

Applying for a Garage License

Pursuant to City Ordinance 8-167, you must obtain a license before operating in Somerville a motor vehicle repair shop, a motor vehicle body shop, or a commercial garage to store vehicles. In addition, a flammables license may be required if you want to store flammable materials in addition to the gasoline already present in the vehicles.

TERM:

- The license expires on April 30 and is awarded for no more than one year.

APPLICATION CONDITIONS:

- You must apply online.
- The premises must be suitable pursuant to the zoning code.
- The premises must be satisfactorily inspected by the Fire Prevention Bureau.
- A public hearing before the City Council is required before the license can be issued.
- You must have paid all taxes, fees or fines owed to the City of Somerville.
- The license is not transferrable.

FEE:

- \$50.00 nonrefundable application fee.
- \$75.00 Public Hearing fee for new applicants, paid after the application is approved.
- \$605.00 annual license fee, paid after the application is approved.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:

The City requires that you upload the following documents as part of your application. The City will not process your application until these documents are included:

- The Workers' Compensation Insurance Affidavit (download the form when you apply).
- A site plan of the premises drawn to scale, showing where you will store each of the vehicles you wish to park inside the building and outside on any parking lot.
- Lease or other documentation of your access to the premises.

HOW TO APPLY:

Go to <http://www.somervillema.gov/citizenserve>.

- Click the [citizenserve](#) logo.
- Click "My Account."
- Log in, or, if this is your first online application, click "REGISTER NOW" to create an account.
- Scroll down and click "APPLY FOR A LICENSE."
- At Application Type, select "Business License."
- At Sub Type, select "Garage."
- Enter your Business Name.
- At "Is this application for a new or existing business location?":
 - Select "A new business location" if this is your first application in CitizenServe.
 - Enter the Somerville address of your proposed business, and click "FIND ADDRESS."
 - If CitizenServe doesn't identify your address, select "USE THIS ADDRESS."
 - OR
 - Select "An additional license for an existing business" if your business is licensed in CitizenServe.
 - At "License #" select a license you've received before.
- Answer the remaining questions.
- At Contacts, select a contact you've already entered, or, if you want the license mailed to a different address, select "Enter a new contact" and enter the mailing name and address.
- Upload the required documents, Accept all terms and conditions, Submit the form, and Pay the required fee.

QUESTIONS?

- If you have questions, contact the City Clerk at cityclerk@somervillema.gov.