

You can, in-FLAGLER COUNTY

If you are looking to start a business or move one to Flagler County we would love to help! If you have any questions [HERE is a PDF](#) that will answer many questions you might have but if you still need anything clarified feel free to [contact us HERE](#) or reachout to one of our partners below.

HELPFUL LINKS

- [Sm. Business Development Center](#)
- [Small Business Resource Guide](#)
- [Startup Kit For New Business Owners](#)
- [Required Taxes](#)
- [Business Loan Checklist](#)
- [Grants/Funding](#)

A step-by-step guide to opening a business in Flagler County.



Prepare a business plan and materials

An important first step is preparing a business plan to define your business, products and services, and outline your goals, operating procedures and competition. If your company needs funding from a traditional loan or venture capitalists, a business plan will be required. Make sure your plan includes a marketing approach, so people are aware of what you're selling and how to find you.

[Questions to answer before starting a business](#)

Help Preparing a Business Plan



Meet legal requirements

Of course, incorporating your business or forming an LLC with the state is important because it protects your personal assets from business debts and liabilities. Other benefits of forming a corporation or LLC include tax advantages and greater credibility with customers, vendors and business partners

Incorporation help
Forming an LLC help



Select an accountant and attorney.

Many small business owners seek advice from accountants and attorneys. As you search for an accountant and attorney, get referrals from friends or family, and look for professionals who have worked with other small business owners or companies in your specific industry.

[Find an accountant](#)



Get necessary tax identification numbers, licenses and permits.

A federal tax identification number, or employer identification number (EIN), acts like a social security number and is required for corporations and LLCs that will have employees. Contact your state's taxation department to learn if a state tax identification number is required in your state. Also keep in mind that most businesses need licenses and/or permits to operate—in your city, municipality, county and/or state.

[File for a tax ID number](#)

[Get a Business License](#)



Insure your business and investigate other requirements.

Some industries have specific insurance requirements. Discuss your needs with your insurance agent to get the right type and amount of insurance. Remember to look into any other government tax and insurance requirements that might apply to your business, particularly if you have employees.

For example:

- Unemployment insurance
- Workers' compensation
- OSHA requirements
- Federal tax
- State and local tax
- Self-employment tax
- Payroll tax requirements (such as FICA, federal unemployment tax, and state unemployment tax)
- Sales and use tax

[Business Insurance](#)



Prepare yourself financially

It is crucial to separate business finances from personal ones, so open a business bank account. Most banks require company details, such as formation date, business type, and owner names and addresses. If your business is not incorporated, most banks will require a DBA (doing business as or fictitious business name). Contact your bank about requirements prior to opening an account.

[Financial Planning Help](#)



Arrange your business accounting and apply for loans.

You may want to use an accountant, or handle finances yourself with a small business accounting solution. Either way, properly account for all business disbursements, payments received, invoices, accounts receivable/accounts payable, etc. And if you don't have enough capital to start a business, this is also the time to seek funding from banks or through Small Business Administration (SBA) loan programs.

[Consult an area lender](#)

[How to qualify for a loan](#)

[Sample Loan Proposal](#)

[Loan Checklist](#)



Establish a business line of credit.

This will help reduce the number of times your company prepays for purchased products and services. It also helps establish a strong credit history, which is

[Establishing Credit Help](#)

helpful for vendor and supplier relationships. Getting a Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) DUNS (or D-U-N-S) number for your business is advisable, as it is often used to check business creditworthiness.



I Want... About Social Media Testimonials



space. Don't forget to purchase or lease furniture and office equipment to get your business up and running.

People who can help.

[Flagler County Department of Economic Opportunity](#)

www.FlaglerCountyEDC.com

Economic development is a priority for Flagler County, and the reason why the Flagler County Department of Economic Opportunity (FCDEO) and a nine-person economic development advisory council were created in early 2012. The mission of the Department of Economic Opportunity is to facilitate the expansion and diversification of the County's economic base with targeted businesses that provide sustainable employment opportunities for its residents.

For more information contact: Helga van Eckert, Executive Director at 386-313-4071 or hvaneckert@flaglercountyedc.com.

[SCORE](#)

SCORE is a volunteer organization of retired business executives dedicated to helping small businesses owners and those wishing to start businesses. Along with free counseling on all aspects of ownership, SCORE hosts free programs and workshops.

To set up a counseling appointment, contact Volusia/Flagler SCORE Chapter 87 at 386-255-6889, call the Chamber at 386.437.0106 or visit www.score87.org.

[Palm Coast Business Assistance Center](#)

The Palm Coast Business Assistance Center was started in 2011 through a unique partnership between the City of Palm Coast and the University of Central Florida Small Business Development Center. The Center's mission is to help local businesses grow by offering counseling and personalized services.

Appointments can be scheduled by
calling 386-986-2499.
Monday through Friday 8AMto 5PM.

[CareerSource Flagler Volusia](#)

CareerSource Flagler Volusia offers comprehensive recruiting assistance and training reimbursement programs that offset the costs of hiring and developing the skills of new and existing employees for all area businesses. In-depth labor market statistics, help with major recruiting events and , in the case of retrenchment, lay-off assistance is available. To learn how these costs saving programs can help your business,

Visit
www.careersourcefv.com or call 386-323-7079.