

Apply for entry in the register of crafts that are exempt from licensing or in the register of trades similar to crafts

If you wish to exercise an unlicensed trade or a trade similar to a trade on a self-employed basis, you must notify your Chamber of Crafts of the start of the commercial activity.

Competent Department

- [Handwerkskammer Bremen](#)

Basic information

The register of owners of a craft or craft-like trade that is not subject to licensing is a register in which all

- natural and
- legal entities and
- partnerships with legal capacity

who operate an unlicensed craft or craft-like trade must register. The crafts that are exempt from licensing are listed in Section 1 of Annex B to the Crafts Code.

These include, among others:

- Watchmakers,
- goldsmiths and silversmiths,
- wood sculptors,
- sailmakers,
- shoemaker,
- millers,
- brewers and maltsters,
- textile cleaners,
- building cleaners,
- photographers,
- bookbinders and
- violin makers.

Trades similar to crafts are listed in Section 2 of Appendix B to the Crafts Code. These include:

- Iron weavers,
- floor layers,

- Metal grinders and metal polishers,
- vehicle recyclers,
- pipe and drain cleaners,
- ice cream makers,
- beauticians and
- Piano tuners.

In order for the register to be kept correctly, there is a legal obligation to notify the Chamber of Skilled Crafts of the start or termination of the independent operation of an unlicensed craft or craft-like trade. Notification of the start of the business triggers a procedure for entry in the register.

Requirements

- You independently carry out an unlicensed craft or craft-like trade.
- Registration covers anyone who carries out entrepreneurial activity in a craft or craft-like trade that is exempt from registration. The obligation to notify and register applies to the owners, in the case of partnerships to the partners and in the case of corporations to the authorized representatives (e.g. managing director of a limited liability company) of the respective company.

What documents do I need?

- You can find a list below "More information"

Procedure

You must apply online or in writing to the Chamber of Skilled Crafts responsible for you for registration in the register of proprietors of a business in an admission-free craft or craft-like trade.

Online application

- Various administrative portals of the federal states offer an online application.
- In addition, the chambers of skilled crafts offer online access to their administrative procedures

Written application

- Go to the website of your local Chamber of Skilled Crafts and download the application form. You are also welcome to contact your Chamber of Skilled Crafts directly and have the required documents sent to you.
- Fill out the form completely and send it together with the required documents to your local Chamber of Skilled Crafts.

After your documents have been checked, you will receive a notification of registration if the requirements are met.

Legal bases

- [§ 18 Handwerksordnung \(HwO\)](#)

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

Display of the activity: before the start

How long does it take to process

Once all the documents have been submitted in full, entry in the register of owners of a business in an unlicensed craft or craft-like trade can be completed within a few working days.

What are the costs?

The specific fee results from the fee schedule of the Chamber of Crafts, which is available on the Chamber's website.