



Starting a business downtown?

Guided steps to opening a business in the historic downtown Murfreesboro.

Overview

This document was created in partnership with Main Street Murfreesboro, The City of Murfreesboro Planning Department, and the Small Business Development Center.

This is not an exhaustive list, but merely a brief summary of contacts and departments one may utilize to understand what may be required to open a business and how to begin the process in the downtown district.

Summary

Need	Who can help?
To determine if your business qualifies for certain small grants, loans, and get assistance on opening a business.	Small Business Development Center at MTSU 3050 Medical Center Parkway / (615) 898-2745 Contact the SBDC to receive FREE , high-quality consulting on business related topics and learn training solutions to help grow and/or sustain your business.
To determine if any spaces are available for sale/lease in the historic downtown.	Main Street Murfreesboro 225 West College Street / (615) 895-1887 Contact Main Street Murfreesboro for assistance on recommended service providers regarding commercial real estate and leasing/purchase of commercial/office space. Also, for connecting with building owners who have vacancies downtown. Work with Main Street as a new business owner in the historic downtown once business is established.
To get a business license and review any specific city taxes/licensing requirements.	Murfreesboro Finance and Tax Department 111 West Vine Street / (615) 893-5210 Contact the Finance and Tax Department to obtain a business license and determine what other taxes and/or licensing requirements are needed for proposed business.
To determine if your business is a permitted use at your desired space or location based on the City of Murfreesboro Zoning Ordinance.	City of Murfreesboro Planning Department 111 West Vine Street / (615) 893-6441 Contact the Murfreesboro Planning Department to see what the property is zoned as (Central Business District, Commercial Highway, Office General), if your business is permitted at that location and what the parking requirements may be.

<p>If your business requires <i>exterior</i> changes (i.e. construction or renovation of the building)</p>	<p>City of Murfreesboro Planning Department</p> <p>111 West Vine Street / (615) 893-6441</p> <p>Contact the Murfreesboro Planning Department to discuss the proposed exterior changes and determine what level of review is required for approval.</p>
<p>If your business requires interior changes (i.e. interior renovation, installing new internal systems, inspections)</p>	<p>City of Murfreesboro Building and Codes Department</p> <p>111 West Vine Street / (615) 893-3750</p> <p>Fire and Rescue Department Division of Community Risk Reduction</p> <p>111 West Vine Street / (615) 893-1422</p> <p>Murfreesboro Water Resources Department</p> <p>300 Northwest Broad Street / (615) 890-0862</p> <p>Contact the above-mentioned departments for review and discussion of code requirements and inspections of internal systems. Specific uses, such as food service, may require new systems such as sprinklers, hood systems, and/or a grease trap. It is important to discuss said use with Murfreesboro Water Resources Department and Building and Codes Department as potential upgrade or system requirements may vary.</p>

Helpful Documents:

	<p>Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue Department Contractor Checklist https://www.murfreesborotn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/696/MFRD-Contractor-Check-List?bidId=</p>
	<p>Murfreesboro Building and Codes Department https://www.murfreesborotn.gov/101/Building-Codes</p>
	<p>Murfreesboro Water Resources Department Fats, Oils, and Grease information for Commercial and Food Service Customers https://www.murfreesborotn.gov/287/Fats-Oils-Grease</p>
	<p>Small Business Development Center at MTSU Downloadable Resources https://tsbdc.org/downloads/</p>
	<p>Murfreesboro Planning Department 2022 Zoning Ordinance https://www.murfreesborotn.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7181/2022-Appendix-A---Zoning-Ordinance-last-revision-October-20-2022?bidId=</p>
	<p>Mainstreet Murfreesboro website https://www.mainstreetmurfreesboro.org/</p>
	<p>Loopnet Commercial real estate brokers https://www.loopnet.com/commercial-real-estate-brokers/tn/murfreesboro/</p>

