



# **1. File Your Taxes**

Your side hustle income must be documented through tax returns. Lenders typically need to see two years of filed returns to count this income toward your mortgage application.

### **2. Separate Business and Personal Finances**

Open a separate bank account for your side hustle. This helps show clean records and makes it easier to track income and expenses

#### 3. Track Your Income

Use tools like spreadsheets, accounting apps, or bookkeeping software to consistently track your earnings. Keep receipts and invoices as backup.

#### 4. Stay Consistent

Lenders want to see reliable, recurring income. Avoid big fluctuations and aim to keep your side hustle active year-round if possible.

## 5. Talk to a Lender Early

If you're serious about buying a home, talk to a mortgage advisor early in your journey. They can help you understand what documentation you'll need and what loan programs may work best for you.

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