

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

A free step-by-step guide from BusinessOwner.com. State information verified from official sources on September 15, 2026.

Quick answer

The cost to file an LLC in Kentucky is \$40 when you file online with the [Kentucky Secretary of State, Division of Business Filings](#). You may also file by mail for the same fee.

Step 1: Check that your LLC name is available

Search the Kentucky Secretary of State's business name records to confirm your desired name is available before filing.

Step 2: Choose a registered agent

Your registered agent may be an individual resident of Kentucky, a Kentucky entity, or an authorized foreign entity. The registered office must be the Kentucky street address where the agent is located; a P.O. box is not allowed. The agent must sign a written consent.

Step 3: File your Articles of Organization - Limited Liability Company (Form KLC)

File the Articles of Organization - Limited Liability Company (Form KLC) with the [Kentucky Secretary of State, Division of Business Filings](#). The filing fee is \$40 for both online and mail filings.

Step 4: Create an operating agreement

Create an operating agreement that covers ownership structure, member roles, voting rights, and procedures for what happens if a member leaves.

Step 5: Get your EIN from the IRS

Get your Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS. The EIN is free from the IRS. You can apply at <https://www.irs.gov/ein>.

Step 6: Keep your LLC in good standing

File an Annual Report with a \$15 filing fee between January 1 and June 30 each year, starting

the calendar year after formation. Domestic entities that miss the June 30 deadline are administratively dissolved.

Kentucky imposes the Limited Liability Entity Tax (LLET) on businesses with limited liability, including LLCs. If total gross receipts or total gross profits are \$3 million or less, the LLC pays the \$175 minimum LLET to the Kentucky Department of Revenue. Larger businesses compute it on Kentucky gross receipts/profits. This tax is separate from the SOS annual report.

Frequently asked questions

How much does it cost to file an LLC in Kentucky?

The filing fee is \$40. The total state cost to file online is \$40.

When is the first annual report due?

The first annual report is due between January 1 and June 30 of the year after formation.

What is the Limited Liability Entity Tax (LLET)?

Kentucky imposes the LLET on businesses with limited liability. If total gross receipts or total gross profits are \$3 million or less, the LLC pays the \$175 minimum LLET. Larger businesses compute it on Kentucky gross receipts/profits.

Can I serve as my own registered agent in Kentucky?

Yes, if you are an individual resident of Kentucky. The registered agent may also be a Kentucky entity or an authorized foreign entity. The registered office must be the Kentucky street address where the agent is located; a P.O. box is not allowed. The agent must sign a written consent.

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 15, 2026:

- [Home Page](https://web.sos.ky.gov/FastTrack/NewBusiness.aspx)
<https://web.sos.ky.gov/FastTrack/NewBusiness.aspx>
- [Fees - Secretary of State](https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/Fees.aspx)
<https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/Fees.aspx>
- [Business Filings Information - Secretary of State](https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/default.aspx)
<https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/default.aspx>
- [Annual Reports - Secretary of State](https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/Annual-Reports.aspx)
<https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/business-filings/Pages/Annual-Reports.aspx>
- [web.sos.ky.gov: KLC-Articles of Organization-Profit Limited Liability Company.pdf](#)

<https://web.sos.ky.gov/forms/corp/KLC-Articles%20of%20Organization-Profit%20Limited%20Liability%20Company.pdf>

- [Business Forms Library - Secretary of State](#)

<https://www.sos.ky.gov/bus/Forms/Pages/default.aspx>

- [Home Page](#)

<https://web.sos.ky.gov/fasttrack/default.aspx>

- [Corporation Income and Limited Liability Entity Tax - Department of Revenue](#)

<https://revenue.ky.gov/Business/Corporation-Income-and-Limited-Liability-Entity-Tax/Pages/default.aspx>

- [IRS: Get an employer identification number](#)

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

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