

# Start Your Business

## Steps to Starting Your Business

**Business Start-Up Guide:** A comprehensive guide for obtaining general information to start a business in Fresno County. The EDD provides information on legal requirements, financing options, site selection, and assistance with tax incentives.

Contact: Economic Development Dept. (EDD)  
2600 Fresno St., Room 3076  
Fresno, CA 93721  
559/621-8350  
[www.fresnostartup.com](http://www.fresnostartup.com)

## SCORE – Counselors to America’s Small Businesses

Score provides FREE and confidential one-on-one business consulting for interested individuals. They have volunteer counselors with experience and expertise that can help you grow your current business or pursue your dreams of business ownership. They offer face-to-face counseling, telephone counseling, and internet counseling.

National: [www.score.org](http://www.score.org)

Contact: Central Valley SCORE Office:  
801 R. Street, Ste. 201  
Fresno, CA 93712  
559/487-5605 ext. 2718

## Additional Steps to Starting Your Business

- Register your business name. Also known as Fictitious Business Name.  
Contact: Fresno County Clerk  
2221 Kern St.  
Fresno, CA 93721  
559/488-3003
- Federal Employers Identification Number. Number used to identify a business,  
Contact: Internal Revenue Service  
2525 Capitol St.  
Fresno, CA 93721  
859/454-6671 or 800/829-1040
- State Employer Identification Number.  
Contact: Employment Development Dept.  
Sacramento, CA 94280  
916/654-8706  
[www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov)
- Corporate Certificate to incorporate your business  
Contact: California Secretary of State  
1500 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916/653-6814

- Sales Tax Permits. State Sales and Use Tax is imposed on all retail sales, leases and rentals of most goods, as well as taxable service.  
Contact: CA Board of Equalization  
Fresno Branch  
8050 North Palm Ave., Suite 205  
Fresno, CA 93711  
559/248-4219
- Certificate of Occupancy. Needed in order to open your business in the City.  
Contact: *Ruth Walters*  
City of Reedley  
1733 Ninth St.  
Reedley, CA 93654  
559/637-4200 ext. 225  
[ruthwalters@reedley.ca.gov](mailto:ruthwalters@reedley.ca.gov)
- Health Permit. Pertaining to the handling, processing, packaging and warehousing of food products.  
Contact: Fresno County Health and Environmental Dept.  
1221 Fulton, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Fresno, CA 93721  
559/600-3357
- Copyright. Contact the United States Copyright Office @ 202/707-3000
- Liquor License. Pertaining to the sale, transportation, or storage of alcoholic beverages.  
Contact: *Christine Weldon*  
The California Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control  
3640 E. Ashland Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93726  
559/225-6334  
[FSO.direct@abc.ca.gov](mailto:FSO.direct@abc.ca.gov)

### Local, State & Federal Business Resources

- **Reedley Downtown Association** – The RDA works for the vital downtown and promotes Reedley Businesses while working with various organizations and the City of Reedley on community activities and projects, tourism, the downtown façade program and the River City Theatre Corporation in the Historic Opera House. Contact: [info@reedleydowntown.com](mailto:info@reedleydowntown.com) or call 559/638-5484
- **Small Business Association:** offers information on SB loans, grants, bonds, and other financial assistance. Call to speak with a representative @ 559/487-5791
- **Office of the Governor, Business & Economic Development**  
Contact: *Governor Jerry Brown*  
C/O State Capitol, Ste 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916/445-2841  
<http://www.business.ca.gov>

