



ADU ELIGIBILITY: BASIC CHECKLIST

Are you thinking about building an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)?

This checklist will give you a starting point to ensure your idea for an ADU aligns with Wake County's development requirements. It's important that you understand your site's eligibility and the requirements criteria before creating any building plans.

Need help?

Contact an ADU Ally to ask questions, review all the requirements specific to your site and get connected to other county staff who you need to speak with as a part of this process.

Call us: 919-856-6335

SECTION A Properties that qualify

- The property is in Wake County jurisdiction.**
Municipal jurisdictions may allow ADUs, but they have their own set of regulations. If you are not located in Wake County jurisdiction, please contact your local municipality. Refer to [iMAPS](#) to determine the jurisdiction.
- There is not already an existing ADU on the property.**

SECTION B Development standards requirements

- The ADU must be equipped with a kitchen, sanitation and sleeping area.**
- There is one off-street parking space, separate from what's required for the primary dwelling.**
- The ADU must not be served by a driveway separate from the primary dwelling.**
- The size of the ADU does not exceed 50% of gross floor area of the primary dwelling unit.**
- A manufactured home is only allowable as an ADU on a lot of at least 10 acres.**

[Unified Development Ordinance \(UDO\) Part 7](#)

SECTION C Helpful tips to start your ADU process

- Schedule a consultation with a county planner.**
A great way to make sure your ADU gets off to a good start is to schedule a consultation with a county planner to discuss your proposal.
- Contact your HOA to share your plans.**
Although Wake County does not enforce HOA covenants, property owners should verify with your HOA covenants that ADUs are allowed.