



State of Washington
Business Licensing Service
PO Box 9034
Olympia, WA 98507-9034
1-800-451-7985

License Fee Sheet

Use the **Business License Application** to obtain any of the licenses listed on this form. We have indicated which licenses you can apply for using our online application. To apply for licenses not available online please fill out the required forms and send them by mail.

We have also indicated if a license requires agency approval. Do not begin an activity requiring approval until you receive a *Business License* that displays the name of that license.

There are many other licenses not available through the Business Licensing Service. To determine if you need any others, or to download application forms, visit our Business Licensing Guide at business.wa.gov/BLS or call us at 1-800-451-7985.

Application Fee

\$19 - non-refundable fee

Department of Revenue

Must be paid each time a Business License Application is submitted.

Registrations

Valid as long as you remain in business

Tax Registration - Available online

No additional fee

Department of Revenue

You must obtain a tax registration if you answer "yes" to any of the questions listed below. A tax registration cannot be transferred to another business.

- Do you plan to gross over \$12,000 per year?
- Will you be selling at retail any item or product to another person?
- Will you be repairing, installing, altering, decorating, or improving any item or product for another person (e.g., car repair, construction)?
- Will you engage in a business that is responsible for any other state taxes (e.g., timber, fish, litter, public utility, hazardous substance/waste, etc.)?

Industrial Insurance - Available online

No additional fee

Department of Labor & Industries

If you employ one or more people, you must apply for industrial insurance coverage. **Excluded Groups:** The groups listed below are exempt from mandatory coverage, but **you may request optional coverage** by completing the Employment section of the Business License Application. An *Application for Optional Coverage* will be sent to you. Excluded groups include:

- Sole proprietors, partners, LLC members with management responsibility.
- Executive officers and corporate officers who are directors and shareholders. If you select elective coverage for your executive officers, all executive officers must be covered.
- Domestic servants (if less than 2 employed) and those performing gardening, maintenance or repair around the home.
- Services in return for aid or sustenance received from a religious or charitable organization.
- Minors under 18 employed on the family farm.
- Jockey racing.

- Entertainers and musicians.
- Volunteer law enforcement officers.
- Volunteer workers or student volunteers (K-12).
- Community service workers.
- Cosmetologists, barbers, estheticians or manicurists who lease stations.
- Newspaper carriers.
- Insurance agents, brokers and solicitors.
- Other employment as defined by RCW Title 51.

Unemployment Insurance - Available online

No additional fee

Employment Security Department

If you employ one or more people, you must apply for unemployment insurance coverage. Social Security numbers are required for all owners of a business that hires employees.

Profit corporations with employees must report wages for corporate officers who provide services in Washington. You may choose to exempt some or all officers by completing a Corporate Officer Exemption form with the Employment Security Department. If the corporation does not have employees the corporate officer wages are exempt unless the corporation chooses voluntary coverage on the BLA.

Non profit 501(c)(3) corporations must report and pay taxes on officer wages.

Trade Name Registration - Available online

\$5 per name

Department of Revenue

Trade Name or "Doing Business As" name must be registered if:

- Sole proprietor or partnership is using a name other than the full legal name of all the owners; or
- Corporations, limited partnerships or limited liability companies are operating under a name other than the name registered with the Office of the Secretary of State.

Please indicate all "Doing Business As" names on Section 2 of the Business License Application.

This registration does not provide protection of the name. To see if the Trade Name you are planning to use is already registered, visit the Business Licensing Service website at: www.bls.dor.wa.gov/licensesearch/

Please contact the Business Licensing Service at 1-800-451-7985 for more information.

Renewable Registrations and Licenses Must be renewed annually

Bulk Fertilizer Distributor - Available online \$25 per location

Department of Agriculture

Required for any business that brings into or that distributes within Washington commercial fertilizer in bulk (nonpackaged form).

Cigarette Sales, Retail & Wholesale

See "Tobacco Sales"

Collection Agency

\$850 for main location in Washington

\$550 for each branch location (in Washington or out of state/country)

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for any Washington business that:

- Directly or indirectly collects debts on behalf of clients located in Washington and/or other states;
- Solicits claims for collection;
- Markets forms or a collection system to be used in debt collection; or
- Collects their own debts using a fictitious name to imply that a third party is involved; or
- Purchases claims for collection purposes in Washington, whether or not it collects the claim itself.

The business must maintain a trust account and an office in Washington for the purpose of conducting its collection agency business. The office must be managed by a Washington resident and be open to the public during regular business hours. A \$5,000 surety bond is required.

Collection Agency – Out-of-State/Country

\$425 for main out-of-state location

\$275 for each branch location (out-of-state/country)

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for any business outside Washington that:

- Undertakes the collection of a debt on behalf of clients who are also outside Washington, and that uses only telephone, mail or fax to collect, or attempt to collect, on debts from persons or businesses located inside Washington. A \$5,000 surety bond is required; or
- Purchases claims for collection purposes in Washington, whether or not it collects the claim itself.

Note: Based on other states' laws, some businesses may be exempt from license fees and bonding. Please contact the Business & Professions Division at (360) 664-1388 for more information.

Commercial Telephone Solicitor

\$72 per location

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for each location making unsolicited commercial telephone calls and selling goods or products during the call. Also required for those who offer free prizes by mail and invite a telephone response. Exclusions from coverage include, but are not limited to, those soliciting for educational, political, or

charitable purposes; those for whom less than 60 percent of the prior year's sales were made by telephone solicitations; and those who sell to businesses who either resell the product or use it for manufacturing.

Contractor Registration

Additional forms required

Registration not available through BLS

Contact: Dept. of Labor & Industries (360) 902-6359 or 1-800-647-0982 (in state only) or www.lni.wa.gov

Any individual or business involved in construction, remodeling, repair, excavation, or demolition of any structure, road or property must obtain a Contractor Registration. This includes those who install floor coverings, lawn sprinkler systems, or scaffolding. Those who perform plumbing or electrical work must have additional certifications or licenses. Registration is also required for an individual who plans to hire subcontractors from more than one trade to work on a single project related to the individual's own property, with the intent to sell that improved property.

Corporate Registration

Additional forms required

Registration not available through BLS

Contact: Office of the Secretary of State (360) 725-0377

Washington based corporations doing business in Washington must file Articles of Incorporation.

Firms incorporated in any other state or country should contact the Corporations Division of the Office of the Secretary of State for filing requirements. **In addition to** filing the corporate registration forms a Business License Application is required to BLS.

For expedited service to incorporate your business, complete the Application to Form a Profit Corporation at www.secstate.wa.gov/corps

Or you can complete the application on paper and mail it in a **separate envelope** to:

Corporations Division

Office of the Secretary of State

PO Box 40234

Olympia, WA 98504-0234

Egg Handler/Dealer - Available online

\$30 for first location

\$15 for each additional location

Additional forms required

Department of Agriculture

Required for businesses or persons that:

- Produce, handle, contract for, or obtain possession or control of eggs for sale to wholesalers, dealers or retailers within or into Washington; or
- Process eggs and sell them to wholesalers, dealers, retailers or consumers within or into Washington.

A license must be posted at each location where the licensee operates. **Note:** Poultry producers who sell eggs from their own flocks at the place of production directly to household consumers do not need to be licensed.

Employment Agency

\$783 for main location

\$540 for each branch location

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for any for-profit business that helps persons obtain employment, where the job seeker pays for the service. This includes giving verbal or written lists of available employment positions. Application requires a \$2,000 surety bond, a copy of the client contract, and the fee schedule. General manager of the agency must be licensed with the Department of Licensing. **Exemptions:** Temporary employment services, labor unions, nonprofit schools and colleges, career guidance and counseling centers, theatrical agencies, and farm labor contractors.

Employment Directory Service

No fee

Department of Licensing

Required for any for-profit employment business that only provides written or verbal lists of employers, which do not include specified positions. Application requires a copy of the client contract.

For Hire

Permit: \$110

Certificates: \$55 per vehicle

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for all vehicles used for the transportation of passengers for compensation in taxicabs, cabulances or other for hire vehicles (except limousines see Limousine Carrier for those for hire vehicles). The state permit fee is not required if a permit fee is paid to a local city or county, however all vehicles must have a for hire certificate from the state, regardless. See also the section headed "Weighing & Measuring Devices" about registering the meter used in for hire vehicles.

Limousine Carrier

\$350 per location

Vehicle Certificate: \$75 per limousine

Vehicle Inspection Report: \$25 per limousine

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing, Washington State Patrol, and Port Districts of King County

Required for any business that operates unmetered, unmarked, chauffeur-driven, luxury, for hire vehicles (definition of a limousine is found in RCW 46.04). Limousines must transport persons under a single contract, on a prearranged basis, to a specific destination or particular itinerary. Each limousine vehicle must pass a vehicle inspection and be certified by the Department of Licensing. Businesses operating in the Port District of King County may be licensed through the port district. Other for hire businesses (such as taxi cabs) must register separately with the Department of Licensing (see For Hire license).

Liquor Licenses - Available online

Variable fees (see *Liquor License Description and Fee Information Sheet*)

Additional forms and agency approval required

Liquor and Cannabis Board

Required for businesses or nonprofit organizations retailing or serving beer, wine or spirits; or manufacturing, distilling, wholesaling, transporting, importing, or exporting alcoholic beverages. Also needed for changing the location of a licensed premises. A more detailed description of these licenses is available through the Business Licensing Service.

Lottery Retailer - Available online

\$25 per location (one-time, nonrefundable)

Additional forms and agency approval required.

Washington's Lottery

Required for businesses selling Lottery products. Applicants must certify that they comply with federal, state and agency accessibility requirements, and provide a personal/criminal history. The Lottery also requires an electronic funds transfer account to transfer Lottery sales debits and credits. The Lottery will separately charge retailers a one-time \$200 set-up fee, and a weekly equipment and support fee. Contact the Lottery at 1-800-732-5101, option 4, for more information.

Manufactured/Mobile Home Community

Registration (Mobile Home Parks)

\$10 per qualifying manufactured home in park*

Additional forms required

Department of Revenue

Registration is required of all manufactured and mobile home parks that offer two or more spaces (lots) in the park for rent or lease for year-round occupancy. A separate application must be submitted for each park. New parks must be registered within three months of offering spaces for rent to avoid penalties.

*A \$10 fee must be paid for **each** manufactured or mobile home within the park when the owner of the home does not also own the space on which the home is located.

Marijuana Licenses

Additional forms and agency approval required

Liquor and Cannabis Board

Marijuana Retailer - Available online

\$266

Required to sell marijuana at retail. A Marijuana Retailer business may only sell marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia at licensed marijuana retailer locations.

Medical Marijuana - Available online

No Fee

Required to sell medical grade marijuana at retail to qualified patients. Must also have the Marijuana Retailer license in order to have a Medical Marijuana license.

Minor Work Permit - Available online

No fee

Agency approval required

Department of Labor and Industries

If you employ one or more people under 18 years old, you must apply for a permit to employ minors, in addition to industrial insurance as described on page 1.

Nursery Retailer/Wholesaler - Available online

Fees listed below include a 20% surcharge

Additional forms required

Department of Agriculture

Required for businesses that:

- Sell or hold live plants or turf for planting, breeding, or decoration; or
- Perform landscaping and lawn maintenance which provides planting or installing new plants or turf.

A license is not required if you sell less than \$100 per year or only sell cut flowers.

Choose either a wholesale or retail license based on what you believe will be your primary source of income, then estimate your total nursery sales for the calendar year. Determine the fee due based on your license type and your sales estimate.

Nursery Retailer:	License Fee:
\$100 - \$2,499	\$50.40 per location
\$2,500 - \$14,999	\$109.20 per location
\$15,000 and over	\$218.40 per location

Nursery Wholesaler:	License Fee:
\$100 - \$14,999	\$109.20 per location
\$15,000 and over	\$218.40 per location

Pesticide Dealer - Available online

\$67 per location

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Agriculture

Required to sell all pesticides. **Exception:** Not required if the pesticide is labeled **home and garden use only**. Each location must have a licensed Pesticide Dealer Manager to supervise pesticide distribution.

Pharmacy Benefit Manager- Available online

\$200 per location

Additional forms required

Department of Revenue

Required for businesses that contract with pharmacies on behalf of an insurer, a third-party payor, or the prescription drug purchasing consortium established under RCW 70.14.060 in order to: process claims for prescription drugs or medical supplies; provide retail pharmacy network management; pay pharmacies for prescription drugs or medical supplies, or negotiate rebates with drug manufacturers for the prescriptions described above. The license is required for each location of the business from which this activity is conducted for pharmacies or payors in Washington State. Note: 'Pharmacy Benefit Manager' does not include health care service contractors.

Private Investigative Agency

\$600 with unarmed principal

\$700 with armed principal

No fee for each additional location

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for any business that exists to detect, discover or reveal criminal activity; obtain information related to persons or things; recover lost property; identify cause for accidents/losses; obtain evidence for investigations or detect eavesdropping devices. See RCW Chapter 18.165 for full description.

Radiology Benefit Manager

\$200 per location

Additional forms required

Department of Licensing

Required for any person or company conducting business in Washington or with Washington customers when the business is owned by a third party payor or a carrier, as defined in RCW 48.43.005, or contracts with a third party payor or carrier in order to:

- Process claims for services and procedures performed by a licensed radiologist or advanced diagnostic imaging service provider.
- Pay or authorize payment to radiology clinics, radiologists, or advanced diagnostic imaging services providers for services or procedures.

Registered Professional Design Firm

Certificate of Authorization - Available online

\$100 main location

Additional forms required

Department of Licensing

Required for businesses practicing or offering to practice architectural services in Washington. Each firm is required to have at least one Designated Architect listed at the licensed location. The Designated Architect must have an active architect registration.

Rental Car Registration - Available online

No fee

Department of Licensing

Required for all businesses conducting retail rental car business.

Scrap Metal

Various Fees (see the *Vehicle-Related and Scrap Metal Recycling Fee Description Sheet*)

Additional forms and agency approval required.

Department of Licensing

Required for businesses that are suppliers, processors, and/or recyclers of scrap metal.

Note: *These licenses do NOT include handling scrap metal from motor vehicles. For vehicle-related scrap processing see the entry under "Vehicle Sales or Disposal".*

Seed Dealer - Available online

\$125 per location

Department of Agriculture

Required for selling seeds except those packaged in containers of 8 ounces or less by a registered seed labeler.

Seller of Travel

\$202 per location

Additional documents and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for businesses that arrange, or advertise to arrange travel accommodations for Washington consumers.

Shopkeeper - Available online

\$40 per location

Department of Health – Board of Pharmacy

Required of businesses (except licensed pharmacies) selling any nonprescription medication. These medications must be in the original manufacturer's packaging.

Tobacco Sales, Retail and Wholesale

Liquor and Cannabis Board

Required for businesses that sell cigarettes or other tobacco products. Cigarette licenses cover sales of cigarettes only. Licenses for tobacco products cover sales of all other tobacco products besides cigarettes. Both licenses must be held if cigarettes and other tobacco products are both sold at the same location. Additional documents and agency approval required.

Cigarettes

Cigarette Retailer - Available online **\$93**
Cigarettes sold at retail. Fee required per location.

Commercial Cigarette Making Machine **\$93**
Required where a machine to produce 'Roll Your Own' cigarettes is provided. The fee is required for each location with one or more machines. A Cigarette Retailer license and Tobacco Products Retailer license is also required. The machine can only be used with tobacco sold at the location at the time of purchase.

Cigarette Vending Machine - Available online **\$30**
Each machine which dispenses cigarettes. A Cigarette Retailer license is also required. Fee required per machine at each location.

Cigarette Wholesaler

Main location **\$650**
Each branch location **\$115**

Purchase, sell, or distribute cigarettes to retailers for resale. You must include with your application the \$5,000 surety bond required by the Department of Revenue.

Tobacco Products

Tobacco Products Retailer - Available online **\$93**
Retail sales of tobacco products other than cigarettes. Fee required per location. (Fee waived if also applying for, or already have, Cigarette Retailer at same business location.)

Tobacco Products Distributor
Main location **\$650**
Each branch location **\$115**
Purchase, sell, or distribute tobacco products other than cigarettes to retailers for resale. (Fee waived if also applying for, or already have, Cigarette Wholesaler.)

Underground Storage Tanks

\$160 per tank

Additional forms required

Department of Ecology

Required for owners of storage tanks with a capacity greater than 110 gallons, that have at least 10 percent of volume (including piping) below the surface of the ground, and that contain petroleum or other hazardous substances. Some tanks may be exempt. The application must be filed by the owner within 30 days **after** a new installation is complete, or upon modification or purchase of existing tanks. **Note:** A notice of intent to install (Form ECY 020-95) must also be filed directly with the Department of Ecology at least 30 days before new installation work begins.

Used Vehicle Battery Collector

\$15 per location

Additional forms required

Department of Ecology

Required for businesses that collect used vehicle batteries that are separate from the vehicle. This license is not required for businesses accepting exchanges during sales of new batteries.

Vehicle Sales or Disposal

Various fees (see the *Vehicle-Related and Scrap Metal Recycling Fee Description Sheet*)

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for businesses that:

- Annually offer, display or sell more than four cars, trucks and/or motor homes, or otherwise act as a dealer of such vehicles;
- Deal in boats or vessels, manufactured homes, park homes, travel trailers, fifth wheel trailers, horse trailers, utility trailers, off-road vehicles, motorcycles and/or snowmobiles;
- Manufacture or remanufacture vehicles for distribution to Washington dealerships;
- Transport vehicles over Washington highways;
- Operate a registered tow truck; and/or
- Act as a hulk hauler, vehicle wrecker or scrap processor. **Note:** This is **NOT** for non-vehicle scrap metal. For licensing to handle non-vehicle scrap metal see the entry under "**Scrap Metal**".

A more detailed description of these licenses is available through Business Licensing Service.

Waste Tire Carrier

\$200 (\$50 nonrefundable) plus \$50 per vehicle

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Ecology

Required for businesses transporting tires no longer usable due to wear, damage or defect. Businesses licensed by the Utilities and Transportation Commission or a local government authority need not apply. A \$10,000 bond is required.

Waste Tire Storage Site Owner

\$250 per location (\$50 nonrefundable)

Additional forms and agency approval required

Department of Ecology

Required of any business with outside storage of more than 800 tires which are no longer suitable for their original purpose. The business is required to have:

- A permit from the County Health Department where the site is located.
- Financial assurance sufficient for hiring a third party to remove the maximum number of tires permitted to be stored at the facility and deliver the tires to a facility permitted to accept the tires.

research or industrial facilities. Contact Dept. of Health for regulatory questions at 1-800-299-9729.

Weighing and Measuring Devices - Available online

Various fees (see the Weighing and Measuring Devices Addendum)

Department of Agriculture (statewide); and Cities of Seattle & Spokane

Required for businesses where devices are used to determine the charges for a product or service on the basis of weight or measure (i.e. scales or meters). The Weighing and Measuring Devices addendum must be submitted with the Business License Application.

Whitewater River Outfitter

\$25 per location

Additional form and agency approval required

Department of Licensing

Required for businesses carrying, or advertising to carry, for-hire passengers on whitewater sections of Washington rivers. Applicants must provide proof of correct liability insurance and certify that they meet all requirements, including use of qualified guides.

X-Ray Facilities and Devices - Available online

Various fees (see the X-ray Facility and Devices Registration Addendum)

Department of Health (statewide)

Required for businesses that have a facility with any of the X-ray tube types listed on the x-ray addendum form, including dental or medical offices, hospitals, veterinary, educational, security, research or industrial facilities.

Contact Dept. of Health for regulatory questions at 1-800-299-9729.

City licenses available through the Business Licensing Service - Available online

In most cities, a city license is required for businesses operating within the city limits, including those businesses that are located outside the city limits but perform services for customers inside the city limits. Businesses located outside city limits must carry a copy of their license while operating in the city.

You may apply for the General Business License for the following cities using the Business License Application at the same time you apply for state licenses and registrations. In addition to the General Business License some cities may require other licenses, such as a Home Occupation Permit or temporary license, to conduct particular business activities. Contact the cities directly for more information.

See the [City Fee Sheet](#) for fees and descriptions for the cities listed below. Additional forms and city approval are required for each city.

**Anacortes
Bellevue
Bellingham
Blaine
Bonney Lake
Bridgeport
Buckley
Carbonado
Carnation
Clyde Hill
Connell
College Place
Covington
Deer Park
DuPont
Duvall
Eatonville
Edgewood
Enumclaw
Ephrata
Fife
Fircrest
Gig Harbor
Gold Bar
Granite Falls
Ilwaco
Issaquah
Kenmore
Kennewick
Lacey
Lake Stevens
Leavenworth
Liberty Lake
Long Beach**

**Longview
Maple Valley
Marysville
Millwood
Milton
Monroe
Newcastle
North Bend
Olympia
Port Orchard
Port Townsend
Poulsbo
Prosser
Pullman
Richland
Rockford
Ruston
Sammamish
Sedro Woolley
Selah
Sequim
Shoreline
Skykomish
Spokane
Spokane Valley
Stanwood
Sultan
Sumner
Tumwater
University Place
Vancouver
Washougal
West Richland
Woodinville**

Additional cities continue to partner with the Business Licensing Service program. Visit our website at <http://business.wa.gov/BLS> or contact us at 1-800-451-7985 for a current listing.