtain a **Mobile Food Unit Permit** from Hoover Inspection Services (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1102>).
 - Obtain a City of Hoover business license (<https://bit.ly/Hvr9151>).
- Step 2: For businesses who wish to sell alcohol for on-site or off-site consumption an alcohol license from the ABC Board is required. Approval from the Hoover City Council is required as a part of this process. Please note this process can take 3-4 weeks for a**

standard request, assuming all required documentation has been submitted and no conditional use approval is required (<https://bit.ly/Hvr1103>).

- Step 1:** Check the zoning designation and requirements for the property. *Conditional Use may be required and will take additional time.* Contact zoning@hooveralabama.gov or call **205-444-7648**.
- Step 2:** Obtain a Criminal History Release Form from the City Clerk's Office, to be signed and notarized by all executives. Email cityclerk@hooveralabama.gov or call **205-444-7500** (<https://bit.ly/Hvr4831>).
- Step 3:** **ALL** alcohol license applications must be submitted to the State of Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board. Call 205-942-7955 to make an appointment.
- Step 4:** Bring a copy of the State application (with confirmation number) and completed Hoover Criminal History Release Form(s) (see step 2) to the City Clerk for processing. Background checks will be completed and the application will be presented to City Council for approval. The City Clerk will notify the ABC Board of the decision.
- Step 5:** Work with the ABC Board to complete the process and, if approved, obtain the alcohol license.
- Step 6:** Obtain the applicable City of Hoover business license(s) (<https://bit.ly/Hvr9151>).

BUSINESS LICENSE & TAX INFORMATION

Please note that all of the aforementioned approvals that apply to your business should be complete before applying for a City of Hoover business license. Full information is available on our website (<https://bit.ly/Hvr9147>).

- Step 1: Certain professions, and business activities require certification or license** by various state and local regulatory agencies. A current copy of the certification/license must be presented.
 - Examples include:** general contractors, homebuilders (including subcontractors), plumbers, electricians, HVAC technicians, gold buyers, auto dealers, massage therapists. (This list is not all inclusive. If you have any type of State issued certification, please bring a copy.)
- Step 2: Complete and submit a City of Hoover Business License application** (<https://bit.ly/Hvr9151>). The application **MUST** include:
 - FEIN- if applicable.
 - Sole Proprietors and Partnerships **MUST** furnish the principal(s)' Social Security numbers.
 - Contact person with phone number.
 - Copy of applicant's driver's license (you may be asked to present actual license) and signature.
- Step 3: Review tax and licensing requirements and filing deadlines (online filing available in most cases):**
 - Tax returns must be filed for sales tax, seller's use tax, consumer's use tax, liquor, lodging, and lease/rental. A current rate table may be found on our website (<https://bit.ly/Hvr9149>).
 - Business licenses renew on a calendar year basis. Taxes that require monthly filing are due on the 20th of the month for the preceding month. Please see our website for a full list of filing and payment due dates (<https://bit.ly/Hvr612>).

OUR PARTNERS

Our goal is to make transactions with the City of Hoover pleasant. We will work to help you understand how we interact with other agencies to meet all requirements applicable to your business. Please find contact information for our critical partner organizations below, or contact our Hoover Business Resource Team for questions.

TOPIC	AGENCY	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE
State Business Taxes	STATE OF ALABAMA DEPT OF REVENUE	205-733-2740	https://revenue.alabama.gov/audience/businesses/
Liquor, Beer and Wine Licenses	STATE OF ALABAMA ABC LICENSE OFFICE	205-942-7955	https://alabcboard.gov/
State Business License and County Business Taxes	JEFFERSON COUNTY REVENUE DEPT	205-325-5171	http://www.jccal.org/Default.asp?ID=698&pg=Revenue
	<i>Hoover Satellite</i>	205-497-8976	
	SHELBY COUNTY FINANCIAL SERVICES	205-670-6530	https://www.shelbyal.com/260/Business-Revenue
Health Permits or Food Safety Permits	ALABAMA DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	334-206-5200	www.adph.org
	JEFFERSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT	205-933-9110	www.jcdh.org
	SHELBY COUNTY HEALTH DEPT	205-664-2470	http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/shelby/
Electricity	ALABAMA POWER COMPANY	800-430-5787	www.alabamapower.com
Natural Gas	SPIRE	800-292-4008	www.spireenergy.com
Water and Sewer (Not an exclusive list)	<i>Please contact the Economic Development Office to help determine the appropriate entity servicing the location.</i>		
	JEFFERSON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	205-325-5390	http://www.jeffcoes.org/
	BIRMINGHAM WATER WORKS	205-244-4000	https://www.bwwb.org
	SOUTHWEST WATER	205-733-1672	https://www.swwc.com/alabama/contact-customer-service/
Hoover Business Groups	HOOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	205-988-5672	www.hooverchamber.org
	HOOVER RESTAURANT ALLIANCE	205-213-3617	https://www.facebook.com/HooverRestaurants/

HOOVER BUSINESS RESOURCE TEAM

UNIT	EMAIL	TELEPHONE	HOURS (M-F)
LOCATED AT HOOVER CITY HALL, 100 MUNICIPAL LANE, HOOVER, AL 35216			
Hoover City Clerk	cityclerk@hooveralabama.gov	205-444-7500	8 AM – 5 PM
LOCATED AT HOOVER PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER, 2020 VALLEYDALE RD, HOOVER, AL 35244			
Economic Development	development@hooveralabama.gov	205-739-7162	8 AM - 5 PM
City Planner	zoning@hooveralabama.gov	205-444-7517	8 AM – 5 PM
Revenue/Business License	revenue@hooveralabama.gov	205-444-7516	7 AM – 4 PM
Hoover Inspection Services	inspections@hooveralabama.gov	205-444-7522	7 AM – 4 PM
Hoover Fire Department	firemarshal@hooveralabama.gov	205-444-7655	8 AM – 5 PM
Not sure who to call? Please email development@hooveralabama.gov or 205-739-7162. You may also contact individual team members.			

**Expert help from our
Business Resource Team is available.
Contact us at 205-739-7162
or email development@hooveralabama.gov**