



License Information Sheet

Form
TBP-info

Tattoo & Body Piercing



Varies

See page 2



1 Year

License Term
Expiring June 30th



s. 75-23

Code Reference
Milwaukee.gov/ordinances

Who Needs a License?



Yes

- Anyone inserting pigment under the surface of the skin of a person, by pricking with a needle or otherwise, so as to produce an indelible mark or figure through the skin
- Anyone perforating any human body part or tissue, except an ear, and placing a foreign object in the perforation to prevent closure



No

- Airbrush tattooists
- Anyone exclusively performing ear piercing

Getting Started

- ☐ Review the License Quick-Start Guide
- ☐ Submit all of the following:
 - ☐ Business Ownership Form (Form OWN)
 - ☐ Tattoo & Body Piercing Establishment License Application (Form TBP-app)
 - ☐ Business Plan of Operation (Form PLN)
 - ☐ Floor Plan (Form FLR)
 - ☐ Payment

Quick-Start Guide



See our [Quick-Start Guide](#) for detailed instructions on submitting an application, licensing requirements, the approval process, and other important information.

Resources



Want to learn more?
Visit our website!

Milwaukee.gov/RedTapeRescue





Checklist

Easy As...

Form TBP-info Jan 2026

1 Requirements

To Complete Your Application for Review:

- ☐ [Fingerprinting](#)

Who? Everyone listed on the Business Ownership Form.

Before the License can be Issued:

- ☐ [Contact the Department of Neighborhood Services](#)

Who? Businesses located in the city of Milwaukee must obtain an [occupancy permit](#).

- ☐ [Contact the Milwaukee Health Department](#)

Why? At least 24 hours after filing the application, call (414) 286-3674 or email CEHcoordinator@milwaukee.gov to schedule a pre-inspection.

- ☐ [Department of Financial Institutions Registration](#)

Who? Corporations, LLCs, and nonprofits must submit proof of registration to the License Division.

License Fees

- Preinspection Fee: \$250
- Tattoo: \$413
- Body Piercing: \$375
- Combo: \$550

2 Approval

Background Investigation

After everyone reports for fingerprinting, the Milwaukee Police Department completes a background check and sends a report to the License Division.

No Items or Objections

If there are no items on the police report, no objections on file, the district alderperson supports the license, and all other requirements are met, the license is issued.

Items or Objections

- If there are items on the police report or objections on file, you may receive a notice to appear before the Licenses Committee.
- If the Licenses Committee recommends granting the license, it goes to the Common Council for final approval.

Large
Print



Upon request, this material is available in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities. Contact ADACoordinator@milwaukee.gov, (414) 286-3475 or TTY: 711. Provide 72 hours advance notice, seven days for Braille.

3 Important

Individual License

Each individual artist/piercer must obtain a license from the [Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services](#). Call (608) 266-2835 for details.

Extended Hours

An Extended Hours License (see Form 24HRS-info) is required for businesses open between midnight and 5:00 a.m.

Pre-inspection

The following must be available onsite for the pre-inspection:

- Equipment list of all items used during procedures
- List of all finished materials used on floors, walls, ceilings, and other surfaces
- Lighting plan
- Sharps disposal plan
- Insect & rodent control plan
- Standard operating procedures, including infection prevention and control plan
- Copies of practitioner licenses for all artists
- Facility documents, including client log, consent form, aftercare instructions, and age limitation sign
- If an autoclave is used, a copy of spore test results

Contact the Health Department for additional details on pre-inspection requirements