

Dealing with Your Local Requirements

Your business officially starts when you first receive money for your coaching services. At that point, you are a business owner! Congratulations!

As a business, there will probably be some specific local requirements that you should take care of. This might include a business license, fictitious business name permit (which allows you to do business under a name other than your own personal name), or other requirement from either a city, county, province, or state government (or the equivalent).

It's important to note that these requirements, along with the specific names that they are called by, vary location to location. You will need to find out what the specific terminology and requirements are for your location.

You can find out about these requirements by calling your local government offices. Look in the phone book (or for an Internet site) for an "information" number and ask them who to talk to about setting up a business in your area.

An additional resource for U.S.-based coaches is the Small Business Administration's Small Business Development Centers, typically located at select community colleges. These are locations that offer free information and a varying amount of free consulting on how to best set up your business in your local environment.

In Canada, the federal government has teamed up with each province and territory to provide online information to small business start-ups. At Canada Business Service Centres you will be guided through the setup of your business.

Additional Resources

- For Canadian residents: Canada Business Service Centres: www.bsa.cbsc.org
- U.S. Small Business Administration www.sba.gov provides free and low cost programs and services
- SCORE: Counselors to America's Small Business: www.score.org (SCORE works in conjunction with Small Business Development Centers to offer free/low-cost small business start-up consulting)