



Starting a Business in Tuolumne County Checklist

Starting a successful business takes planning. Below are many essential steps to consider to get you going.

Resources for the steps below are listed on the Economic Development website for Tuolumne County.

Create a Business Plan

Everything starts with a good plan. Research and develop a business plan for your proposed business.

Choose your Business Name

Finding the right name for your business is integral to your success. You want it to reflect what you do and help market to your customers.

Select a Location and Research Regulations

Selecting a location is one of the most important decisions a new business owner must make—and it should not be made in haste.

Apply for Local and State Licenses

Depending on your type of business and location, licenses may be required.

Research Possible Additional Permits Needed

Depending on what type of business, you may be required to register for a seller's permit or license.

Determine your Business Structure

A business structure is a government classification that regulates parts of your business.

The business structure you choose influences everything from day-to-day operations, to taxes and how much of your personal assets are at risk. You should choose a business structure that gives you the right balance of legal protections and benefits.

File Tax Information

There are real consequences for failure to file tax information. Take time to understand what is required.

Hire Employees

A good understanding of state and federal laws will help you manage employees properly and protect you.

File an FBN

The purpose of a Fictitious Business Name (FBN) is to inform the public of the identities of persons doing business for profit under a fictitious name. This is also known as a “Doing Business As” (DBA).

Research the Market

It’s crucial to understand your client’s behavior and the economic trends. Market research helps you design and improve your business right from the beginning.
