

# Small business series

## Business registration guide

	Do I need to register my business?	Who owns the business?	What is my personal liability?	How does this impact my taxes?
<b>Sole proprietorship</b>	No, but it may be beneficial.	One person	Unlimited personal liability—no personal liability protection.	You'll pay self-employment tax and personal tax.
<b>Partnership</b>	Maybe, some partnerships require registration with the state and IRS.	Two or more people	Unlimited personal liability unless structured as a limited partnership.	You'll pay self-employment tax (except for limited partners) and personal tax.
<b>LLC</b>	Yes, you should file Articles of Organization and create an operating agreement. Or you may decide to incorporate an LLC.	One or more people	Owners are not personally liable for business debts and liabilities.	You'll pay self-employment tax and personal tax OR the LLC can be taxed separately.
<b>C corporation</b>	Yes, you're required to file Articles of Incorporation.	One or more people, unlimited	Owners are not personally liable for business debts and liabilities.	The corporation is taxed separately.
<b>S corporation</b>	Yes, you're required to file Articles of Incorporation.	One or more people, but no more than 100	Owners are not personally liable for business debts and liabilities.	You'll pay personal tax.