

LICENSING 101

SBDC STARTUP SERIES

How do I license and register my small business?

Depending on your business type and structure, different licensing and registration rules will apply. Below is a list of contacts to help you navigate these requirements. If you get lost or overwhelmed, give your local SBDC business advisor a call, and they'll guide you through the process.

A-Z Index of State of Montana Licenses

license.mt.gov

Montana Association of Counties: City/County Contact Information

mtcounties.org

Most cities and counties in Montana have specific licensing and registration requirements for businesses. Visit MACo's website to retrieve the contact information for your county.

Montana Department of Agriculture: Licensing and Registration

406-444-4900 | agr.mt.gov/agr/business | agr@mt.gov

Contact Agriculture for the following licenses: commodity dealer, feed program, fertilizer dealer, nursery, pesticide applicator, pesticide dealer, private pesticide applicator, produce and seed dealer; registrations: alfalfa leaf, cutter bee, feed product, fertilizer product, honey bee and pesticide product; and certifications: export, noxious weed seed free forage, organic and potato.

Montana Department of Labor and Industry: Business Standards Division

406-841-2300 | bsd.dli.mt.gov | dlibsd@mt.gov

Contact DLI's Business Standards Division for professional and occupational licensing.

Montana Department of Labor and Industry: Employment Relations Division

406-444-7734 | erd.dli.mt.gov

Contact for DLI's Employment Relations Division for Independent Contractor Exemption Certificates and construction contractor registration.

Montana Department of Revenue: One-Stop Business Licensing

406-444-6900 | svc.mt.gov/dor/estopportal | doronestop@mt.gov

Contact DOR for the following licenses: food purveyor, nursery, off-premises beer and wine, petroleum dealer, tobacco retail and wholesale, underground storage tank and weighing device.

Montana Secretary of State's Office: Business Services Division

406-444-3665 | sos.mt.gov/business | sosbusiness@mt.gov

Contact SOS to file annual reports, complete business entity filings such as Articles of Incorporation, and register an assumed business name.

ABOUT THE MONTANA SBDC

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The Montana Small Business Development Center Network is a partnership among the Montana Department of Commerce, the U.S. Small Business Administration, regional economic development organizations and institutions of higher education.

This network consists of 10 centers throughout the state that offer free, confidential, one-on-one business counseling and low-cost training programs to small businesses and entrepreneurs.

The SBDCs are dedicated to helping small businesses throughout Montana grow, innovate and succeed. Our network combines the resources of federal, state and local organizations with the education system and private sector to meet the specialized and complex needs of the small business community.

Visit sbdcmontana.gov and contact the SBDC nearest you to learn more about counseling services and training programs available in your area.

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