START A BUSINESS - GEORGIA

How to open an auto repair shop in Georgia

We found no Georgia State repair shop license; the key rule is sales tax: parts are taxed and itemized labor is not.

Sources verified 2026-11-21 - Updated 2026-11-21

1 Is a repair shop right for you?

Repair shops diagnose and fix vehicles, from maintenance and brakes to engines and collision repair. It suits experienced technicians who price fairly and keep good records.

2 Form the business and register for sales tax

1. Choose a structure. LLCs and corporations file with the Georgia Secretary of State.
2. Register with the Department of Revenue (Georgia Tax Center) to collect sales tax at the state rate plus your county's local rates.
3. Check your city or county for business licenses and zoning.

3 Licenses

We found no Georgia State license for repair or body shops. Check your city or county for business licenses and zoning.

4 Sales tax on repairs

Parts are taxable at the state and local rates. Itemized repair and installation labor is not taxed, but if you do not itemize, the whole bill is taxable. A separately listed shop supplies charge is taxable.

5 A/C work

Servicing vehicle air conditioning for pay requires EPA Section 609 certification.

6 Your first steps

1. Form the business and register for sales tax.
2. Get local business licenses and check zoning.
3. Buy insurance and equipment.
4. List your business on Nearby Car Care

Requirements at a glance

Sales tax on parts; itemize labor

Required - State - Georgia Department of Revenue

Itemized repair and installation labor is not taxable in Georgia. If parts and labor are not itemized, the whole charge is taxable. A separately stated shop supplies charge is taxable. Parts are taxed at the state rate plus your county's local rates.

EPA Section 609 certification for air conditioning work

Required in some cases - Federal - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Anyone who repairs or services a motor vehicle air conditioning system for payment or bartering must be certified by an EPA-approved Section 609 program. We found no Georgia State license for repair or body shops.

Official agencies and links

Section 609 Technician Training and Certification Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
https://www.epa.gov/mvac/section-609-technician-training-and-certification-programs

Rule 560-12-2-.09, Automotive and motor vehicle dealers
Georgia Department of Revenue (Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia)
https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/560-12-2

Frequently asked questions

Is repair labor taxable in Georgia?

No, when it is itemized separately from the parts. An unitemized bill is fully taxable.

This guide is general information, not legal advice. Rules change and can depend on your city or county, so confirm with the official agencies linked below before you apply.