



**Lawrence Douglas County  
Metropolitan Planning Office**

1 Riverfront Plaza, Ste 320, P.O. Box 708  
Lawrence, KS 66044

(785) 832-7700 Fax (785) 832-3110

<http://www.lawrenceks.org/pds/>

**REGISTRATION OF ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT  
CHECKLIST AND AFFIDAVIT**

**Application materials must be submitted electronically via the [Citizen Self-Service Portal](#). If you are unable to provide the materials online, please contact the Planning Office at 785-832-7700.**

**Accessory Dwelling Unit Registration Procedures**

The applicant is required to provide all registration materials and documents provided herein as well as any other materials necessary to review the request. All information must be submitted to the Planning Office of Lawrence/Douglas County, Kansas. The following materials must be submitted complete upon application:

**Registration Materials Provided:**

- Section 20-534; Accessory Dwelling Units from the Lawrence Development Code (for reference)
- Owner Authorization Form
- Affidavit Form for Registration of Accessory Dwelling Unit

**Registration Materials Required to be Submitted to the Planning Office:**

1. Site or Plot Plan depicting the following:
  - Accurate locations of both the principal and accessory dwelling structures;
  - Location of all building entrances;
  - Provision of parking, if required; and
  - Any other information necessary to review for compliance with the standards of Section 20- 534 of the Lawrence Development Code.
2. Owner Authorization Form **if** applicant is not the legal owner of the property.
3. Affidavit pledging agreement with the Accessory Dwelling Unit standards of Section 20-534.
4. Recording fee for the affidavit (\$21 for first page PLUS \$17 per additional page, if additional pages are necessary), made payable to the City of Lawrence.

Section 20-534 **Accessory Dwelling Units**  
(permitted only in RS40, RS20, RS10, RS7, CN1, GPI, and H)

**(1) Purpose**

Accessory Dwelling Units are allowed in certain situations to:

- (i) create new housing units while preserving the look and scale of single-Family detached Dwelling neighborhoods; allowed in RS zones, subject to the procedures established in Section (xi) Registration; Affidavit;
- (ii) allow more efficient use of the City's existing housing stock and Infrastructure;
- (iii) provide a mix of housing types that responds to changing Family needs and smaller households;
- (iv) provide a means for residents, particularly seniors, single parents, and couples, to remain in their homes and neighborhoods, and obtain extra income, security, companionship and services; and
- (v) provide a broader range of accessible and more affordable housing.

**(2) Design Standards**

**(i) Purpose**

These design standards are intended to ensure that Accessory Dwelling Units:

- a. are compatible with the desired character and livability of RS Zoning Districts;
- b. respect the general Building scale and placement of Structures to allow sharing of common space on the Lot, such as Driveways and Yards; and
- c. are 960 square feet or smaller in size.

**(ii) Generally**

The design standards for Accessory Dwelling Units are stated in this section. If not addressed in this section, the Base District standards apply.

**(iii) Methods of Creation**

An Accessory Dwelling Unit may only be created through one of the following methods:

- a. converting existing living area within a Detached Dwelling, Attached Dwelling or duplex (e.g., attic, Basement or attached garage);
- b. adding Floor Area to an existing Detached Dwelling, Attached Dwelling or duplex, detached garage; or
- c. constructing a new Detached Dwelling, Attached Dwelling, duplex or detached garage with an internal Accessory Dwelling Unit.

**(iv) Owner Occupancy Required in RS Districts**

Either the Principal Dwelling Unit or the Accessory Dwelling Unit must be occupied by one or more of the persons who is/are the record Owner of the Premises. If at any time, neither of the

Dwelling Units in a Building that contains an Accessory Dwelling Unit is the principal residence of one of the Owner of the property, then the property shall be considered a Duplex. If a

Duplex is not permitted in the Zoning District in which the property is located, the Owner shall be subject to penalties for a zoning violation and to an abatement order requiring restoration of the Premises to lawful status, conforming with the uses permitted in the Zoning District.

**(v) Number of Residents**

The total number of individuals that reside in both units (principal + accessory) may not exceed the number that is allowed for a household, plus one additional person.

**(vi) Other Uses**

An Accessory Dwelling Unit is prohibited in a house with a Type B Home Occupation.

**(vii) Location of Entrances**

- a. Only one entrance to the Principal Building may be located on the front Facade that faces the Street, unless the Principal Building contained an additional Street-facing entrance before the Accessory Dwelling Unit was created.
- b. When the Accessory Dwelling Unit is located behind the rear wall of the Principal Building, the accessory Dwelling entrance shall face the Front Lot Line.
- c. An exception to subsection (b), above, is Dwelling Units that do not have Access from the ground such as Dwelling Units with entrances from balconies or elevated decks.

**(viii) Parking**

The following Parking requirements apply to Accessory Dwelling Units.

- a. Lots containing Accessory Dwelling Units shall contain a minimum of two off-Street Parking Spaces.
- b. If the Lot containing the Accessory Dwelling Unit abuts only a Local Street and the pavement of the Local Street is at least 27 feet wide, no additional Parking Space is required for the Accessory Dwelling Unit.
- c. If the Lot containing the Accessory Dwelling Unit abuts only a Local Street and the pavement of the Local Street is less than 27 feet wide, or if the Accessory Dwelling Unit is created at the same time as the Principal Dwelling Unit, one additional Parking Space is required for the Accessory Dwelling Unit.
- d. One additional Parking Space is required for the Accessory Dwelling Unit if the Lot containing the Accessory Dwelling Unit abuts only a Collector or Arterial Street.

**(ix) Size**

The maximum size of an Accessory Dwelling Unit may be no more than (33%) of the living area of the Detached Dwelling or Attached Dwelling, or 960 square feet, whichever is less.

**(x) Floor Area Additions**

Accessory Dwelling Units created through the addition of habitable Floor Area to an existing Structure shall comply with the following standards:

- a. the exterior finish material shall be the same or visually match in type, size and placement, the exterior finish material of the house or existing Structure;
- b. the roof pitch shall be the same as the predominant roof pitch of the house or existing Structure;
- c. trim on edges of elements on the addition shall be the same in type, size and location as the trim used on the rest of the house or existing Structure;
- d. windows shall match those in the house in proportion (relationship of width to Height) and orientation (horizontal or vertical);and
- e. eaves shall project from the Building walls the same distance as the eaves on the rest of the house or existing Structure.

**(xi) Registration; Affidavit**

- a. Accessory Dwelling Units shall be registered with the Planning Director prior to their establishment. The requirement for registration is intended to ensure that the applicant is aware of the provisions of this Development Code governing Accessory Dwelling Units; that the City has all information necessary to evaluate whether the Accessory Dwelling Unit initially meets and continues to meet Development Code requirements; and that the distribution and location of Accessory Dwelling Units is known.
- b. At the time of registration, the applicant shall submit an affidavit pledging agreement to the Accessory Dwelling Unit standards of this section. The affidavit shall specify which of the Dwelling Units will be occupied by an Owner of the property; if at any time such Owner moves to the other Dwelling Unit, the Owner shall be responsible for filing an updated affidavit, recording such change.
- c. Permits for Accessory Dwelling Units may be issued after the Planning Director determines that the proposal complies with all applicable Development Code requirements.



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**OWNER AUTHORIZATION**

I/WE \_\_\_\_\_, hereby referred to as the "Undersigned", being of lawful age, do hereby on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_, make the following statements to wit:

- 1. I/We the Undersigned, on the date first above written, am/are the lawful owner(s) in fee simple absolute of the following described real property:

[Insert or Attach Legal Description here]

- 2. I/We the undersigned, have previously authorized and hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ (Herein referred to as "Applicant"), to act on my/our behalf for the purpose of making application with the Planning Office of Lawrence/Douglas County, Kansas, regarding \_\_\_\_\_ (common address), the subject property, or portion thereof. Such authorization includes, but is not limited to, all acts or things whatsoever necessarily required of Applicant in the application process.

- 3. It is understood that in the event the Undersigned is a corporation or partnership then the individual whose signature appears below for and on behalf of the corporation or partnership has in fact the authority to so bind the corporation or partnership to the terms and statements contained within this instrument.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I, the Undersigned, have set my hand and seal below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner (printed name and position in corporation if signing for a corporation)      \_\_\_\_\_  
Owner (printed name and position in corporation if signing for a corporation)

STATE OF KANSAS  
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_,

by \_\_\_\_\_.

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public



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**Affidavit of Registration of Accessory Dwelling Unit**

THE FOLLOWING AFFIDAVIT SHALL BE FULLY COMPLETED. This affidavit shall be submitted to the Planning Office, with filing fee (\$21 for first page, PLUS \$17 per additional page), to be recorded at the Douglas County Register of Deeds upon approval.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I, the Undersigned, have set my hand and seal below.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (printed name), owner of the following described real property, legally described as (insert legal description below)

located at \_\_\_\_\_ (common address) in the City of Lawrence, Kansas hereby affirm that I have received a copy of the standards for Accessory Dwelling Units, Section 20-534 of the Lawrence Development Code and that my property meets all the requirements thereof. I understand that the total number of individuals permitted to live on my property shall not exceed the number that is allowed in a household, plus one additional person. I also understand that registration of an Accessory Dwelling Unit requires owner occupancy of one or both of the dwelling units on the premises. I pledge that I currently live in the \_\_\_\_\_ (state Principal or Accessory) dwelling unit and I understand that if at some point in the future I move to the other dwelling unit on the property, that I am required to file an updated affidavit, recording such change. I pledge agreement to the standards mentioned above and to all the standards of Section 20-534 of the Lawrence Development Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

This instrument was acknowledged before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

By \_\_\_\_\_ (name of person).

(Seal, if any)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notarial Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

My appointment expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Reserved for County Use