

Applying for a Hawker Peddler License

Pursuant to City Ordinance 8-75, you must obtain a license before operating as a Hawker Peddler in Somerville. Generally, a License is required for anyone who displays or sells merchandise with the ability to move from place to place in Somerville, whether or not the applicant has obtained a State License.

TERM:

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

APPLICATION CONDITIONS:

- You must apply online.
- You must be deemed a suitable entity by the Police Department.
- If you are selling food or drink, your application must be approved by the Inspectional Services Department's Health Division.
- If you are using propane or any other flammables material, your application must be approved by the Fire Prevention Bureau.
- If you are using a scale or any other measuring device, your application must be approved by the Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- You must obtain a City and County Licenses and Permits Bond in the amount of \$5,000, or designate the City of Somerville as an Additional Insured on your business liability insurance.
- 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.
- \$165.00 annual license fee per hawker peddler, 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 CORI Form for each hawker peddler who will be working under this license (download the form when you apply).
- Two professional letters of reference.
- A City and County Licenses and Permits Bond in the amount of \$5,000, or a Certificate of Insurance showing the City of Somerville as an Additional Insured on your business liability insurance.
- The State Hawker Peddler License for each hawker peddler, if applicable.

HOW TO APPLY:

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

- Click on "APPLY FOR A LICENSE."
- Log in, or, if this is your first online application, click on "REGISTER NOW" to create an account.
- At License Type, select "Business License."
- At Sub Type, select "Hawker Peddler."
- 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.
 - Then enter your business address, and click on "FIND ADDRESS."
 - If your address is not in Somerville, select "USE THIS ADDRESS."
 - If your address is in Somerville, make sure you enter a valid address.
 - OR
 - Select "An additional license for an existing business" if you've already been licensed before.
 - 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.

LICENSE CONDITIONS:

- This license is required to operate anywhere within Somerville city limits, but it does not by itself give permission to operate in areas not under the City's control, including private property and certain streets and areas owned by the state. The City may require evidence that the Licensee has permission to operate in these areas before it issues this license.
- The following streets and areas are owned by the state, and require state approval to operate, in addition to this license:

Alewife Brook Parkway	Foss Park	Mystic River shoreline
Fellsway	Lombardi Way	Mystic Valley Parkway
Fellsway West	McGrath Highway	
- Operation in the following streets and areas is prohibited unless explicitly authorized by this license:

Davis Square area	Prospect Hill Park area	Union Square area
Powder House Park area	Somerville Hospital area	
- Operation at public events legally permitted by the City is prohibited unless explicitly requested and authorized by this license.
- The Licensee shall submit an updated list of the names and ages of all employees who will be working under this license to the City Clerk, whenever new employees are hired.
- The Licensee shall not cry his or her wares to the disturbance of the peace and comfort of the inhabitants of the City at any time, and shall not go uninvited to any residence for the purpose of attempting to sell or barter his or her wares.
- The Licensee shall set out a trash receptacle for the use of customers while engaged in the business of selling his or her wares. Said receptacle, and all papers, containers, garbage or other litter from his or her wares shall be removed by the Licensee when he or she is no longer engaged in sales.
- The Licensee's cart, vehicle or display shall have plainly printed on each side thereof the name of the Licensee, and shall be kept in a neat and clean condition, and shall not leak.
- The Licensee shall clearly display the prices and conditions of sale for all items to be sold.
- For hawking and peddling at the Mystic View and/or the Mystic River Housing Developments, the Licensee shall not sell or offer for sale his or her wares between the hours of 8:00 PM and 12:00 Noon, and shall not operate at any location other than the parking lot of the Tenant Recreation Facility at 530 Mystic Avenue. The Licensee shall only enter and exit the area via the Memorial Road/Mystic Avenue intersection and shall proceed directly to and from the parking lot, and shall not enter, exit, or drive through any other locations in the Developments at any other time. The Licensee shall not interfere, by threats, intimidation or coercion, with the exercise of any other hawker/peddler's right to sell wares. Any hawker/peddler who violates these regulations shall be liable to a penalty of \$100 for each offense; each day a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. Any hawker/peddler remaining on housing authority property in willful violation of these regulations may be arrested pursuant to MGL Chapter 272 Section 59 without a warrant by any officer authorized to serve criminal process in the place where the offense is committed and kept in custody until he or she can be taken before the Somerville District Court. Any hawker/peddler who violates these regulations may also be penalized by a noncriminal disposition as provided by MGL Chapter 40 Section 21D.

QUESTIONS?

- If you have questions, contact the City Clerk at 617-625-6600 x4110 or cityclerk@somervillema.gov.