

How to Start a Business in Maryland Checklist

1.	Form your business.		
	1.1. Review Maryland formation options. \Box		
	There are four primary ways of forming a business in Maryland. Select the one that		
	best suits your business.		
	1.2. Name your business. \square		
	Perform a business entity search on the Maryland Business Express website to		
	check that your chosen name is available to use. Then, file a name reservation of		
	register a trade name.		
	1.3. Get an Employer Identification Number. \square		
	Apply for an Employer Identification Number on the IRS website.		
	1.4. Register your business in Maryland. \square		
	Register your business with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and		
	Taxation (SDAT). This can be done online through the Maryland Business Express		
	website or by obtaining the relevant application forms, completing them, and		
	submitting them to the SDAT accompanied by the applicable filing fee.		
	1.5. Obtain necessary permits and licenses. \square		
	Obtain licenses and permits you need to operate your business in Maryland. To		
	find out what licenses and permits you need, contact your local clerk of the court		
	and county office, and visit the Maryland licensing OneStop portal.		
2.	Register your business for taxes. \square		
	2.1. Set up Maryland tax and insurance accounts. \square		
	Register for tax and insurance accounts with the Comptroller of Maryland.		



	2.2.	Apply for a Maryland sales and use tax account. □
		If your business makes sales or provides taxable services in Maryland, you must
		apply for sales and use tax. Register an account with the Comptroller of Maryland
	2.3.	Apply for an employer's withholding tax account. \Box
		Employers paying salaries, wages, or compensation to individuals are required to
		have an employer's withholding tax account. Register an account with the
		Comptroller of Maryland.
	2.4.	Apply for an unemployment insurance account. \Box
		Industrial and commercial employers, as well as many nonprofit businesses, are
		subject to the state unemployment insurance law and must register an
		unemployment insurance account with the Comptroller of Maryland.
3.	Rep	port employees to the state and get insurance. \square
	3.1.	Report new employees to the state. \square
		Report new hires to the Maryland State Directory of New Hires Reporting within
		the first 20 days of their employment.
	3.2.	Obtain mandatory insurance. \square
		In Maryland, workers' compensation insurance is mandatory. Maryland is also a
		mandatory vehicle insurance state.

