

LEGAL RESEARCH CENTER



Entrepreneurship Clinic Research Training

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Legal issues for businesses



- ❖ Create business plan
- ❖ Find and register business name
- ❖ Structure business entity
- ❖ Site selection, zoning, permits & licenses
- ❖ Taxation
- ❖ Employment
- ❖ Intellectual property

Resources



- ❖ Government websites – state, county & city
- ❖ Other local resources
- ❖ Treatises and practice guides
- ❖ Databases with useful business-related resources
 - ❖ Cooley GO
 - ❖ CEB Pro
 - ❖ Bloomberg Law
 - ❖ Practical Law (Westlaw) & Practical Guidance (Lexis)

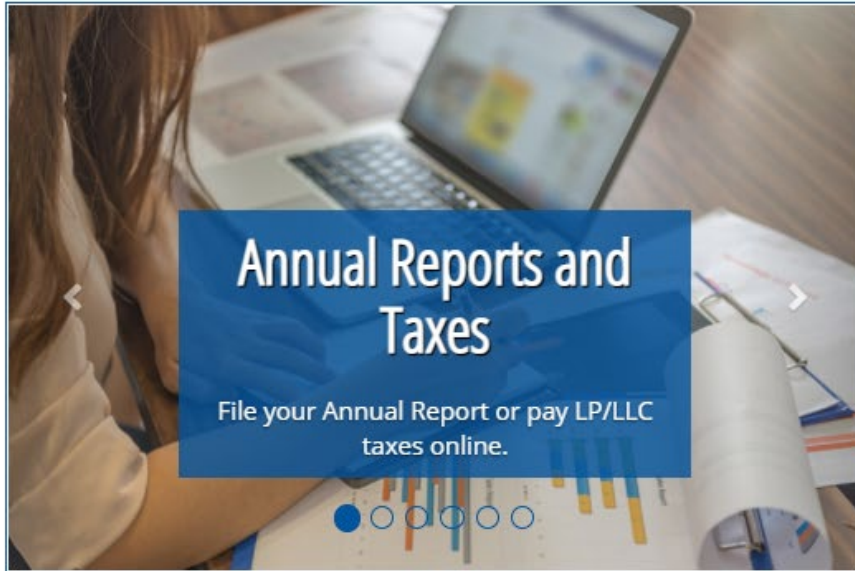
Government Websites



State of Delaware



Division of Corporations:
<https://corp.delaware.gov/>



Annual Reports and Taxes

File your Annual Report or pay LP/LLC taxes online.



ISO 9001 Certified



Services

File Annual Report/Pay LLC/Partnership Tax

File a UCC

Document Upload Service



Check Entity Status

Search for a Business Entity

Check Entity Name Availability

Validate a Certificate



Services

➔ [File Annual Report/Pay LLC/Partnership Tax](#)



➔ [File a UCC](#)

➔ [Document Upload Service](#)

➔ [Check Entity Status](#)

➔ [Search for a Business Entity](#)



➔ [Check Entity Name Availability](#)

➔ [Validate a Certificate](#)

Forms & Fees



➔ [Get Corporate Forms](#)

➔ [Get Fees](#)

➔ [UCC Forms and Fees](#)

Information

➔ [How to Form a New Business Entity](#)

➔ [Details on How to Submit an Order](#)

➔ [Find Out How to Expedite Your Order](#)

➔ [Order a Good Standing Certificate](#)

➔ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

➔ [Delaware Laws](#)

➔ [Registered Agents](#)

➔ [Trademarks & Service Marks](#)

➔ [Certificates & Apostilles](#)

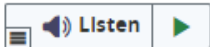
➔ [Service of Process](#)

➔ [Take a Quick Survey!](#)

➔ [Adoption of Transparency and Sustainability Standards](#)

Delaware Division of Corporations

Annual Report and Tax Instructions



[Click Here to Pay Taxes / File Annual Report](#)

FILE YOUR ANNUAL REPORT AND PAY BUSINESS ENTITY TAX

This application is available daily between 8:00 am and 11:45 pm Eastern Time. Only use the English version of characters when entering data, otherwise it may cause an inaccurate record on your Annual Report.

Payment Information

If payment is by credit card click submit only once, clicking multiple times may result in duplication of charges to your credit card.

Electronic Payment (ACH Debit)

Required for all transactions over \$5,000.00.

Bank Identification Number 1225092400



- Checking Account

Credit Card



<https://corp.delaware.gov/paytaxes/>

Corporate Annual Report Information and Franchise Tax Fees

Corporate Annual Report


All active Domestic Corporation Annual Reports and Franchise Taxes for the prior year are due annually on or before March 1st and are required to be filed online. Failure to file the report and pay the required franchise taxes will result in a penalty of \$200.00 plus 1.5% interest per month on tax and penalty.

Annual Report Filing Fees:

Effective September 1, 2019, the fees for filing an Annual Report or an Amended Annual Report are below:

- [Exempt Domestic Corporations](#) – \$25.00.
- [Non-Exempt Domestic Corporations](#) – \$50.00.

Franchise Tax Rates:

The minimum tax is currently \$175.00, using the Authorized Shares Method and the Minimum Tax using the Assumed Par Value Capital Method is \$400.00 with a maximum tax of \$200,000.00 for both methods unless it has been identified as a [Large Corporate Filer](#) , then their tax will be \$250,000.00. Taxes are assessed if the corporation is active in the records of the Division of Corporations anytime during January 1st through December 31st of the current tax year.

[Methods of Calculating Franchise Tax](#)

Foreign Corporations

Foreign Corporations must file an Annual Report with the Delaware Secretary of State on or before June 30 each year. A \$125.00 filing fee is required to be paid. If the Annual Report and remittance is not received by the due date, a \$125.00 penalty will be added to filing fee.

LLC/Partnership Tax Information

All Domestic and Foreign Limited Liability Companies, Limited Partnerships, and General Partnerships formed or registered in Delaware are required to pay an annual tax of \$300.00. There is no requirement to file an Annual Report.

The annual taxes for the prior year are due on or before June 1st. Failure to pay the required annual taxes will result in a penalty of \$200.00 plus 1.5% interest per month on tax and penalty. There is no proration on alternative entity taxes. Annual taxes are assessed if the entity is active in the records of the Division of Corporations anytime during January 1st through December 31st of

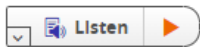
Questions while filing my Annual Report online – [Frequently Asked Tax Questions](#)

<https://corp.delaware.gov/paytaxes/>



Delaware Division of Corporations

How to Calculate Franchise Taxes



Effective January 1, 2018, a domestic stock or non-stock for profit corporation incorporated in the State of Delaware is required to pay annual franchise tax. The minimum tax is \$175.00, for corporations using the Authorized Shares method and a minimum tax of \$400.00 for corporations using the Assumed Par Value Capital Method. All corporations using either method will have a maximum tax of \$200,000.00. Corporations owing \$5,000.00 or more make estimated payments with 40% due June 1st, 20% due by September 1st, 20% due by December 1st, and the remainder due March 1st.

The Annual Franchise Tax assessment is based on the authorized shares. Use the method that results in the lesser tax. The total tax will never be less than \$175.00, or more than \$200,000.00.

Non-Stock for Profit

All non-stock, for profit entities that do not comply with the Exempt Corporation requirements will be required to pay a Franchise Tax of \$175.00

Authorized Shares Method

For corporations having no par value stock the authorized shares method will always result in the lesser tax.

- 5,000 shares or less (minimum tax) \$175.00.
- 5,001 – 10,000 shares – \$250.00,
- each additional 10,000 shares or portion thereof add \$85.00
- maximum annual tax is \$200,000.00

For Example

A corporation with 10,005 shares authorized pays \$335.00(\$250.00 plus \$85.00).

<https://corp.delaware.gov/frtaxcalc/>

Assumed Par Value Capital Method

To use this method, you must give figures provided in your Annual Franchise Tax Schedule L (Federal Return) relative to this method is \$400.00 per million or portion thereof dividing the assumed par value capital

The example cited below is for a corporation with 1,000,000 shares of stock with a par value of \$5.00.

1. Divide your total gross assets by your number of authorized shares.
Example: \$1,000,000 assets, 485,000 shares = \$2,061.856 per share.
2. Multiply the assumed par by the number of shares.
Example: \$5.00 x 485,000 shares = \$2,425,000.
3. Multiply the number of authorized shares by the assumed par value.
Example: 485,000 shares x \$5.00 par value = \$2,425,000.
4. Add the results of #2 and #3 above.
Example: \$2,061,856 plus \$2,425,000 = \$4,486,856.
5. Figure your tax by dividing the assumed par value capital by \$400.00.
Example: 4 x \$400.00 = \$1,600.00.
6. The minimum tax for the Assumed Par Value Capital Method is \$200,000.00.

— **NOTE:** If an amendment changing your stock is filed, the number of days of the amendment must be given for each day of the year then prorated for each portion of the year dividing the tax calculated for that portion of the year. The total tax is the sum of the taxes for each portion of the year.

[Large Corporate Filer Information](#)

You may also use our [Franchise Tax Calculator](#)

AUTHORIZED SHARES METHOD				
Number of Shares	Tax			
1 - 5,000	\$	175.00		
5,001 - 10,000	\$	250.00		
Each additional 10,000 shares or portion thereof	\$	85.00		
Maximum Tax	\$	200,000.00		
			ENTER TOTAL NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES: <input type="text"/>	
			TAX: <input type="text"/>	
ASSUMED PAR VALUE CAPITAL METHOD				
\$400 PER \$1,000,000 OR PORTION THEREOF OF ASSUMED PAR VALUE CAPITAL				
If the total gross assets, issued shares or par value equal zero, please contact Franchise Tax at 302-739-3073, option 3.				
ENTER TOTAL GROSS ASSETS:		<input type="text"/>		
ENTER TOTAL ISSUED SHARES:		<input type="text"/>		
YOUR ASSUMED PAR VALUE IS: <input type="text"/>				
ENTER EACH CLASS OF AUTHORIZED SHARES AND THEIR PAR VALUE:				
	NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES	PAR VALUE	ASSUMED PAR VALUE CAPITAL	
			ON PAR VALUE STOCK	ON NO PAR VALUE STOCK
CLASS 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 5	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 6	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLASS 7	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TOTAL ASSUMED PAR VALUE CAPITAL:			<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TAX BY PAR VALUE:			<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
IF TAX ON ASSUMED PAR METHOD IS GREATER THEN \$200,000.00, THEN ONLY \$200,000 IS DUE.			TOTAL TAX: <input type="text"/>	

State of California



- ❖ CA Secretary of State Business Programs
 - ❖ Starting a Business
 - ❖ Tax Information
- ❖ Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development
 - ❖ Form a Business
 - ❖ Small Business Program
 - ❖ CalGold – identifies necessary permits

Business Programs



Hot Topics

About Business Programs

Notices & Alerts

Forms, Samples, and Fees

Current Processing Dates

Hot Topics

1. [Corporation Formations File Online](#)
2. [LLC Statements of Information File Online](#)
3. [Corporation Statements of Information File Online](#)
4. [Register or Terminate a Business](#)
5. [Corporate Filing Tips](#)
6. [Limited Liability Company Filing Tips](#)
7. [Forms, Samples and Fees for Business Entities](#)
8. [Business Search with Free Images](#)
9. [Business Entities Records Order Form \(PDF\)](#)
10. [Current Processing Dates for Business Filings](#)
11. [Delinquency and Penalty Notices](#)
12. [Suspension/Forfeiture Notices](#)
13. [FTB Administrative Dissolution/Surrender Notice](#)


Business Entities



The Secretary of State's office processes filings, maintains records and provides information to the public relating to business entities that include corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, general partnerships, limited liability partnerships and other business filings.

California Business Connect Project

The California Business Connect Project (CBC) will increase efficiencies and allow readily available access to Secretary of State Records.

 [More about CBC](#)

Related Links

- Legislation
- California Codes
- California Regulations

Business Entities (BE)
Online Services
File LLC Statement of Information
File Corporation Statement of Information
Business Search
Publicly Traded Disclosure Search
Current Processing Dates
Service Options
Name Reservations
Forms, Samples & Fees
Statements of Information
Filing Tips
Business Entities Records Request
Service of Process
FAQs
Contact Information
Resources
Business Resources
Tax Information
Starting A Business Checklist

News & Notices, Customer Alerts and Processing Times

- **News & Notices:** Get the latest information about changes affecting business conducted with the Business Programs Division.
- **Customer Alerts:** Get the latest information about confirmed scams against Californians and businesses in the State of California, and what you can do if you have been a victim of a scam.
- Get the current **processing dates for Business Entities** and determine which method of submission meets your needs.

Online Services



All LLC Statements of Information and the required Statement of Information for most corporations can be **submitted electronically** using a credit card. PDF copies of imaged business entity documents, including Statements of Information are available for free on the Secretary of State's **Business Search**.

Note: Statements of Information for common interest developments must be submitted on paper, by mail or in person (drop off), at this time.

The Business Entities Section of the Secretary of State's office processes filings, maintains records and provides information to the public relating to business entities (corporations, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, general partnerships, limited liability partnerships and other business filings).

- **Service Options:** Options for online searches and filings, document processing and information requests (for certificates, copies and status reports)
- **Name Reservations:** Corporation, limited liability company and limited partnership name reservations
- **Forms, Samples & Fees:** Forms, document samples and associated fees
- **Statements of Information** (annual/biennial reports): Corporation and Limited Liability Company statements of information, Common Interest Development Association statements and Publicly Traded Disclosure statements
- **Filing Tips:** Tips for filing most corporation, limited liability company and limited partnership documents
- **Information Requests:** Orders for certificates, copies and status reports
- **Service of Process:** Substituted service of process
- **FAQs:** Answers to the most frequently asked business entity questions
- **Victims of Corporate Fraud Compensation Fund:** Restitution to victims of corporate fraud

General provisions governing most business entities are found in the **California Corporations Code**.

<http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/>



Business Entities (BE)

Online Services

File LLC Statement of Information

File Corporation Statement of Information

Business Search

Publicly Traded Disclosure Search

Current Processing Dates

Service Options

Name Reservations

Forms, Samples & Fees

Statements of Information

Filing Tips

Business Entities Records Request

The Secretary of State offers three options for submitting business entity filings:

1. File Online - Fastest Service



The business entity filings below can be submitted directly online.

Limited Liability Company (LLC):

- [LLC Formation](#)
- [LLC Statement of Information](#)
- [LLC Termination](#)

Corporation (CORP):

- [CORP Formation](#)
- [CORP Statement of Information](#)

2. **New:** eForms Online - Submit Business Entities Filings (PDF Forms) Online

eForms

Submit your business entity PDF form electronically using eForms Online as follows:

- [Locate the form](#) that you would like to submit.
- Download, complete and print the fillable PDF form (Note: Corporations may submit free form documents).
- Sign the form (i.e. wet signature; electronic and digital signatures are not acceptable).
- Scan and save the signed document to your personal computer, tablet or phone:
 - PDF file format only;
 - 10 MB file size maximum;
 - PDF must be unlocked and not password protected.
- Upload your completed and signed PDF form and submit electronically through eForms Online.

Questions?



<http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/forms/>

Contact Information

Resources

Business Resources

Tax Information

Starting A Business Checklist

FTB Administration Terminations

FTB Abatement and Voluntary Administrative Termination

FTB Pending Administrative Termination Notice

Customer Alerts

Business Identity Theft

Misleading Business Solicitations

Related Links

3. File by Mail or In Person

All business forms can be submitted by mail or in person. [Locate the form](#) that you would like to submit and follow the instructions. Information regarding our address and business hours can be found on the [Contact Information - Business Entities](#) webpage. Mergers and Conversions must be submitted by mail or in person.

Locate Your Form

1. Corporations - California (Domestic) +
2. Corporations - Foreign - (Out-of-State or Out-of-Country) +
3. Corporations - Statement of Information +
4. Limited Liability Companies - California (Domestic) +
5. Limited Liability Companies - Foreign (Out-of-State or Out-of-Country) +
6. Limited Liability Companies - Statement of Information +

Questions?



<http://www.sos.ca.gov/business-programs/business-entities/forms/>

Terminations

FTB Abatement and
Voluntary Administrative
Termination

FTB Pending
Administrative
Termination Notice

Customer Alerts

Business Identity Theft

Misleading Business
Solicitations

Related Links

Legislation
California Codes
California Regulations
Private Service
Companies



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1. Corporations - California (Domestic)

California Corporations (Filing Tips)	Online Submissions File Online for faster response	California Corporations PDF Forms	Fees
1. Articles of Incorporation - General Stock		Form ARTS- GS	\$100.00
2. Articles of Incorporation - Close	eForms	Form ARTS- CL	\$100.00
3. Articles of Incorporation - Professional	eForms	Form ARTS- PC	\$100.00
4. Articles of Incorporation - Nonprofit Mutual	eForms	Form ARTS- MU	\$30.00

Questions?



Starting a Business Checklist

STARTING A BUSINESS CHECKLIST

Thank you for your interest in registering a business with the California Secretary of State's office and processing millions of filings and records requests each year.

There are several key steps to launching a business in the state of California. These steps will vary depending on the business you are starting and the location where the business will be located. Therefore, be sure to check specific rules and regulations within the state and local requirements regarding zoning, licensing, employment, permits and taxes. The "[Starting a New Business](#)" checklist assesses how to start a business in California, not as a direct step-by-step guideline. In order to register a business, a business must provide to state, local, and federal agencies.

[Click the image to download the Starting A New Business Brochure PDF](#)

STARTING A NEW BUSINESS IN CALIFORNIA

STARTING A NEW BUSINESS CHECKLIST:

- ___ 1. Prepare and Plan (do market research and create an outline of your business)
- ___ 2. Secure Financing (if necessary)
- ___ 3. Choose an Entity Type (e.g. LLC, Corporation, LP, LLP, GP, or Sole Proprietorship) and Business Name
- ___ 4. Register Your Business with the Secretary of State (LLC, Corporation, LP, LLP or GP)
- ___ 5. Register a Fictitious Business Name (if necessary)
- ___ 6. Choose a location and check local zoning regulations
- ___ 7. Obtain specialty licenses and permits (if necessary)
- ___ 8. Employer Responsibilities (if necessary: EIN Number, workers' compensation, etc.)
- ___ 9. Tax Information (FTB, BOE, EDD, IRS)
- ___ 10. Ongoing Secretary of State Filing Requirements (Statements of Information)

CALIFORNIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
bizfile.sos.ca.gov



Online Services

[File LLC Statement of Information](#)
[File Corporation Statement of Information](#)
[Business Search](#)
[Publicly Traded Disclosure Search](#)
[Current Processing Dates](#)

Service Options

[Name Availability](#)
[Forms, Samples & Fees](#)
[Statements of Information \(annual/biennial reports\)](#)
[Filing Tips](#)
[Information Requests \(certificates, copies & status reports\)](#)
[Service of Process](#)
[FAQs](#)
[Contact Information](#)

Resources

[Business Resources](#)
[Tax Information](#)
[Starting A Business Checklist](#)
[FTB Nonprofit Dissolution](#)
[FTB Administrative Dissolution/Surrender Notice](#)

This search provides access to available information for corporations, limited liability companies and limited partnerships of record with the California Secretary of State, with **free PDF copies** of imaged business entity documents, including the most recent imaged Statements of Information filed for corporations and limited liability companies.

Currently, information for limited liability partnerships (e.g. law firms, architecture firms, engineering firms, public accountancy firms, and land survey firms), general partnerships, associations, and other entity types are **not contained** in the Business Search. If you wish to obtain information about these entity types, download, complete, and submit a [Business Entities Records Request Form](#), to request copies of filings for these entity types.

Note: This search is not intended to serve as a name reservation search. For information on reserving a name, refer to [Name Reservations](#).

To conduct a search:

- Select the applicable search type.
- In the "Search Criteria" box, enter the entity name or number you wish to search. Note: If entering the entity number of a corporation, the number must begin with the letter C.
- Select the search filter you wish to use to locate the entity if searching for an entity name.
- Select the Search button.
- For help with searching an entity name or number, refer to [Search Tips](#).

All fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

Search Type * Corporation Name LP/LLC Name Entity Number

Search Criteria * Search Filter ▼

Disclaimer: This tool allows you to search the Secretary of State's California Business Search database for abstracts of information for domestic stock, domestic nonprofit and qualified foreign corporations, limited liability companies and limited partnerships that have filed with this office. This search tool groups corporations separately from limited liability companies and limited partnerships and returns all entities for the search criteria in the respective groups regardless of the current status.

Although every attempt has been made to ensure that the information contained in the database is accurate, the Secretary of State's office is not responsible for any loss, consequence, or damage resulting directly or indirectly from reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of the information that is provided. All such information is provided "as is." For information on ordering copies of the official business entity records for a particular entity, please refer to [Information Requests](#).



This website assists you in finding appropriate permit information for your business. It also provides contact information for the various agencies that administer & issue these permits.

Permits & Licenses

Forms & Fees

Select a City or County

San Diego - San Diego County

Enter Business Type(s) [view all](#)

Computer Systems Design and Related Services

Computer Systems Design and Related Services x

Interested in having a green business? [learn more about green businesses](#)

Search

<http://www.calgold.ca.gov/>

City of San Diego



- ❖ Doing Business
- ❖ Economic Development
- ❖ Start, Expand & Finance Your Business
- ❖ Tax Incentives
- ❖ Start-up Resources
- ❖ Industry Associations
- ❖ Office of the City Treasurer

Doing Business

Fix, Plan + Build

Incentives and programs are available to help launch, grow and expand your business, and provide support for homeowners and contractors to get work done.



Get It Done



1 I Need To...

Apply for

2 Apply...

Business License

3 Apply Now

Apply for a business tax certificate

Apply Now

 [Download the Get It Done App](#)

Plan



Start a Business

Find regulations and documents needed to build your company in the City of San Diego



Bid on a Contract

Become a vendor for the future projects



Explore Incentives

<https://www.sandiego.gov/doing-business>

Fix



Set Up Utilities

Establish water and sewer services and understand your bill



Renovations and Remodels

Learn about the construction process for homeowners, including zoning, permits and inspections



Get Permits

Submit permits online for gas, electrical, mechanical and plumbing projects

Build



Go Green

Incorporate energy-efficient and water-saving practices into your business operations



Learn about Zoning

Find zoning designations according to the City's Land Development Code



Track Your Project (OpenDSD)

View permit activity and search project status by name or address

Ten Key Steps to Starting a Business

(For Businesses Within the **City of San Diego** limits)

Read the full version: [10 Key Steps to Starting a Business](#)

Spanish version:  [10 Pasos Clave Para Iniciar Su Negocio](#)



There are several key steps to starting a business in the City of San Diego. The steps may vary depending on the type of business you intend to start. Following the 10 Key Steps to Starting a Business will give you a general idea and help the process run smoothly.

Many steps can be researched and processed online through the websites listed, saving you the time of calling or visiting department or agency offices. The City's Central Library and all branches provide Internet access during library hours.

Get Basic Information with help from the [City of San Diego Public Library](#).

1. Select a site and determine zoning by visiting the [Zoning Portal](#) . Site permit requirements with help from the [OpenCounter Online Business Portal](#). If you plan to operate out of your home, obtain information about [requirements for Home Occupation](#). For new construction or questions about the development process, please contact the [Development Services Department](#).
2. Determine a Business Name and register at [County of San Diego, Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk's Office](#) .
3. Create a Business Plan with help from the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) [South San Diego](#)  , [North San Diego](#)  and [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) .
4. Determine the Business Activity Type from the list provided by the Office of the City Treasurer's  [Business Tax Certification application](#).
5. Determine the Legal Structure of the business.
6. Obtain any special licenses and permits. (Read more about this in the  [full version of 10 Key Steps](#).)
7. Get tax information from the [California Tax Information Center](#) , and the [Internal Revenue Service](#) .
8. Learn about Employer Responsibilities at the City level (Earned Sick Leave and [Minimum Wage Ordinance](#)) from the [Office of the City Treasurer](#). Learn about Employer Responsibilities at the State and Federal levels from the [Employment Development Department](#)  and [Internal Revenue Service](#) .
9. [Apply for a Business Tax Certificate](#) (Business License) from the Office of the City Treasurer, Business Tax Division.

<https://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/business>



Office of the City Treasurer

Elizabeth Correia
City Treasurer

1200 Third Ave., Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92101
619-236-6112
Fax: 619-236-7134

[Customer Service Survey](#)



Beginning on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 The Office of the City Treasurer's main lobby located at 1200 Third Ave will reopen for all walk-in payments. Lobby hours for walk-in payments will be limited to Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am-1:00pm. Registration of new Business Tax accounts, Cannabis Business Tax deposits, Delinquent Account payments, and renewals and new Police Business Permits will be administered via appointment only.

- Business Tax and Police Business Permit appointments [click here](#).
- Cannabis Business Tax Deposits appointments email cannabistax@sandiego.gov or call 619-615-1580
- Delinquent Account payment appointment call 619-744-3100

Features



Minimum Wage Program



Short-Term Residential Occupancy



Cannabis Business Tax

- [Apply for a Business Tax Certificate](#)
- [List of Registered Businesses](#)
- [Rental Tax Exemptions](#)
- [Cannabis Business Tax](#)
- [Appeal a Parking Citation](#)
- [Obtain Business Start Up Information](#)

Features



Minimum Wage Program



Short-Term Residential Occupancy



Cannabis Business Tax

Apply for a Business Tax Certificate

List of Registered Businesses

Rental Tax Exemptions

Cannabis Business Tax

Appeal a Parking Citation

Obtain Business Start Up Information

Apply for a Residential Parking Permit

Responsible Banking Ordinance

Transient Occupancy Tax

Online Payments

- [Business Tax Online](#)
- [Rental Tax Online](#)
- [Parking Citation Online \(Pay Cite\)#](#)
 - [View Pay Cite Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [TOT/TMD Fees Online](#)
- [Delinquent Account Online](#)
- [Water & Sewer Bill Online \(Customer Care Center\)](#)

NOTE: In addition to online payments, [other payment methods](#) are available. Past due accounts that have been referred to the Office of the City Treasurer for collection can only be paid through the [Delinquent Accounts Program](#).

City Taxes and Fees

- [Business Tax/Rental Unit Business Tax](#)
- [Cannabis Business Tax](#)
- [Transient Occupancy Tax \(TOT\)/ Tourism Marketing District \(TMD\)](#)

Other Agency Taxes

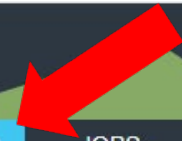
These [other agency taxes](#) are NOT administered by the City of San Diego.

- Sales and Use Tax
- Property Taxes
- Income and Payroll Taxes
- Federal Taxes

San Diego County



- ❖ San Diego County business resources
 - ❖ Business Licenses & Permits
 - ❖ Fictitious Business Names
 - ❖ Tax Information



DEPARTMENTS

I WANT TO...

GOVERNMENT

RESIDENTS

BUSINESS

JOB

PROCUREMENT	BUILDING	FOOD	ADDITIONAL PERMITS
Purchasing and Contracting Dept. View Open Solicitations - BuyNet Login and Registration - BuyNet	Building Permits Discretionary Permits (Administrative Permits, Major Use, Site Plans, Variances, etc.) Business Licenses Online Building Permit Process Zoning Ordinance General Plan Air Quality Permits Planning & Development Services Planning & Development Services Contact/Office	Foodhandler Program Food Permits, Rules Food Plan Check Special Event Food Permits	Weighing and Measuring Devices Body Art Nurseries Pest Control Point-of-Sale Systems

COUNTYNEWSCENTER



Summer is Time for Road Trips — and Road Work!



Fire Chief Shares COVID-19 Treatment Success Story



Pet of the Week – Mr. Toad

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Popular Services

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- Marriage License
- Dog License
- Fictitious Business Name**
- Passport
- Volunteer

PAY

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- Property Tax
- Revenue and Recovery Bill

REPORT

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▼ Selecting and Forming Business Entities

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3 Selecting a Business Name

PRINT

§3.1 I. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter discusses the selection of a business name by a California business entity. It covers the basic considerations applicable to name selection. See [§§3.2–3.5](#). It also discusses California statutes governing business entity names, fictitious business name requirements, and the Secretary of State's regulations concerning guidelines for business names, as well as federal and common laws relating to trade name availability and protection (see [§§3.6–3.17](#)). See [§§3.8–3.12](#). Further, the chapter includes a discussion of entity-specific name requirements (see [§§3.18–3.29](#)) and includes a checklist for conducting a name search. See [§3.30](#). Forms include the Secretary of State's official forms for name availability and reservation and a fictitious business name statement. See [§§3.31–3.34](#).

This chapter primarily concerns selection of the name of a business rather than selection of the name for a product. However, some principles apply to both, such as the need to avoid the likelihood of confusion with a prior user of the same or similar name or trademark. Trade name protection is touched on in [§§3.7, 3.16–3.17](#), but for more detailed discussion of trade name and trademark protection, consult *Intellectual Property in Business Transactions* (Cal CEB) and *Trade Secrets Practice in California* (2d ed Cal CEB).



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