



Signage /Awning Permit Application and Checklist

(For the purposes of this application, an awning shall be considered to be a lightweight metal frame structure over which a fabric covering is attached.)

Applications shall be submitted online via the Citizen Self Service portal. Refer to the attached documents for complete instructions. The following items shall be submitted (please check and submit all items):

- Signage/Awning Permit Application form
- Certificate of Liability listing the City as an additional insured if any portion of the sign abuts or encroaches on any public right of way, or can fall into any public right of way.
- A copy of the signed lease or letter of permission from the property owner indicating the specific permissions granted and the tenant/space building frontage.
- A plan showing the specific locations of all existing and proposed signs:
 - For freestanding signs: the plan shall depict lot lines, buildings, driveways, abutting streets or rights of way, lengths of street frontages, and setbacks from freestanding signs to the nearest lot line.
 - For all other signs and awnings: the plan shall depict buildings, driveways, abutting streets or rights of way, and building façade dimensions. Photos or other documentation similar to a drawn plan are acceptable, provided that all required information is included.
- A drawing or photo of the proposed sign showing content, all dimensions, materials, source of illumination, details of anchoring and installation (e.g., attachment specifications, footing details for freestanding signs, etc.).
- Certificate of flammability is required for awnings or banners.
- A UL Classification Mark, found on the product, is required for illuminated signs at the time of final inspection.
- Photos of existing signage.

The Permitting and Inspections Department may request additional information prior to the issuance of a permit.



Portland, Maine



Yes. Life's good here.

Permitting and Inspections Department
Approved with Conditions
07/09/2018

Permitting and Inspections Department
Michael A. Russell, MS, Director

Dear Applicant,

Beginning March 19, 2018, all building permits shall be submitted online via the City of Portland's Citizen Self Service (CSS) portal. Online submission of permit applications will help to streamline the application intake process and will improve transparency for the permitting process. In order to submit an application, you will need to register with CSS using a valid e-mail address. Refer to the instructions on the Citizen Self Service homepage, or via the links at the bottom of this page. Please verify that you have selected the correct permit type and checklist and that you have compiled all the required drawings and documents before beginning the application process.

Please note that our format for application submissions has changed. All application documentation shall be compiled into two PDF files-- one file containing all drawing sheets and a second PDF file containing all supporting documentation. Refer to the Requirements for Electronic Submissions for specific instructions on how to prepare your application submission and to the appropriate checklist for required submission items. The review of your application will not begin until a complete application has been submitted and the permit fee has been paid in full. Work may not commence until the permit has been issued.

If you have questions, please contact the Permitting and Inspections Department at (207) 874-8703 or permitting@portlandmaine.gov. Thank you in advance for your patience as we transition to a new and improved permitting system.

For more information:

[How to Apply for a Permit](#)

[How to Register with CSS](#)

[Permit Type Guide](#)

[Requirements for Electronic Submissions](#)

[Citizen Self Service](#)



How to Apply for a Permit

All permit applications shall be submitted online through the City of Portland's [Citizen Self Service](#) (CSS) portal. Online submissions will streamline the application intake process and will allow for greater transparency for applicants during the permit review process. You will be able to view the progress of your permit application, pay invoices, resubmit files and request inspections through CSS. Before submitting an application, please read the instructions below:

1. To begin, review the [Permit Type Guide](#) to determine the appropriate permit type and work class for your project.
2. Once you have determined the correct permit type, refer to the corresponding submission checklist and instructions for that permit type.
3. Compile all the required drawings and documentation as listed on the checklist into two PDF files (one file containing all drawing sheets and one file for all supporting documentation).
4. Go to the [CSS website](#) to apply for your permit. If you have not registered with CSS, see the instructions for registering, [here](#).
5. Once you have logged in to CSS, go to Apply and select the correct permit type. For a full list of all permit types, select All, under Permits.
6. Select Apply, next to the correct permit type. This will take you to the online application form.
7. Complete the form. All fields with a red asterisk are required.
 - a. To add a location, click on the plus sign and search for the project address. If the address cannot be found in the search, go to the City's [Parcel Map Viewer](#), to find the correct parcel address (this may be different than your street address or mailing address. Please input a parcel address that is recognized by the system to avoid delays in the intake process). For the Search function, entering less in the Search box will return more results.
 - b. To add a Contact, click the plus sign under the appropriate contact type and search.
 - c. Complete all other relevant and required fields and click Next. Once you've completed all pages of the form, you will have the opportunity to review the information before submitting. Once submitted, you cannot change your application information.
8. After reviewing your application information, click Submit. You will receive an e-mail confirming receipt of your application.
9. Permitting staff will review your application for completeness. You will be notified via e-mail if any items are missing. Upload requested items via CSS Attachments.
10. When the application is complete, you will receive an e-mail directing you to CSS to pay your invoice.
11. Once payment is received, your permit will go into review.



Requirements for Electronic Submissions

In order to ensure a timely review of the application, please read and follow the requirements below for all submissions:

- **Initial submission files shall be submitted via the Citizen Self Service portal. Before submitting an application, review [How to Apply for a Building Permit](#).**
- **Submissions should include two PDF files—one file containing all drawing sheets and one file containing all other supporting documents.** Only PDF files are acceptable for plan review. Files should be labeled either “Drawings” or “Documents” with the project address included in the file name.
- **Drawing files shall be bookmarked with names based on the drawing sheet number and name.** It is recommended to include a Category/Discipline letter (such as A for Architectural), a sheet number and a descriptive title (e.g., A1 Existing Exterior Elevation).
- **A graphic scale or a scale to reference shall be included on each drawing sheet.**
- **Plans prepared by a design professional shall include a Code Analysis sheet,** referencing the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code and Portland City Code, Chapter 10 – Fire Prevention and Protection, which includes NFPA 1, Fire Code and NFPA 101, Life Safety Code. Chapter 10 of the City Code can be viewed at:
<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/citycode/chapter010.pdf>.
- **Submissions should include all required documents and drawings as listed on the appropriate Submission Checklist sheet specific to the type of work being performed.**
- **Corrections made by City of Portland plan reviewers will be available for the applicant to view by logging into CSS and selecting “eReviews”.**
- **Revisions submitted in response to plan review comments should be uploaded directly in eReview by logging into CSS, going to the permit record and selecting eReviews.**

For further information and to access PDF versions of this and other forms, visit the Permitting and Inspections Department online at <http://portlandmaine.gov/1728/Permitting-Inspections>.