

# Does Your Business Need a Business License to Operate?

There are seven states in which all businesses need to obtain state business licenses, in addition to any required local licenses. Each Virginia city and county establishes its own licensing requirements and procedures. But most counties and cities require the appropriate Virginia business licenses or permits for all businesses, including one-person, home-based operations.

## Virginia Business License Requirements

### Businesses That Need

#### Special Licenses/Certifications

Medical Professionals

Lawyers

Accountants

Contractors

Barbers & Cosmetologists

Architects & Engineers

Real Estate Brokers & Sale Persons

Private Investigators & Other Services

### Businesses That Need

#### Local License/Permits

Sole Proprietors

LLCs

S-corps

Home-based Businesses

Consultants

Designers

Lawn Care & Cleaning Agencies

Other Product & Services Businesses

To apply for your business license, special licenses, permits and other certifications, visit your local city or county business office website that explains its license requirements. For Virginia businesses visit <https://www.virginia.gov/state-government/business/>