

How to Form an LLC in Colorado Yourself (2026 Costs and Steps)

A free step-by-step guide from BusinessOwner.com. State information verified from official sources on September 17, 2026.

Quick answer

The cost to file is \$50. File your Articles of Organization with the Colorado Secretary of State at [file online with the Secretary of State](#).

Step 1: Check that your LLC name is available

Search the Colorado Secretary of State's business name records before filing to check whether your desired name is available.

Step 2: Choose a registered agent

You may serve as your own registered agent if you are an individual aged 18 or older with a primary residence or usual place of business in Colorado, and you hold a current Colorado driver's license or state ID card, or otherwise verify residency with the Secretary of State. An entity in good standing with a usual place of business in Colorado may also serve as its own registered agent. The appointee must consent.

Step 3: File your Articles of Organization

File your Articles of Organization online with the Colorado Secretary of State. The filing fee is \$50, and Articles of Organization can only be filed online.

Step 4: Create an operating agreement

Create an operating agreement that covers ownership percentages, member roles and responsibilities, voting procedures, and what happens if a member leaves the LLC.

Step 5: Get your EIN from the IRS

Get your Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS. This service is free. Visit <https://www.irs.gov/ein>.

Step 6: Keep your LLC in good standing

File a Periodic Report annually with the Secretary of State. The first report is due no later than

the last day of the second calendar month following the first anniversary of the month the articles became effective. Subsequent reports are due annually thereafter. The fee for the Periodic Report is \$25 online. A late filing penalty of \$50 applies.

Frequently asked questions

How much does it cost to form an LLC in Colorado?

The filing fee is \$50.

Do I need to publish my LLC formation in a newspaper?

No, there is no newspaper publication requirement for LLC formation in Colorado.

When is the first Periodic Report due?

The first report is due no later than the last day of the second calendar month following the first anniversary of the month the articles became effective.

Can I serve as my own registered agent?

Yes, if you are an individual aged 18 or older with a primary residence or usual place of business in Colorado, and you hold a current Colorado driver's license or state ID card, or otherwise verify residency with the Secretary of State. An entity in good standing with a usual place of business in Colorado may also serve as its own registered agent.

Want us to file it for you? \$249 plus state fees.

Want the whole business set up? Book a call with BusinessOwner.com.

Sources

Official sources, last verified September 17, 2026:

- [www.coloradosos.gov: fileAForm.html](https://www.coloradosos.gov/pubs/business/fileAForm.html)
<https://www.coloradosos.gov/pubs/business/fileAForm.html>
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- [HB26-1088 Business Entity Filing Secretary of State | Colorado General Assembly](https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/HB26-1088)
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- [Business Organizations Fee Schedule](https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/info_center/fees/business.html)
https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/info_center/fees/business.html
- [IRS: Get an employer identification number](#)

<https://www.irs.gov/ein>

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