

# SMALL BUSINESS. BIG IMPACT.



## 5 Steps to Start Your Business in Minnesota

When starting a new business there are many important decisions to make. Here are some resources and five steps to help you get started.

### BEFORE YOU BEGIN

It's important to do your homework. Have you researched your competitors, the market and potential customers? Here are a few resources to help you before you get started.

- » **Business Plan:** Business plan overview, how to draft, and executive summary information.
- » **FAQ:** Recent and frequent questions about small business matters answered by the Small Business Assistance Office.
- » **Business Guidebooks:** Publications, including a comprehensive "Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota", and many others produced in collaboration with major Minnesota law firms and subject matter experts on a wide variety of business topics.
- » **Consultants, videos, and education.**

### Connect with others

- » **CALL OR EMAIL** the **Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO)** at [651-556-8425](tel:651-556-8425) or [800-310-8323](tel:800-310-8323), [smallbusiness@state.mn.us](mailto:smallbusiness@state.mn.us) with specific questions or to be connected to the right resource.
- » **CONNECT** with your [regional entrepreneurial ecosystem](#)
- » **REVIEW** our [statewide startup and small business calendar](#)

For additional resources, visit  
<https://joinusmn.com/smallbusiness>



## 1

### CHOOSE YOUR BUSINESS STRUCTURE

*Organize your business, here are the [types of business structures](#) available in Minnesota.*

## 2

### REGISTER WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE

*Confirm your [business name](#) and follow these [step-by-step instructions](#) for [registering your business](#).*

## 3

### OBTAIN STATE AND FEDERAL TAX ID NUMBERS

*Obtain a [state tax ID number](#) from Minnesota Department of Revenue and [federal tax ID number \(EIN\)](#) from the IRS.*

## 4

### SECURE NECESSARY BUSINESS PREREQUISITES

- Does your business require [licenses and permits](#)?
- [Insurance](#) should be secured to mitigate risks.
- [Types of Intellectual Property](#): patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret.

## 5

### FINANCING YOUR BUSINESS

*Financing basics and [state financing programs](#) to help your startup or small business: [Grants](#), [Tax Credits](#), and [Loans](#).*