



Facts about the City of Chicago Speech Peddling Permit (4-244-141)

What is a Speech Peddler?

In Chicago, a “Speech Peddler” is a licensed Peddler selling or exchanging anything of value containing words, printing or pictures that predominately communicates a non-commercial message. A Speech Permit allows a person to sell non-commercial items in the downtown area where peddling is otherwise restricted.

What is a “non-commercial” item?

A “non-commercial” item is merchandise that primarily relays some sort of religious or political message, or states an option as its primary purpose. For example; buttons or t-shirts displaying support for a political candidate.

The following is required to obtain a Speech Peddling Permit:

- There is no fee required for a Speech Peddling Permit.
- A valid Chicago Peddlers License.
- A description or picture of the speech items to be sold.
- Speech peddlers must carry identification and permit authorization while speech peddling.
- Speech peddlers must identify an area to sell their goods from designated locations in the downtown area.
- A speech permit is renewable on a monthly basis.
- Speech peddlers must be mobile and carry packs, baskets or similar containers.
- Speech peddlers may not set up tables, stands or other structures or use pushcarts.

How do I apply?

A Speech Permit can be applied for in-person
City of Chicago- Department of Business Affairs & Consumer Protection
121 N. LaSalle St. room 800.
Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm.

Call 312-74-GOBIZ/744-6249 for more information or visit

www.cityofchicago.org/bacp

