Doing
BUSINESS in
Franklin County, NC

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Welcome to Franklin County, NC – where business is thriving and new residents are arriving every day.

Franklin County, NC continues to lead the Greater Research Triangle Region as the fastest-growing county since 2022 and ranks as the second fastest-growing county in North Carolina since 2024. It's a place where your business can grow, thanks to streamlined permitting and zoning processes, a supportive community, and a steadily expanding customer base.

We understand that starting or expanding a business presents numerous challenges. That's why we've created this guide to help you navigate the process with confidence. Inside, you'll find key information on how to start a business in Franklin County, NC, including details on licensing, permitting, and zoning requirements at both the state and local levels. You'll also find valuable contacts and resources to support your success.

We invite you to explore Franklin County, NC's vibrant business community, connect with our chambers of commerce and networking groups, and discover the opportunities waiting here. As you move forward, we encourage you to reach out to the municipal offices where your business will be located, as well as the Franklin County Economic Development team – we're here to help.

Thank you for considering Franklin County, NC, as the home for your business. We are excited to welcome you!

Living and Working in Franklin County, NC
Growing Business – Strengthening Community

Franklin County, NC, is strategically located within North Carolina's talent-rich Research Triangle Region—home to the Research Triangle Park (RTP) and three world-renowned research universities: Duke University, North Carolina State University (NCSU), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC).

This thriving region's exceptional quality of life and strong economic foundation continue to attract top-tier talent and innovative companies from around the globe. Franklin County, NC, offers the best of all worlds. Nestled in one of the most dynamic economic corridors in the country, our community provides a wealth of opportunities for business, employment, and leisure.

Whether you're looking to grow your business or enjoy a well-rounded lifestyle, Franklin County, NC, is ready to welcome you.

In Franklin County, You'll Enjoy:
Lifestyle and Recreation

- Golfing, pickleball, tennis, water sports, kayaking, hiking and walking trails, camping, and even skydiving.
- A vibrant equestrian community with scenic riding trails, year-round events, and a popular annual rodeo each June.

Cultural and Social Amenities:

- Local Downtown corridors and several shopping centers featuring a diverse range of dining and shopping options
- Local art performances, galleries, local museums, and historical sites are available throughout the year.
- Numerous festivals, including the Flying G Farms Rodeo, Louisburg's Barbeque in the Burg, Youngsville's Summerfest, Bunn's Family Day, and Franklinton's Funkytown Festival, are all great family-friendly events.

Connectivity and Accessibility:

- Franklin County, NC's central location offers convenient access to both North Carolina's pristine beaches and scenic mountains, each just a three-hour drive away. Nearby destinations like Clarksville, Williamsburg, and Richmond, VA, also make for easy and enjoyable weekend getaways.
- The County's connectivity is boosted by a network of State and U.S. Highways (1, 401, and 64), placing residents and visitors within easy reach of I-540, I-440, I-40, I-85, and I-95.

DISCOVER THE CHARM, CULTURE, & ADVENTURE IN

FRANKLIN COUNTY, NC

Welcome to Franklin County

Nestled in the heart of North Carolina, Franklin County offers a blend of rich history, vibrant culture, and natural beauty. From serene parks to lively festivals, there's something for every traveler to enjoy.

Must-See Attractions

- Historic Downtown Louisburg
- Hill Ridge Farms (Youngsville)
- Tar River Life (Bunn)
- Downtown Franklinton
- Southern Magnolia Coffee Co. (Bunn)
- The Carolina Manor House (Franklinton)
- Skydive Raleigh (Franklinton)
- Hardly Farms (Louisburg)
- Portis Gold Mine (Louisburg)
- Alan D. Hart Botanical Gardens (Louisburg)
- Owens Park & Joyner Park
- Triangle North Executive Airport
- Barrett's Produce (Youngsville)

Signature Events

- First Fridays in Franklinton
- Friday Nights on the Tar (Louisburg)
- Youngsville Summerfest
- Bunn Fun Day
- Flying G Farms Rodeo (Louisburg)
- Annual NC Horse Farm Tour (29 years)
- Dinner In the Meadow (Louisburg)
- BBQ in the Burg (Louisburg)
- Frankenfest (Franklinton)
- Holiday Markets & Parades (County-wide)

Economic Impact of Tourism

Visitor Spending: In 2023, tourism brought in $42.15 million, marking a 10.6% increase from the previous year.

Franklin County
NORTH CAROLINA
A Research Triangle Region Community
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FRANKLIN COUNTY
TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PLAN YOUR VISIT: For more information visit www.franklincountync.gov

Franklin County, NC – County Map

Three interstates and other major highways connect Franklin County, NC with major East Coast markets and the largest manufacturing corridor in the United States.

Nearby Raleigh-Durham International Airport, as well as two major ports located less than two hours away, connect Franklin County, NC companies, people and goods to the world.

Franklin County, NC – Fast Facts

Franklin County is the fastest-growing county in the Research Triangle Region since 2022 and is the second fastest County in the State of North Carolina.

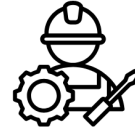**"Fastest Growing County in the Greater Triangle Region."**

Triangle Business Journal

$ 73,182

Median House Hold Income

NC Department of Commerce

1.5 Million

60 Mile Labor Force

ESRI

~80,000

Population

NC Department of Commerce

3rd in NC

Overall Proficiency Composite for Assessments

NC Dept. of Education

41

Median Age

NC Department of Commerce

Updated September 2024

How to Start a New Business in Franklin County, NC

1. **Determine Business Structure: Corporation, LLC, or Sole Proprietorship.**

2. **Obtain a <u>U.S. Federal Employer Identification Number</u>.** This is critical for federal tax reporting and federal tax compliance with IRS.

3. **<u>Register Business Legal Entity Name and DBA if applicable Name</u> with the North Carolina Department of State**

4. **Obtain the applicable state business license, permit, or other registration.**

Visit the <u>NC Business and Occupational License Database</u> and the <u>NC Government Professional Licenses & Permits</u> to determine the licenses, permits, or registrations required for your business.

5. **Register your business with the <u>North Carolina Department of Revenue.</u>**

6. **Create your Payroll Tax Account with the <u>North Carolina Department of Commerce.</u>**

7. Determine when to submit the Quarterly Tax and Wage Report (Form NCUI 101).

Employers are required to file the Quarterly Tax and Wage Report (Form NCUI 101) for each quarter, beginning with the quarter in which employment begins. Tax must be paid on each employee's wages up to the taxable wage base for each calendar year. Quarterly wages must be reported for each employee by name and Social Security number. Correct and complete Social Security numbers are required to properly record wages

The Quarterly Report is used to report wage and tax information. Liable employers will need to file the report online if they have 10 or more employee wage items.

8. Determine when you need to pay unemployment insurance taxes.

You are required to pay taxes if you are:
- A general business employer with a gross payroll of at least $1,500 in any calendar quarter or with at least one worker in 20 different weeks during a calendar year.
- An employer who acquires all or any portion of a liable business in North Carolina.
- An employer who voluntarily elects to become liable regardless of not meeting the required criteria.
- An employer subject to the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, 26 U.S.C. § 3301 et seq.
- A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with at least four workers in 20 different calendar weeks during a calendar year.
- An employer with agricultural labor of 10 or more workers on any day during 20 different calendar weeks in a calendar year, or with $20,000 or more in gross payroll for any calendar quarter.
- An employer with domestic employment in a private home, college club, fraternity, or sorority with a gross payroll of at least $1,000 in any calendar quarter.
- An employment service company that contracts to supply individuals to perform employment services for clients or customers.
- Any Indian Tribe as defined in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act.

9. Register for the <u>New Hire Program</u> through the North Carolina Department of Revenue.

10. Sales and Use Taxes. <u>Sales and Use Tax | NCDOR</u>. If you sell retail goods and taxable services, you must obtain a Sales & Use Tax permit and collect and submit those amounts to the State monthly. **This includes internet sales.**

11. <u>Lease or Rental of Tangible Personal Property:</u> This applies to non-real estate assets owned by the business. For example, furniture, tools, equipment, computers, etc. This tax is due by April 1 each year; you are liable for tax on the assessed value of the assets filed on the Department of Revenue Form DR-405.
Companies are required to pay local County Property tax and Business Personal Property tax.

12. <u>Property Tax:</u> The three main elements of the property tax system in North Carolina are real property, personal property, and motor vehicles.

13. <u>ABC Commission:</u> If serving alcohol, establishments are subject to special permits. Check in advance of opening

14. <u>Register Your Business</u> in Franklin County, including home-based businesses, with the Municipality in which your business resides.
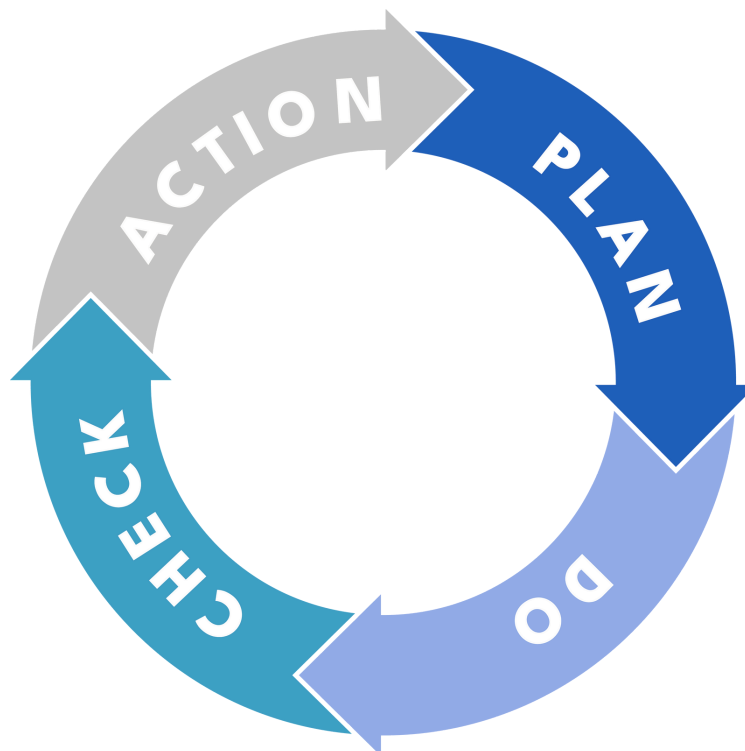
Other Items You May Need For Your Business

- General Liability Insurance

- Workers' Compensation Insurance

- Property, Auto, and Health Insurance

- Cyber Security Insurance

- Bonding: Certain service and contracting industries require this.

- Accounting and Legal Services

- Business Equipment & Product Insurance

Business Continuity Planning (BCP) & Disaster Preparation

Franklin County, NC, wants to help businesses plan for natural disasters and prepare to act quickly so that recovery is faster. Having a business continuity plan is essential. Developing a continuity plan includes the following four steps:

1. Conduct a business impact analysis to identify time-sensitive or critical business functions, processes, and resources that support them.

2. Identify, document, and implement to recover critical business functions and processes.

3. Organize a business continuity team and develop a continuity plan to manage any business disruption.

4. Conduct training for the business continuity team, testing, and exercises to evaluate the recovery strategies for the plan.

Business Impact Analysis (BIA)

- Develop a questionnaire.
- Conduct a workshop to instruct business function and process managers on how to complete the BIA.
- Receive completed BIA questionnaire forms.
- Review BIA questionnaire forms.
- Conduct follow-up interviews to validate information and fill
- any information gaps.

Recover Strategies

- Identify and document resource requirements based on BIAs.
- Conduct a gap analysis to determine gaps between recovery requirements and current capabilities.
- Explore recovery strategy options.
- Select recovery strategies with management approval.
- Implement strategies.

Plan Development

- Develop a plan framework.
- Organize recovery teams.
- Develop Relocation Plans.
- Write a Business continuity and IT disaster recovery procedure.
- Document manual workarounds.
- Assemble a plan, validate, and gain management approval.

Testing and Exercises

- Develop testing, exercise, and maintenance requirements.
- Conduct orientation exercises.
- Conduct testing and document results.
- Update BCP to incorporate lessons learned from testing and exercises.

Create a comprehensive business continuity plan (BCP), update it yearly, and keep a copy of it at a secure off-site location. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, the following items should be considered:

Suppliers

- Maintain a current contact list of all suppliers.
- Determine how **they** plan to supply you if the supplier experiences a disaster.
- Maintain a current list of alternate suppliers.

Employees

- Document each employee's function and emergency contact information.
- Decide who is in charge when regular managers are unavailable.
- Document all office processes that make your business run, from answering the phones to tracking finances, to distributing your product or service.
- Train your employees on the plan.
- Create a phone tree and designate individuals who will initiate the communication process.
- Establish a single spokesperson to speak to the media and to the public, identify an internal shelter in the event you must "shelter-in-place."

Customers

- Identify the possibility that customers will be present if a disaster occurs.
- Keep a copy of your customers' records off-site and back up digital records regularly.
- Establish an alternative location where you can contact your customers during recovery.

Equipment

- Maintain an inventory of all equipment used by your business.
- Keep a record of all receipts for equipment and supplies, and keep them off-site.
- Take photos of all equipment and record serial and model numbers.
- Maintain maintenance records and warranties.

Property

- Know where all utility shut-off valves and switches are located and how to operate them.
- Confirm your facility meets all local building and fire codes.
- Ensure compliant cybersecurity protocols for your records and for your customers.

Records

- Develop and maintain a schedule for backing up all computer records.
- Maintain computer software updates.

Insurance

- Meet regularly with your insurance agent to ensure you have the proper amount of coverage and knowledge of how to quickly file a claim.
- Consider an insurance policy that will reimburse you for business interruptions in addition to physical losses.
- Consider cybersecurity insurance.
  You may be liable for confidential information being hacked.

Preparing For a Natural Disaster

- Have a cash reserve.

- Establish a reserve fund for a disaster.

- Maintain a list of expenses related to the emergency.

- Take photos and a video of your business location, equipment in place, and the outside of the building, before the disaster occurs.

- Contact your suppliers to learn about their disaster recovery plans.

- Contact your customers to inform them about your recovery plan.

- Identify your essential functions that must be maintained during and after a disaster.

- Establish your backup location to run your business operations in case your primary location is damaged.

- Determine how to re-route incoming phone calls to the business.

Franklin County, NC – Municipal Contacts

Town of Bunn

Phone: 919-496-2992
Email: townofbunn@townofbunn.org
601 Main St.
PO Box 398,
Bunn, NC 27508

Town of Louisburg

Phone: 919-496-3406
Email: N/A
110 W Nash St.
Louisburg, NC 27549

Town of Franklinton

Phone: 919-494-2520
Email: lchandler@franklintonnc.gov
101 N. Main St.
Franklinton, NC 27525

Franklinton Planning & Inspections

Phone: 919-339-0261
Email: cgeorge@franklintonnc.gov
101 N. Main St.
Franklinton, NC 27525

Town of Youngsville

Phone: 919-925-3401
Email: N/A
134 US-1A S
PO Box 190
Youngsville, NC 27596

Youngsville Planning & Zoning

Phone: 919-925-3401 Ext. 3
Email: lgarcia@youngsvillenc.gov
134 US-1A S
PO Box 190
Youngsville, NC 27596

Youngsville Property Taxes

Phone: 919-925-3401 Ext. 2
Email: ehurd@youngsvillenc.gov or

rbozeadams@youngsvillenc.gov

Franklin County, NC Contacts

Administration

Phone: 919-496-5994

113 Market St.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Economic Development

Phone: 919-554-1863

105 S. Bickett Blvd.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Planning & Inspections

Phone: 919-496-2281 (Inspections)

       919-496-2909 (Planning)

127 S. Bickett Blvd.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Public Utilities

Phone: 919-556-6177

1630 US 1 North

Youngsville, NC 27596

Tax Office

Phone: 919-496-2172

127 S. Bickett Blvd.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Triangle North Executive Airport

Phone: 919-496-1234

440 Airport Rd.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Cooperative Extension

Phone: 919-496-3344

103 S Bickett Blvd.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Solid Waste

Phone: 919-340-4670

5 Landfill Rd.

Franklinton, NC 27525

Fire Marshal

Phone: 919-496-5005

111 Industrial Dr.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Library

Phone: 919-496-2111

906 N. Main St.

Louisburg, NC 27549

Agency Contacts Serving Franklin County, NC

Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

Richie Veverka, Director
Phone: 919-496-3056
Email: rveverka@franklin-chamber.org

Northeast Franklin Revitalization Group

Rex Foster, Director
Phone: 919-210-2044

KerrTar Council of Governments

Desiree Brooks, Community & Economic Development
dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org

Lou Grillo, Workforce Development
lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org

Lisa Holland, Business Services Mng.
lholland@kerrtarcog.org

Franklinton Chamber of Commerce

Phone: 919-494-2520
Email: franklintonchamber@gmail.com

Vance Granville Community College Small Business Center

Carolyn Perry, Director
Phone: 252-738-3240
Email: perryc@vgcc.edu

North Carolina (NC) State Agency Contacts

NC Secretary of State

Phone: 919-814-5400
Email: corpinfo@sosnc.gov
2 South Salisbury St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

NC Department of Commerce

Phone: 919-814-4600
Email: N/A
310 N Wilmington St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

NC Department of Revenue

Phone: 919-707-0880
Email: N/A
4701 Atlantic Ave.,
Suite 118,
Raleigh, NC 27604

Economic Development Partnership of NC

Phone: 919-447-7777
Email: N/A
150 Fayetteville St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

NC Department of Agriculture

Phone: 919-707-3000
Email: N/A
1001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27599

NC Department of Labor

Phone: 1-800-625-2267
Email: N/A
4 W Edenton St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

NC Division of Employment Security

UI Employment Support Center:
866-278-3822

NC Military Business Center

Phone: 919-314-7317
Email: reena@ncmbc.us
10908 Chapel Hill Rd.
Office #332MC
Morrisville, NC 27560

Business Support Resources

EDPNC Small Business Advisors
Monday - Friday | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
sbadvisors@edpnc.com | 800-228-8443

A free service for anyone seeking to start a small business in North Carolina. Working in partnership with the NC Department of Commerce, they offer one-on-one phone consultations to those looking to start a small business, small business owners in need of general support, and entrepreneurs interested in moving to North Carolina.

El Centro Hispano
2000 Chapel Hill Rd, #26a, Durham, NC 27707 | 919-687-4635
421 Chapanoke Rd., Ste. 156, Raleigh, NC 27603 | 984-208-2158

The Economic Development division of El Centro Hispano aims to grow wealth, economic stability, and entrepreneurship among the Hispanic/Latino/Latinx community members and other underserved populations.

Prospera
4021 Carya Dr. #160, Raleigh, NC 27610 | 980-729-8273
contactNC@prosperausa.org

An economic development nonprofit organization specializing in providing bilingual assistance to Hispanic entrepreneurs trying to establish or expand their business. They offer a variety of services, especially designed for Hispanic small business owners, to empower them through training, consulting, grants, and access to capital.

SCORE

Has a nationwide network of more than 10,000 volunteers serving all 50 U.S. States and Territories, guiding entrepreneurs on their path to success in any industry for free.

Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC)
NC State University (NCSU)
801 Corporate Center Dr., Ste. 116, Raleigh, NC 27607
919-513-1500 | ncsu@sbtdc.org

North Carolina's leading resource for growing and developing businesses. They are a program of NCSU, and partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration. They also offer guides on how to start and fund your business.

U.S. Small Business Administration
Raleigh Office (virtual) Monday—Friday 8:00 am—4:30 pm
704-344-6563

Offers loans, counseling sessions, and other programs to support entrepreneurs. The SBA's Business Plan Tool provides a step-by-step guide to get your business started.

Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC)
Fayetteville-Cumberland Regional Entrepreneur & Business HUB
1073 Murchison Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28301
910-672-2683

A program designed to provide entrepreneurial development services, including business training, counseling, and resource partner referrals to transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard & Reserve members, and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business.

North Carolina for Military Employment (NC4ME)
info@nc4me.org

A comprehensive public-private partnership designed to make NC the number one state for military employment. NC4ME leverages existing workforce development resources and technology to implement an employer-centric strategy that educates business leaders on the value of hiring a military workforce; provides accredited human resource training; and connects employers with high-performing military talent.

Women's Small Business Center of NC

Monday—Friday 9:00 am—5:00 pm

114 W. Parrish St., Durham, NC 27701

919-956-2334 | wbcadmin@theinstitutenc.org

Aims to promote economic self-sufficiency for all women in North Carolina through entrepreneurship. They empower women by offering tools and support to establish businesses, stabilize their companies, and generate sustainable profits, strategize for future growth, and contribute to the growth and economic development of the community.

North Carolina Chamber of Commerce

919-713-8901

info@nchispanicchamber.org

NC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

919-713-8901

info@nchispanicchamber.org

Office for Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)

Albermarle Building, 325 N Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27699

984-236-0130

Huboffice.doa@doa.nc.gov

United Minority Contractors of North Carolina

919-817-8626

info@umcnc.org

Notes

Franklin County, NC Economic Development
105 S. Bickett Blvd., Louisburg, NC 27549
Phone: 919-554-1863
🌐 **Discover Franklin County, NC**

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