

After you have registered with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of the State, there are many important decisions to make. Here are some resources and steps to help you get started.

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.

- » <u>Business Plan:</u> 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.
- » Webinars and videos
- » Education: List of webinars and courses.

Connect with others

- » CALL the Small Business Assistance Office (SBAO) at 651-556-8425 or 800-310-8323 with specific questions or to be connected to the right resource
- » MEET with Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) consultants across the state provide guidance and expertise
- » REACH out to support organizations serving startups and small businesses
- » **REFERENCE** the statewide startup and small business calendar
- » **CONNECT** with your regional entrepreneurial ecosystem

1

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.

2

SECURE NECESSARY

BUSINESS PREREQUISITES

- Does your business require licenses and permits?
- <u>Insurance</u> should be secured to mitigate risks.
- Types of <u>Intellectual Property</u>: patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret.

3

FINANCING YOUR BUSINESS

<u>Financing basics</u> and <u>state</u> <u>financing programs</u> to help your startup or small business: <u>Grants</u>, <u>Tax Credits</u>, and <u>Loans</u>.

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