

CHAPTER 122

PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND TRANSIENT MERCHANTS

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122.01 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to protect residents of the City against fraud, unfair competition and intrusion into the privacy of their homes by licensing and regulating peddlers, solicitors and transient merchants.

122.02 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter the following terms are defined:

1. "Peddler" means any person carrying goods or merchandise who sells or offers for sale for immediate delivery such goods or merchandise from house to house or upon the public street.
2. "Solicitor" means any person who solicits or attempts to solicit from house to house or upon the public street any contribution or donation or any order for goods, services, subscriptions or merchandise to be delivered at a future date.
3. "Transient merchant" means any person who engages in a temporary or itinerant merchandising business and in the course of such business hires, leases or occupies any building or structure whatsoever, or who operates out of a vehicle which is parked anywhere within the City limits. Temporary association with a local merchant, dealer, trader or auctioneer, or conduct of such transient business in connection with, as a part of, or in the name of any local merchant, dealer, trader or auctioneer does not exempt any person from being considered a transient merchant.

122.03 LICENSE REQUIRED. Any person engaging in peddling, soliciting or in the business of a transient merchant in the City without first obtaining a license as herein provided is in violation of this chapter.

122.04 APPLICATION FOR LICENSE. An application in writing shall be filed with the Clerk for a license under this chapter. Such application shall set forth the applicant's name, permanent and local address and business address if any. The application shall also set forth the applicant's employer, if any, and the employer's address, the nature of the applicant's business, the last three places of such business and the length of time sought to be covered by the license. An application fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid at the time of filing such application to cover the cost of investigating the facts stated therein.

122.05 LICENSE FEES. The following license fees shall be paid to the Clerk prior to the issuance of a peddler or solicitor license.

- A. For one day \$25.00
- B. For one week \$50.00
- C. For up to thirty (30) days \$100.00
- D. For one year or major part thereof \$250.00

122.06 BOND REQUIRED. Before a license under this chapter is issued to a transient merchant, an applicant shall provide to the Clerk evidence that the applicant has filed a bond with the Secretary of State in accordance with Chapter 9C of the Code of Iowa.

122.07 LICENSE ISSUED. If the Clerk finds the application is completed in conformance with the requirements of this chapter, the facts stated therein are found to be correct and the license fee paid, a license shall be issued immediately.

122.08 DISPLAY OF LICENSE. Each solicitor or peddler shall keep such license in possession at all times while doing business in the City and shall, upon the request of prospective customers, exhibit the license as evidence of compliance with all requirements of this chapter. Each transient merchant shall display publicly such merchant's license in the merchant's place of business.

122.09 LICENSE NOT TRANSFERABLE. Licenses issued under the provisions of this chapter are not transferable in any situation and are to be applicable only to the person filing the application.

122.10 TIME RESTRICTION. All peddler's and solicitor's licenses shall provide that said licenses are in force and effect only between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

122.11 REVOCATION OF LICENSE. After notice and hearing, the Clerk may revoke any license issued under this chapter for the following reasons:

1. **Fraudulent Statements.** The licensee has made fraudulent statements in the application for the license or in the conduct of the business.
2. **Violation of Law.** The licensee has violated this chapter or has otherwise conducted the business in an unlawful manner.
3. **Endangered Public Welfare, Health or Safety.** The licensee has conducted the business in such manner as to endanger the public welfare, safety, order or morals.

122.12 NOTICE. The Clerk shall send a notice to the licensee at the licensee's local address, not less than ten (10) days before the date set for a hearing on the possible revocation of a license. Such notice shall contain particulars of the complaints against the licensee, the ordinance provisions or State statutes allegedly violated, and the date, time and place for hearing on the matter.

122.13 HEARING. The Clerk shall conduct a hearing at which both the licensee and any complainants shall be present to determine the truth of the facts alleged in the complaint and notice. Should the licensee, or authorized representative, fail to appear without good cause, the Clerk may proceed to a determination of the complaint.

122.14 RECORD AND DETERMINATION. The Clerk shall make and record findings of fact and conclusions of law, and shall revoke a license only when upon review of the entire record the Clerk finds clear and convincing evidence of substantial violation of this chapter or State law.

122.15 APPEAL. If the Clerk revokes or refuses to issue a license, the Clerk shall make a part of the record the reasons therefor. The licensee, or the applicant, shall have a right to a hearing before the Council at its next regular meeting. The Council may reverse, modify or affirm the decision of the Clerk by a majority vote of the Council members present and the Clerk shall carry out the decision of the Council.

122.16 EFFECT OF REVOCATION. Revocation of any license shall bar the licensee from being eligible for any license under this chapter for a period of one year from the date of the revocation.

122.17 LICENSE EXEMPTIONS. The following are excluded from the application of this chapter.

1. Newspapers. Persons delivering, collecting for or selling subscriptions to newspapers.
2. Club Members. Members of local civic and service clubs, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America and similar organizations.
3. Local Residents and Farmers. Local residents and farmers who offer for sale their own products.
4. Students. Students (K-12) who are representing the Independence area schools, conducting projects sponsored by organizations which have been officially recognized by the schools.
5. Route Sales. Route delivery persons who only incidentally solicit additional business or make special sales.
6. Resale or Institutional Use. Persons customarily calling on businesses or institutions for the purposes of selling products for resale or institutional use.

122.18 CHARITABLE AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. Authorized representatives of charitable or nonprofit organizations operating under the provisions of Chapter 504 of the Code of Iowa desiring to solicit money or to distribute literature are exempt from the operation of Sections 122.04 and 122.05. All such organizations are required to submit in writing to the Clerk the name and purpose of the cause for which such activities are sought, names and addresses of the officers and directors of the organization, the period during which such activities are to be carried on, and whether any commissions, fees or wages are to be charged by the solicitor and the amount thereof. If the Clerk finds that the organization is a bona fide charity or nonprofit organization the Clerk shall issue, free of charge, a license containing the above information to the applicant. In the event the Clerk denies the exemption, the authorized representatives of the organization may appeal the decision to the Council, as provided in Section 122.15 of this chapter.

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Date Received: _____
Time: _____
Taken By: _____



Application for Peddlers, Solicitor's & Transient Merchant

Date: _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Present Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Social Security Number: _____

Driver's License Number: _____ State of Issuance: _____

(At the time of filing the application for a license required by this article, the applicant shall present a valid driver's license, if he or she has one, to the City Clerk.)

BUSINESS INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Present Address: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Federal ID Number: _____

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Date of Birth:		Color of Eyes:	
Color of Hair:		Weight:	
Height:		Sex (M or F)	

Hours of Operation: All peddler's and solicitor's licenses shall provide that said licenses are in force and effect **ONLY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 AM. AND 7:00 P.M.**

This permit to be in force from _____ to _____

The Location where the goods or property proposed to be sold, or orders taken for the sale thereof, are manufactured or produced:

The Location where such goods or products are located at the time the application is filed and the proposed method of delivery:

List the last five (5) municipalities wherein the applicant has worked before coming to Independence.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

List the location or locations within the City wherein goods or merchandise will be sold or offered for sale, or if door-to-door sales those areas within the city wherein said door-to-door sales will occur:

Application Fee: At the time of filing the application, a fee of **twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)** shall be paid to the City of Independence to cover the cost of investigation of the facts stated herein.

Paid: \$ _____ Receipt No. _____

PEDDLER OR SOLICITOR BOND REQUIRED: Please attach hereto a \$1,000 surety bond provided by your insurance company and/or agent naming the City of Independence

TRANSIENT MERCHANT BOND REQUIRED: Before a transient merchant licensee under this chapter is issued, an applicant shall provide to the Clerk evidence that the applicant has filed a bond with the Secretary of State in accordance with Chapter 9C of the Code of Iowa.

Statement of Understanding Read Carefully

I understand:

that completing this application does not constitute approval of a license.

that the statements made by me in this application and all related information which I have provided are true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that if I provide false, inaccurate, or incomplete information, I will not be eligible for a license.

that if issued a license, I will abide by all applicable local, state and federal laws.

Applicant Name: _____
(Please print) Last First M.I.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date ____/____/____

NOTARY

STATE OF IOWA
COUNTY OF BUCHANAN

On this _____ day of _____, 20__ before me a Notary Public, State of Iowa, personally appeared _____ as _____ to me known to be the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same as their voluntary at and deed.

Notary Public

My Commission Expiration

SEAL

Approved Denied

If denied, reason: _____

City Clerk/Treasurer