



# General Information/FAQs

## Certification Requirements

All municipalities are required to obtain a copy of each individual/entity's board certifications and/or permits prior to issuance of a municipal business license. For a list of types of licenses that require board certification, [www.avenuinsights.com](http://www.avenuinsights.com). Please provide a copy of your certification/permit along with your application (if applicable).

Issuance of a business license by Avenu does not permit business operation unless the business is properly zoned and/or in compliance with all applicable laws/rules and meet all required certifications.

## Gross Receipts. Definition of

### **AL Code § 11-51-90.1 (2016)**

(6) GROSS RECEIPTS. A measure of any and all receipts of a business from whatever source derived, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable laws and constitutional provisions, to be used in calculating the amount due for a business license. Provided, however, that:

a. Gross receipts shall not include any of the following taxes collected by the business on behalf of any taxing jurisdiction or the federal government: All taxes which are imposed on the ultimate consumer, collected by the taxpayer, and remitted by or on behalf of the taxpayer to the taxing authority, whether state, local, or federal, including utility gross receipts taxes levied pursuant to Article 3, Chapter 21, Title 40; license taxes levied pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 21, Title 40; or reimbursements to professional employer organizations of federal, state, or local payroll taxes or unemployment insurance contributions; but no other deductions or exclusions from gross receipts shall be allowed except as provided in this article.

b. A different basis for calculating the business license may be used by a municipality with respect to certain categories of taxpayers as prescribed in Section 11-51-90.2.

c. For a utility or other entity described in Section 11-51-129, gross receipts shall be limited to the gross receipts derived from the retail furnishing of utility services within a municipality during the preceding year that are taxed under Article 3 of Chapter 21 of Title 40, except that nothing herein shall affect any existing contract or agreement between a municipality and a utility or other entity. The gross receipts derived from the furnishing of utility services shall not be subject to further business license taxation by a municipality.

d. Gross receipts shall not include dividends or other distributions received by a corporation, or proceeds from borrowings, the sale of a capital asset, the repayment of the principal portion of a loan, the issuance of stock or other equity investments, or capital contributions, or the undistributed earnings of subsidiary entities.



## Police Jurisdiction (PJ), Definition and Rate of

Not applicable in Fulton.

## Penalty and Interest, Rate of

Failure to purchase a license can be punishable by a fine not to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

All licenses not paid within thirty (30) days from the date they fall due (January 1<sup>st</sup>) will increase by a 15% penalty due February 1st plus interest at the current state interest rate. An additional 15% penalty will be due March 2nd plus interest at the current state interest rate per month thereafter.

New Business Penalty: In the case of persons who began business on or after the first day of the calendar year, the license fee for such "new business" shall be increased by fifteen (15%) percent for the first fifteen (15) days they shall be delinquent, and shall be measured by an additional fifteen (15%) percent for a delinquency of forty-five (45) days or more.

## Posting of License

Every license shall be posted in a conspicuous place, where said business, trade or occupation is carried on, and the holder of the license shall immediately show same to the designee of the municipality upon being requested so to do.

## Transfer of License information

No license shall be transferred except with the consent of the council or other governing body of the municipality or of the director of finance or other chief revenue officer or his or her designee, and no license shall be transferred to reflect a physical change of address of the taxpayer within the municipality more than once during a license year and never from one taxpayer to another. Provided that a mere change in the name or ownership of a taxpayer that is a corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other form of legal entity now or hereafter recognized by the laws of Alabama shall not constitute a transfer for purposes of this chapter, unless (1) the change requires the taxpayer to obtain a new federal employer identification number or Department of Revenue taxpayer identification number or (2), in the discretion of the municipality, the subject license is one for the sale of alcoholic beverages. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a municipality from requiring a new business license application and approval for an alcoholic beverage license.

## Type of License

Gross-based licenses require the gross receipts to be provided. See Gross Receipts definition for more information. Unit-based licenses require the number of units (employees, vehicles, rooms, agents, days, etc.) to be provided. Flat-based fees have the rates indicated. Failure to provide the required information will delay the issuance of the license.

## Zoning

If a business intends to maintain a physical location within the municipality, there are normally zoning and building code approvals required prior to the issuance of a license. In certain instances, a business may simply be required to register with the municipality to create a mechanism for the reporting and payment of any tax liabilities. Contact the municipality for any zoning, building code and/or tax liability requirements. The completion and submission of the form does not guarantee the approval or subsequent issuance of a license to do business. Any prerequisites for a particular type and location of the business must be satisfied prior to licensing.

## Questions?

All questions regarding the business license renewal process should be directed to Avenu.

Website: [www.avenuinsights.com](http://www.avenuinsights.com)

Email: [businesslicensesupport@avenuinsights.com](mailto:businesslicensesupport@avenuinsights.com)

Phone: 800.556.7274

Free, Easy Online Filing available at <https://rds.bizlicenseonline.com>.

Internal no.	Classification/Business Description including Certification information	For Calculation Information See Schedule
721191	<b>Accommodations</b> – bed and breakfast inns and services	D
721110	<b>Accommodations</b> – hotels, motels and similar facilities	C
721310	<b>Accommodations</b> – rooming houses and boarding houses	E
721214	<b>Accommodations</b> – trailer parks, RV parks, and travel parks	E
541211	<b>Accountant/CPAs</b> – individual and/or firm professional license <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Public Accountancy Board</b>	A
561439	<b>Administrative services</b> – answering, employment, office, sec., travel	C
524292	<b>Agent Office</b> – administration of third parties, pension funds, annuities, etc	B
115114	<b>Agriculture support</b> – cotton gins, farm mgt, post-harvest activities	F
481111	<b>Air transportation</b> – airline tickets, shipping, freight, charters service	B
312141	<b>Alcohol</b> – state regulated through ABC <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board)</b>	Not applicable at this time (H)
621910	<b>Ambulance</b> – ambulance company and/or services <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alabama EMSP Licensure</b>	D
713990	<b>Amusement</b> – arcades, golf clubs, marinas, fitness, bowling centers	B
112990	<b>Animal Production</b> – dairy, cattle, ranching, sheep, chickens, poultry	F
315999	<b>Apparel manufacturing</b> – women, men, children, hosiery, lingerie outerwear, accessories	D
335211	<b>Appliance manufacturing</b> – small appliance, lighting, electrical, battery, freezer	C
541310	<b>Architect</b> – individual and/or firm professional license <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Architects Registration Board</b>	A
711219	<b>Arts and sports</b> – dance, musical, teams, tracks, promoters, agents	B
541110	<b>Attorney/Lawyers</b> – individual and/or firm professional license <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alabama State Bar</b>	A
522111	<b>Bank Branch or ATM</b> – not main office of bank	U
522110	<b>Bank Main Office</b> – not branch location or ATM	U
312121	<b>Beer</b> – off premise – state regulated through ABC <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board)</b>	Not applicable at this time (H)
312122	<b>Beer</b> – on premise – state regulated through ABC <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board)</b>	Not applicable at this time (H)
312132	<b>Beer &amp; Wine</b> – wholesale distributor <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board)</b>	Not applicable at this time (H)
312100	<b>Beverage manufacturing</b> – all types of soft drinks, bottled water, breweries, ice	E
515100	<b>Broadcasting</b> – radio and television stations	B
444130	<b>Building materials</b> and gardening equipment dealers – hardware, paint, home center, wallpaper, nursery	C













Internal no.	Classification/Business Description including Certification information	For Calculation Information See Schedule
312131	<b>Wine</b> – state regulated through ABC <b>Must Provide Board Certification: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board)</b>	Not applicable at this time (H)
321999	<b>Wood manufacturing</b> – sawmills, wood preservation, veneer, trusses, millwork	C

## Calculation Information

### Schedule "A":

Each person or entity classified as Schedule A shall pay a license in an amount based on gross annual receipts for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. The license fee shall be \$50.00 plus one dollar (\$1.00) per one-thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of gross annual receipts for the calendar year preceding the current license year.

### Schedule "B":

Each person or entity classified as Schedule B shall pay a license in an amount based on gross annual receipts for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. The license shall be \$75.00

### Schedule "C":

Each person or entity classified as Schedule C shall pay a license in an amount based on gross annual receipts for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. On gross receipts of not more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) the license will be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
2. On gross receipts of more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) but not more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) the license shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
3. On gross receipts of more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) but not more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) the license shall be three hundred dollars (\$300.00).
4. On gross receipts of more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) but not more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) the license shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.00)
5. On gross receipts of more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00) but not more than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) the license shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).
6. On gross receipts of more than twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00) the license shall be one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00).

## **Schedule "D" :**

Each person or entity classified as Schedule D shall pay a license in an amount based on gross annual receipts for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. On gross receipts of less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) the license shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75.00).
2. On gross receipts of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) to thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) the license shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

On gross receipts of over thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) the license shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) plus one dollar (\$1.00) per thousand dollars of gross receipts over thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00). License fee is capped at \$1500.00

## **Schedule "E" :**

Each person or entity classified as Schedule E shall pay a license in an amount based on gross annual receipts for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. On gross receipts up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) the license shall be forty dollars (\$40.00).
2. On gross receipts of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) but less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) the license shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
3. On gross receipts of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) but less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) the license shall be one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).
4. On gross receipts of over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) the license shall be two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).

## **Schedule "F" :**

Each person or entity classified as Schedule F shall pay a license in an amount based on gross receipt for the calendar year immediately preceding the current license year as follows:

1. On gross receipts less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) the license shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).
2. On gross receipts of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) and less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) the license shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00).
3. On gross receipts of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) the license shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).
4. On gross receipts of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) and less than twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) the license shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75.00).
5. On gross receipts of twenty five thousand dollars and more the license shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) plus one dollar (\$1.00) per thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of gross receipts over twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00). Licensed fee is capped at \$1500.00

## **Schedule "G" - Electric Company and Gas Company**

For selling or distributing electrical current or natural gas, an amount equal to three percent of the gross receipts of the business transacted in the municipality for the previous year for the sale or distribution of electrical current or natural gas from any point in or into the municipality.

## **Schedule "H" - Beer, Wine & Liquor Not applicable at this time**

<u>State of Alabama Code</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Licensing Notes</u>
040 (Beer On/Off Premise)	312121	75.00	
050 (Beer Off Premise Only)	312122	50.00	
060 (Table Wine On/Off Premise)	312131	75.00	
070 (Table Wine Off Premise Only)	312131	75.00	
010 (Lounge Retail Liquor Class I)	312121	75.00	All three codes are part of the package plus the business license code.
	312141	650.00	
	312131	75.00	
011 (Package Store Liquor Class II)	312122	75.00	All three codes are part of the package plus the business license code.
	312141	650.00	
	312131	75.00	
020 (Restaurant Retail Liquor)	312121	75.00	All three codes are part of the package plus the business license code.
	312141	650.00	
	312131	75.00	
032 (Club Liquor Class II)	312121	75.00	All three codes are part of the package plus the business license code.
	312141	650.00	
	313131	75.00	
110 (Wholesale Table Wine & Beer)	312132	375.00	Distributors License

## **Schedule "I" - Peddlers**

Daily Rate	issued for single day sales activity	\$ 10.00
Weekly Rate	issued for week long sales activity	\$ 25.00
Monthly Rate	issued for month long sales activity	\$ 50.00
Yearly Rate	issued for annual sales activity	\$ 100.00

## **Schedule "J" - Taxi Cabs & Limousines**

In addition to the license thereto, there shall be a decal affixed to each taxi cab or limousine and the cost of said decals shall be according to the following table:

1 taxi cab or limousine	\$ 50.00 per decal
All taxi cabs or limousines over 1	\$ 25.00 per decal

## **Schedule "K" - Telephones & Telecommunications**

In accordance with 11-51-128 the license fee for any telephone service provider shall be \$270.00 and the license fee for any long distance service provider shall be \$68.00.

## **Schedule "L" - Special Events Licenses**

Including fairs, carnivals, circuses, concerts and other similar types of events; the license rate shall be \$100.00 per day or \$500.00 per week. Nonprofits events license waived prior to the approval of the council

## **Schedule "M" - Fortune Tellers**

Annual license rate is \$ 1,000.00 and rate is reduced by \$ 25.00 each year until such time as the annual rate reaches \$ 500.00 and that becomes the minimum rate thereafter.

## **Schedule "N" - Vending Machines**

In addition to the license thereto, there shall be a decal affixed to each machine and the cost of said decals shall be according to the following table:

1 to 5 machines vending any type merchandise or product	\$ 20.00 per decal
5 to 10 machines vending any type merchandise or product	\$ 10.00 per decal
all over 10 machines vending any type merchandise or product	\$ 5.00 per decal

## **Schedule "O" - Billiard and/or Pool Tables**

In addition to the license thereto, there shall be a decal affixed to each machine and the cost of said decals shall be according to the following table:

For 1 to 2 billiard or pool tables	\$ 50.00 per decal
All billiard or pool tables over 2	\$ 25.00 per decal

## **Schedule "P" - Amusement Devices**

In addition to the license thereto, there shall be a decal affixed to each machine and the cost of said decals shall be according to the following table:

For the first 10 machines	\$ 25.00 per decal
All machines over 10	\$ 10.00 per decal

## **Schedule "Q" - Buses, Trucks & Other Equipment**

In addition to the license thereto, there shall be a decal affixed to each piece of equipment and the cost of said decals shall be according to the following table:

From 1 to 2 buses, trucks or other equipment	\$ 50.00 per decal
From 2 to 5 buses, trucks or other equipment	\$ 25.00 per decal
Over 5 buses, trucks or other equipment	\$ 10.00 per decal

## **Schedule "R" - Number of Employees**

R-1	Where personnel are from 1 to 2 people.....	100.00
R-2	Where personnel are from 3 to 5 people.....	250.00
R-3	Where personnel are from 6 to 10 people.....	400.00
R-4	Where personnel are from 11 to 20 people.....	550.00
R-5	Where personnel are from 21 to 50 people.....	700.00
R-6	Where personnel are from 51 to 75 people.....	850.00
R-7	Where personnel is from 76 to 100 people.....	1,000.00
R-8	Personnel over 100 to be 1,000.00 + 50.00 per person over 100.	

## **Schedule "S" - Square Feet**

S-1	From zero	to	5,000 Square Feet.....	100.00
S-2	From 5,000	to	10,000 Square Feet.....	200.00
S-3	From 10,000	to	20,000 Square Feet.....	300.00
S-4	From 20,000	to	30,000 Square Feet.....	400.00
S-5	From 30,000	to	40,000 Square Feet.....	500.00
S-6	From 40,000	to	50,000 Square Feet.....	600.00
S-7	From 50,000	to	60,000 Square Feet.....	700.00
S-8	From 60,000	to	70,000 Square Feet.....	800.00
S-9	From 70,000	to	80,000 Square Feet.....	900.00
S-10	From 80,000	to	90,000 Square Feet.....	1,000.00
S-11	From 90,000	to	100,000 Square Feet.....	1,200.00
S-16	From 100,000	up -	1,200.00 plus \$ .01 per square foot over 100,000	

## **Schedule "U" - Banks / Savings & Loans**

Bank ATM Location	\$ 10.00
Bank Branch Location	\$ 10.00
Bank Main Office Facility	\$ 125.00
Savings & Loan ATM Location	\$ 10.00
Savings & Loan Branch Location	\$ 10.00
Savings & Loan Mail Office Facility	\$ 125.00



## **Schedule "V" - Delivery License-See Qualifications in Section 21 Below**

The rate for the delivery license is established in Section 21 and is: \$ 100.00

Section 21. Delivery License per §11-51-194 Modified by 2017-415 (SB316) and SB 321.

(a) (1) Each municipality may require the purchase of a delivery license by any business that has no other physical presence within the municipality or its police jurisdiction for the privilege of delivering its merchandise, whether for rental or final sale, therein. The amount of the delivery license shall not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100). Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a municipality from requiring by ordinance the purchase of a decal by the taxpayer for each delivery vehicle making deliveries within the municipality or its police jurisdiction. The charge for the decal shall not exceed the municipality's actual cost of the decal.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a municipality may charge a taxpayer an issuance fee for a business delivery license not to exceed ten dollars (\$10).

(b) As used in this section, a delivery license means a fixed rate business license issued by a municipality for the limited privilege of delivering and requisite set-up and installation, by the taxpayer's employees or agents, of the taxpayer's own merchandise in that municipality, by means of delivery vehicles owned, leased, or contracted by the taxpayer; provided that the gross receipts derived from the sale and any requisite set-up or installation of all merchandise so delivered into the municipality shall not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) during the license year, and any set-up or installation shall relate only to

(1) That required by the contract between the taxpayer and the customer or as may be required by state or local law; and

(2) the merchandise so delivered.

Mere delivery of the taxpayer's merchandise by common carrier shall not allow the taxing jurisdiction to assess a business license tax or a delivery license tax against the taxpayer, but the gross receipts derived from any sale and delivery accomplished by means of a common carrier shall be counted against the seventy-five thousand dollar (\$75,000) limitation described in the preceding sentence if the taxpayer also during the same license year sells and delivers into the taxing jurisdiction using a delivery vehicle other than a common carrier. Provided that the dollar limitation prescribed above shall be increased, but not decreased, every five years under the standards prescribed by Section 11-51-90 with respect to the uniform license issuance fee and may be increased by a municipality at any time, up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), by adoption of an ordinance. A common carrier, contract carrier, or similar delivery service making deliveries on behalf of others shall not be entitled to purchase a delivery license.

(c) A taxpayer that otherwise meets the criteria for the purchase of a delivery license pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) is not required to purchase a delivery license or a regular business license if the following criteria apply:

1) The taxpayer's gross receipts that are derived from within the municipality or its police jurisdiction do not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during the year; and

(2) the taxpayer has no other physical presence within the municipality or its police jurisdiction during the year.

Any other taxpayer that meets the criteria for the purchase of a delivery license, as provided in subsections (a) and (b), and meets those criteria during the current license year as well, shall purchase either a delivery license or a regular business license otherwise applicable to the taxpayer, at its option.

(d) Notwithstanding Section 11-51-90.2, the delivery license shall be calculated in arrears, based on the related gross receipts during the preceding license year.

(e) The purchase of a delivery license or the exemption from the purchase of a delivery license pursuant to subsection (c) shall not, in and of itself, establish nexus between the taxpayer and the municipality for purposes of the taxes levied by or under the authority of Title 40 or other provisions of this title, nor does the purchase of a delivery license, in and of itself, establish that nexus does not exist between the taxpayer and the municipality.

(f) If at any time during the current license year the taxpayer fails to meet the criteria specified in subsections (a) and (b), then within 45 days after any of the criteria have been violated or exceeded, the taxpayer shall purchase a business delivery license or other appropriate license from the municipality and may be subject to a penalty not to exceed ten dollars (\$10).