

COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE SUPPORTS STATE BUSINESSES

The Secretary of State's Office is a valuable resource for Colorado businesses, providing a number of services that support Coloradans as they start and maintain a business in the state.

Supporting Colorado Businesses

The Colorado Secretary of State's office maintains a registry of business filings though its <u>Business Filing</u> <u>System</u>, one of the easiest and most affordable systems in the country.

- The office has records for nearly 800,000 businesses in good standing, over 250,000 trade names, over 14,000 trademarks, and processes an average of 2,737 filings a day.
- The system features:
 - 24/7 Online Filing
 - Free online services such as Certificates of Good Standing and Certified copy of filed documents
 - Free business and registered agent searches
 - Trade Name and Trademark filing

The office is currently conducting a Business Filing System Rewrite, a multi-year project designed to enhance the overall Business System. Recent enhancements include:

- Easier creation of new Limited Liability Companies (LLCs)
- Text Notifications for filing reminders
- Secure Business Filing (SBF) to help prevent ID theft
- Address verification

eLearning Modules are made available free of charge to CDOS website customers to assist in filing documents and managing registry information. Current modules include:

- Starting a business in Colorado
- What's next for my new business?
- Secure business filing
- Learn about business data
- Statement of foreign entity authority (SOFEA) filing

Supporting Notaries, Charities, Bingo Raffle

The office provides online <u>application processing and training</u> to become a notary and/or remote notary. There are over 80,000 notaries commissioned through the office. The system:

- Allows online approval for remote notary providers
- Authenticates notarized documents (apostilles)

The Colorado Department of State Charities Program provides a database that allows the public to easily search charities for compliance status and history and provides a tax check off list.

- The Charities Program also sends out wise giving tips throughout the year around Colorado
 Gives Day and other holidays in which charitable giving is increased as well as in response to
 emergency situations for which charitable donations may be solicited.
- The program also publishes an annual report providing valuable data for potential donors and researchers.

Online Services including training are also available for notaries, and other programs such as <u>Charities</u> and <u>Bingo Raffle</u>.

Uniform Commercial Code

The office's award-winning <u>UCC System</u> allows online filing of commercial liens, free searches, and provides effective financing statements for agricultural liens. Over 130,000 UCC Filings are processed by the system annually.

Administrative Rules System

Businesses can easily search the office's award-winning <u>Administrative Rules system</u> that sorts applicable rules by topic or agency. It also allows the opportunity to provide feedback for proposed rulemaking.

Business Intelligence Center (BIC)

BIC's goal is to support the advancement of Colorado businesses by providing the freshest public data, insight and tools, across several focus areas. The Business Intelligence Center (BIC) makes Business Data available on the <u>Colorado Information Marketplace (CIM)</u>. This data is curated to be used for business decision-making, data analysis, and coding.

- Go Code Colorado features two competitions, the Business Opportunities Challenge and the Business Solutions Challenge, in which teams across the state use publicly available data to develop solutions for issues impacting Colorado businesses.
- MyBizColorado is the State of Colorado's award-winning system designed to interact with
 multiple state agencies responsible for new business creation. The Secretary of State's office, in
 addition to the Colorado Governor's office, provided leadership during development and
 implementation. MyBizColorado is a user friendly, intuitive and more expedient way to register
 a business and obtain the necessary licenses and permits. Over 90,000 Colorado businesses have
 utilized MyBiz.Colorado.Gov to start a business. The service includes registrations for:
 - Business Entity Formation
 - Sales-tax licenses
 - Employee wage withholding
 - Unemployment insurance

Have questions? <u>Give us a call!</u>
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