

# Business License Exemptions

A Chicago Business License is required to conduct, engage in, maintain, operate, or manage any business in the City of Chicago. However, there are business activities regulated by the State of Illinois that may be exempt from City licensing. The occupations / professions listed below are a sampling of business activities, which are licensed by the [Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation \(IDFPR\)](#), that do not require a Chicago Business License.

Please note that if additional business activities are offered in the establishment / facility, which are not covered by the State of Illinois license, then a Chicago Business License may be required. Please consult our [Business License Guide](#) for additional information, or call us at (312) 74-GOBIZ (744-6249).

The **IDFPR Division of Professional Regulation** licenses the following:

• Acupuncturists, Chiropractors, Naprapaths, and Osteopaths	• Marriage and Family Therapists
• Architects	• Nurses
• Athletics (i.e. Professional Boxers, Boxing Managers, Referees, Timekeepers, Judges, Boxing Promoters and Seconds)	• Nursing Home Administrators
• Cemetery (Authorities, Managers, and Customer Service Employees)	• Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapist Assistants
• Certified Public Accountants	• Optometrists
• Clinical Psychologists	• Pharmacists
• Clinical Social Workers and Social Workers	• Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants
• Counselors (Professional and Clinical Professional)	• Physicians and Physician Assistants
• Cosmetology Schools and similar establishments	• Podiatrists
• Detection of Deception Examiners	• Private Detectives, Private Alarm Companies, and Security Guards
• Dentists, Dental Assistants, Dental Hygienists	• Real Estate Brokers
• Dietitians and Nutrition Counselors	• Respiratory Care Practitioners
• Engineers (Professional and Structural)	• Shorthand Reporters
• Environmental Health Practitioners	• Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists
• Funeral (Directors and Embalmers)	• Surgical (Assistants and Technologists)
• Geologists (Professional)	• Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians
• Landscape Architects	• Wholesale Drug Distributors

The **IDFPR Division of Banking** oversees the regulation and licensure of the following:

• ATMs not owned by financial institutions	• Savings Banks
• Check Printers	• State Chartered Banks
• Mortgage Bankers and Brokers	• Trust Companies
• Savings and Loan Associations	

The **IDFPR Division of Financial Institutions** licenses, examines, and investigates the following:

• Credit Unions	• Money Transmitters
• Currency Exchanges	• Title Insurance Companies

The lists provided here are NOT comprehensive. For a more comprehensive listing, please go to the [IDFPR website](#).