LICENSES, PERMITS & CERTIFICATIONS - ILLINOIS

Illinois auto repair shop licenses and permits

What Illinois requires of these businesses: registration, tax, licenses and the official links to check.

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

1 The rules at a glance

- Department of Revenue registration (parts taxed, labor not)
- Parts taxed; labor not taxed
- EPA 609 for A/C work

We found no state repair shop license.

Requirements at a glance

Tax on parts; labor not taxed

Required - State - Illinois Department of Revenue

In Illinois, the tax on a vehicle repair applies only to the replacement parts, not to the labor. When you list parts separately, the tax base is the parts' selling price (not less than your cost). Shop supply charges for items left on the car are taxable.

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. Repairers and rebuilders that do structural or rebuild work should ask the Secretary of State whether they need a repairer or rebuilder license.

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

Sales Tax Audit Manual, Chapter 12 (07/2023)

Illinois Department of Revenue

https://tax.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/tax/research/publications/auditmanual/documents/sales-tax/idor-st-am-ch12.pdf

Frequently asked questions

Is repair labor taxable in Illinois?

No. The tax applies only to the replacement parts.

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.