

How to Form an LLC in Michigan 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 filing fee is \$50 whether you file online or by mail. File your Articles of Organization with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).

Step 1: Check that your LLC name is available

Search the agency's business name records before filing.

Step 2: Choose a registered agent

Michigan calls it a resident agent. It may be an individual resident in Michigan whose business office or residence is identical with the LLC's registered office in Michigan (so a resident member may serve), or a qualifying corporation or LLC. You can be your own registered agent if you meet these criteria.

Step 3: File your Articles of Organization

File your Articles of Organization with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). The filing fee is \$50 whether you file online or by mail. If you need faster processing, expedite options are available for additional fees:

- Within 24 hours (formation document): \$50
- Same day (formation document): \$100
- Within 2 hours, same day: \$500
- Within 1 hour, same day: \$1,000

For the same-day, 2-hour and 1-hour options, the department may set a submission deadline.

Step 4: Create an operating agreement

Create an operating agreement that covers ownership, roles, voting, and 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 Statement of resident agent and registered office annually. The fee is \$25.00 through September 30, 2027, and \$15.00 if paid after September 30, 2027. The statement is due by February 15 each year. If an LLC is formed after September 30, it skips the February 15 immediately following formation.

Frequently asked questions

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

The filing fee is \$50 whether you file online or by mail.

When is the annual report due?

The Annual Statement of resident agent and registered office is due by February 15 each year. An LLC formed after September 30 skips the February 15 immediately following formation.

Can I serve as my own registered agent in Michigan?

Yes. Michigan calls it a resident agent. It may be an individual resident in Michigan whose business office or residence is identical with the LLC's registered office in Michigan, or a qualifying corporation or LLC.

What are the expedited filing options?

Expedited options include processing within 24 hours (\$50), same day (\$100), within 2 hours same day (\$500), and within 1 hour same day (\$1,000). For the same-day, 2-hour and 1-hour options, the department may set a submission deadline.

How much is the annual report fee?

The fee is \$25.00 through September 30, 2027, and \$15.00 if paid after September 30, 2027.

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:

- [MCL - Section 450.4102 - Michigan Legislature](https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4102)
<https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4102>

- [MCL - Section 450.5101 - Michigan Legislature](https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-5101)
<https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-5101>
- [MCL - Section 450.4104 - Michigan Legislature](https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4104)
<https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4104>
- [MCL - Section 450.4202 - Michigan Legislature](https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4202)
<https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4202>
- [MCL - Section 450.4207 - Michigan Legislature](https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4207)
<https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=mcl-450-4207>
- [IRS: Get an employer identification number](https://www.irs.gov/ein)
<https://www.irs.gov/ein>

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