

How to Start a Business in Texas

Checklist

1.	Form your business.	
	1.1. Review Texas formation options. \square	
	There are six types of business entities in Texas. Choose the one that suits your	
	business best.	
	1.2. Name your business. \square	
	After checking to see your name does not exist, register your business name with	the
	Secretary of State.	
	1.3. Get an Employer Identification Number. \square	
	Apply for an Employer Identification Number at the IRS.	
	1.4. Register your business in Texas. □	
	Sole proprietorships and general partners do not need to file with the state. LLCs a	and
	corporations must file certificates of formation online.	
	1.5. Obtain necessary permits and licenses. \square	
	Check the Department of Licensing and Regulation website to see if your business	í
	requires any special licenses. If you do, apply for them online.	
2.	Register your business for taxes. \square	
	2.1. Register for a Sales and Use Tax. □	
	Apply for your sales tax permit at the Texas Comptroller. It is free.	
	2.2. File for Franchise Tax. □	
	The Texas Comptroller sets up a Franchise Tax account for you once you have	
	registered your business with the Secretary of State. You need only wait for the	
	Comptroller to mail you confirmation and then complete a guestionnaire.	

	2.3. Register properties for local Property Tax. \square
	Approach your local tax authorities to register for local Property Tax assessments any
	properties used to generate income.
3.	Hire employees and report them to the state. \Box
	3.1. Report new employees to the state. \square
	Register with the Child Support Division of the Office of the Attorney General to begin
	reporting new hires.