

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

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

Fee change: some state fees change on October 1, 2026. This guide shows the fee through September 30, 2026 and the fee from October 1, 2026, with the official source for each.

Quick answer

The filing fee, whether you file online or by mail, is \$100 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$125 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). That fee is for filing the Articles of Organization, which you file together with the Initial Report with the Louisiana Secretary of State.

Step 1: Check that your LLC name is available

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

Step 2: Choose a registered agent

An LLC must maintain a registered office in Louisiana and at least one registered agent. A registered agent may be a citizen of the state who resides in Louisiana, so a resident member may serve. The initial report must give the agent's full name and municipal address, if any (not a P.O. box only) and include the agent's notarized affidavit of acknowledgment and acceptance.

Step 3: File your Articles of Organization and Initial Report

File your Articles of Organization and Initial Report with the Louisiana Secretary of State. The fee for filing the Articles of Organization, whether you file online or by mail, is \$100 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$125 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). Louisiana law sets general Secretary of State special fees for expedited service. Expedited "while you wait" service is \$50 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$60 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). Expedited twenty-four-hour service is \$30 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$35 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). These are general fees, not LLC-specific, so confirm with the Secretary of State whether they apply to your filing.

Step 4: Create an operating agreement

Create an operating agreement to outline the internal structure of your LLC. This document typically covers ownership percentages, member and manager roles, voting rights, and procedures for what happens if a member leaves or if the company needs to be dissolved.

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 on or before the anniversary date of organization each year. The Annual Report fee is \$30 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$35 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). R.S. 12:1308.1 requires this report to list the registered office, registered agents and managers/members.

Frequently asked questions

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

The filing fee, whether you file online or by mail, is \$100 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$125 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). The Annual Report fee is \$30 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$35 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)).

Can I serve as my own registered agent in Louisiana?

Yes. An LLC must maintain a registered office in Louisiana and at least one registered agent, who may be a citizen of the state who resides in Louisiana. The initial report must give the agent's full name and municipal address, if any (not a P.O. box only) and include the agent's notarized affidavit of acknowledgment and acceptance.

When is the initial report due?

The Initial Report is due when filed with the articles of organization.

What expedited services are available for filing?

Louisiana law sets general Secretary of State special fees for expedited service. Expedited "while you wait" service is \$50 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$60 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). Expedited twenty-four-hour service is \$30 through September 30, 2026 ([R.S. 49:222](#)) and \$35 from October 1, 2026 ([Act 921 of 2026](#)). These are general fees, not LLC-specific, so confirm with the Secretary of State whether they apply to your filing.

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:

- [Louisiana Laws - Louisiana State Legislature \(www.legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx\)](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx)
<https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx?d=76322>
- [Louisiana Laws - Louisiana State Legislature \(legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx\)](https://legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx?d=103670>
- [Louisiana Laws - Louisiana State Legislature \(legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx\)](https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=76252>
- [Louisiana Laws - Louisiana State Legislature \(legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx\)](https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=76255>
- [Louisiana Laws - Louisiana State Legislature \(legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx\)](https://legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/legis/Law.aspx?d=76256>
- [legis.la.gov: ViewDocument.aspx](https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1481829>
- [HB908](https://legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx)
<https://legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx?s=26RS&b=HB908&sbi=y>
- [IRS: Get an employer identification number](https://www.irs.gov/ein)
<https://www.irs.gov/ein>

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