

Registration of a Business Name

Registering a business name in Arizona is a simple process. The type of business structure you choose will determine where and how you must register your company name. The three places to register your business name, depending on how your company is organized, are: The Secretary of State's Office, the Maricopa County Recorder's Office and the Arizona Corporation Commission.

The Secretary of State's Office issues certificates of business or trade name for a small fee.

The Secretary of State's Office is located at:

14 N. 18th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-6187
www.sosaz.com

The Maricopa County Recorder's Office issues a certificate of fictitious name, primarily for "Doing Business As" (DBA) titles. This requires filling out a simple form that can be obtained from a stationery or legal forms store. However, this certificate does not protect the business name under the copyrights law. An attorney can advise you regarding business name and trademark protection.

The Maricopa County Recorder's Office is located at:

111 S. Third Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85003
(602) 506-3535
www.maricopa.gov

The Arizona Corporation Commission is where you need to go if you plan to establish a corporation or limited liability company.

The Arizona Corporation Commission is located at:

1300 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 542-3135
www.cc.state.az.us

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks provides information about obtaining a federal trademark for your company name if you plan on conducting business outside the state. Information may be obtained by writing or calling their office in Washington, D.C.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231
1-800-786-9199 (8 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST)
www.uspto.gov