**Registration, Licensing and Taxes**

The steps to your new startup are:

1. Decide on your legal status (Sole Proprietor, LLC, Corp, S-Corp)
2. Register your business with the State of Oregon
3. Determine what license(s) you will need
4. Obtain the license(s)
5. Obtain an EIN number for tax registration

**Steps 1 and 2 Legal Status Registration**

The first step to launching your new startup is to determine which legal structure is right for your business. Read about the pros and cons of each legal entity, and take the Legal Entity Quiz. (<http://entityquiz.com/quiz?quizid=1>. Both are on MCNW website.)

The business registration forms are how you let the state know your Assumed Business Name, Domestic Business Entity (where they can mail you legal documents), and any trade and service mark registration. If your business is not your actual name (for example, if your name is John Smith, but your business is Bagel Heaven), you will need to file a DBA name.

Fill out the necessary business registration forms <http://www.filinginoregon.com/forms/business.htm>.

After paying the application fees for those documents, your startup will now be registered. Congratulations!

**Steps 3 and 4 Licensing**

Next, you will need to get the right license or licenses required for your particular industry to start up a business.

As the Small Business Administration puts it:

*“State licenses are frequently required for occupations as varied as building contractors, physicians, appraisers, accountants, barbers, real estate agents, auctioneers, private investigators, private security guards, funeral directors, bill collectors, and cosmetologists. Since you can't always guess which occupations and professions are licensed by your state, you should always check with your state licensing authorities.”*

So if your start-up business is in the food industry, you need to track down the proper food handler licenses. Or if you are a contractor, you should track down the right contractor’s license.

Luckily, the state of Oregon has made all of these available at <http://licenseinfo.oregon.gov>. Type in your business type in the search box in the middle of the page to determine which license(s) you will need.

**Step 5 Tax Registration**After you have made the perfect plan and acquired the proper licenses for your industry, you will need to register your new business for tax and trade name purposes. Because the state of Oregon has an income tax, you will have to register and obtain an employer identification number from the Department of Revenue department homepage found at <http://www.filinginoregon.com/forms/employer.htm>.