

QUICK START GUIDE

BUSINESS QUESTIONS? NJBAC HAS ANSWERS!

HOME HEALTH AIDE

The New Jersey Board of Nursing regulates homemaker-home health aides, defined as a person who is employed by a home care services agency and who is performing delegated nursing regimens or nursing tasks delegated through the authority of a duly licensed registered professional nurse.

STARTING A BUSINESS

- **The first step in starting a business** is writing a well-considered, comprehensive business plan. Although not required it is highly recommended that this be your first step. There are resources to provide technical assistance to entrepreneurs to guide them in the writing process. The New Jersey Small Business Development Centers have regional offices that cover every county in New Jersey and provide Free (taxpayer supported) assistance to entrepreneurs accessible here: <https://njsbdc.com/>. Other organizations that provide technical assistance:
 - SCORE: Click the link and enter SCORE in the find box: <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/>
 - Women’s Center for Entrepreneurship (Northern New Jersey): <http://www.wccnj.org/>
 - LAEDA (Southern New Jersey): <http://www.laeda.com/>

STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Homemaker-Home Health Aides** — The New Jersey Board of Nursing maintains standards for homemaker-home health aide education and training programs. The board also maintains a registry of all individuals who have successfully completed homemaker-home health aide training and competency evaluation program.
 - Board of Nursing: <https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/nur/Pages/default.aspx>
- **A Health Care Service Firm** is an agency that places or arranges for the placement of personnel to provide health care or personal care services in the residence of individuals. All health care service firms must be registered with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs. Call the Regulated Business Section at (973) 504-6370 to determine the type of registration.
- **New Jersey Division of Revenue & Enterprise Services (DORES)** — If you chose to form a limited liability company (LLC) a corporation (Inc.), a Professional Corporation (PC), you must record that new entity with DORES. This is not required for Sole Proprietorships or General Partnerships.
 - DORES: <https://www.nj.gov/treasury/revenue/gettingregistered.shtml>
- **Tax Registration** — All businesses (including proprietorships and partnerships) must register for Tax purposes with DORES. Every business that has employees, more than a single owner, or is organized as a corporation must obtain a Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN), commonly referred to as a Federal Tax ID#, from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
 - DORES: <https://www.nj.gov/treasury/revenue/gettingregistered.shtml>
 - IRS: <https://www.irs.gov/>
- **Trade Names, Alternate (Fictitious) Business Names, Doing Business As (DBA)** — Businesses may operate using a name other than their legal name, if that name has been properly registered. Sole Proprietorships and General Partnerships must register a “Tradename” in each of the County Clerk’s Offices in the Counties where they wish to conduct business. LLCs, Corporations, and other legal entities may register an Alternate Name with DORES. Fictitious names for foreign entities (companies formed outside of New Jersey) are sometimes referred to as a DBA.
 - County Clerks Offices: <https://www.nj.gov/state/archives/catcounty.html>
 - Registering a Fictitious Name: <https://www.njportal.com/dor/businessamendments>

STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS (continued)

- **Sales & Use Tax** — Businesses may be required to collect sales tax during a qualified transaction and submit those proceeds to the Division of Taxation. You may also qualify for a Resale Certificate that can be used when purchasing items for resale.
 - Sales & Use Tax: https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/su_over.shtml
 - Small Business Workshop: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/pdf/other_forms/sales/st3.pdf
- **Taxpayer Workshops** — The Treasury Department’s “Taxation University” offers a workshop series to assist small businesses learn more about their state tax obligations.
 - Small Business Workshops: www.nj.gov/treasury/taxation/smallbus.shtml
- **Employers** — Businesses with employees have obligations of which management should be aware. Wage and Hour Compliance--the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce development’s office of Wage and Hour Compliance has requirements for wages, working hours, earned sick leave and other regulations that employers must follow. All employees must be covered by Worker’s Compensation. In addition, any stockholder (owner) of a corporation that works in the business, even if compensation is deferred, must also be covered by Worker’s Comp. This does not apply to the members (owners) of LLCs. See your business insurance agent for information on state approved workers compensation policies.
 - Division of Wage and Compliance: www.nj.gov/labor/wagehour/wagehour_index.html
 - Workman’s Compensation: https://www.nj.gov/labor/wc/wc_index.html

LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Zoning Requirements** — Every municipality (City, Township, Borough, etc.) has a Land Use/Zoning Ordinance which regulates the kinds of business activities that are permitted within a designated zone and places restrictions on building on land parcels including building setbacks, building heights, signage, and various other aspects of the land usage. When evaluating a location for your business you should consult with the Zoning Officer to determine the suitability of the site for your purposes and what obligations you will have, including possible Planning/Zoning board approvals.
- **Building Permits** — Construction covered under the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code will require a Construction Permit and inspections to ensure that all construction conforms to the relevant construction codes. In many cases architectural plans prepared by a licensed Architect may be required when making an application for Construction Permit. Business owners should be diligent in preparing a budget for construction costs that includes the necessary professional costs and permit fees.
 - Permit Applications: www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/codes/resources/constructionpermitforms.html
- **Mercantile Licenses** — Many towns require certain businesses to obtain Mercantile or other local business licenses. Check with the Municipal Clerk’s Office to determine your obligation under the Municipal Ordinances.
- **Prior Approvals** — It is vital that due diligence is used in evaluating any location for a business. Some locations may require additional “prior approvals” before permits or zoning approvals can be obtained due to environmental or other land use concerns. You may require professional assistance in evaluating a site.

Although great lengths are made to keep these guides as accurate as possible they are provided for information purposes and specific details about your business may require additional or more specialized assistance. You are encouraged to consult with an attorney and accountant for legal and tax advice.