

# **Establishing a Business**

The government's bizFIJI website (<a href="https://www.business-fiji.com/">https://www.business-fiji.com/</a>) is a good resource and starting point for understanding the registration requirements and processes that apply to your business.

### Registration, licensing, and certification requirements

The requirement to hold a business license was removed on 1 August 2020.

This does not mean that you can simply operate a business without seeking any permissions. You are still required to:

- Register your business name and/or company with the Registrar of Companies
- Register for a Tax Identification Number (TIN) and for relevant taxes with the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS)
- Acquire mandatory certifications for your business premises, including:
  - o a Fire Safety certificate from the National Fire Authority (NFA)
  - an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) certificate from the Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations
- Register as an employer with the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) and register any employee you hire
- Register for the Fiji National University (FNU) Levy if you are paying wages or directors fees to yourself and/or others
- Acquire certifications, permits or licences relevant to the location and nature of your business, such as:
  - o a health licence from the Ministry of Health
  - o a hotel licence from the Hotel Licensing Board
  - o a liquor licence from the Liquor Licensing Authority
  - o a Liquid Trade Waste Permit from the Water Authority of Fiji
  - o any required professional or practitioner registrations

If you are operating in a rural area, you should check with the responsible District Officer for any local requirements.

## Business risk categorisation

Low risk businesses can start operations immediately upon successful registration with the Registrar of Companies and FRCS. If you operate a low risk business you are granted 6 months to comply with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements.





High risk businesses cannot start operating until all the relevant legal and regulatory requirements are complied with.

To determine whether your business is high or low risk refer to the Business Risk Categorisation Table:

https://www.business-fiji.com/business-risk-categorisation-table

This table also provides a summary of the various licensing requirements for each category of business and is a good starting point for determining the requirements relating to your business.

### **Business advisory support**

For information or support you can visit the bizFIJI website (<a href="https://www.business-fiji.com">https://www.business-fiji.com</a>).

You can also contact any Companies offices at tat (+679) 331-2981 or <a href="mailto:support.roc@justice.gov.fj">support.roc@justice.gov.fj</a>.

Or you can contact the Business Advisory Officers at MSME Fiji within the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport on:

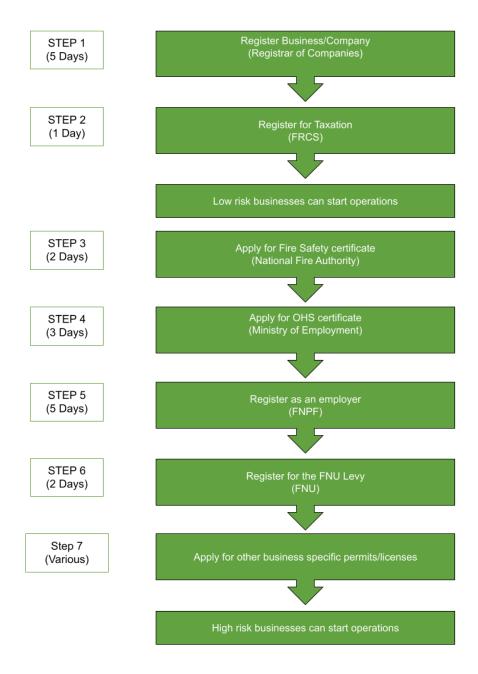
Central/Eastern Division +679 998 6503 or +679 990 7398

Western Division +679 990 4340 Northern Division +679 990 4337





## Process flow chart: Establishing a business



Note: The estimate of time is the stated turnaround time for each agency as stated on the bizFIJI portal or the agency's website. It does not include the time it will take for the business to prepare documentation, complete the application, or make arrangements for inspections.

