



Starting a business checklist

Starting your own business can be a great way to add income during retirement. Use the checklist below to help you get started and avoid potential mistakes that could be costly.

Determine what type of business to operate and research the business competition. Find a suitable location and think about advertising and marketing the business.

Select an attorney, an accountant and other needed advisors to handle the legal, labor/employment requirements, accounting and tax matters associated with the business start-up.

Create a business plan, a financial and management outline of your company.

Conduct a name availability search at the appropriate state office, searching under both an entity and an assumed business name (DBA).

Obtain from the appropriate state office sales tax certificates and any state tax ID numbers.

Secure property, liability and workers' compensation insurance for business premises, vehicles and other risk exposures as needed.

Working with the business's tax and accounting advisor, purchase bookkeeping, payroll, withholding and any other software that may be needed to operate the business, and have employees trained to use it.

Obtain any permits, licenses or zoning variances required by city, county or local ordinances.

Create a web presence both in the form of a web page and through search engine optimization to draw increased internet traffic to the business site.

Set up any employee benefits, such as retirement plans, life insurance, disability insurance, health insurance, etc.



Starting a business checklist

Stay engaged with your financial professional and take advantage of the tools, articles and resources we've made available to you to maintain your financial plan while in retirement.

Contact your dedicated financial professional and get started on your future at

This material is general in nature, was developed for educational use only, and is not intended to provide financial, legal, fiduciary, accounting or tax advice, nor is it intended to make any recommendations. Applicable laws and regulations are complex and subject to change. Please consult with your financial professional regarding your situation. For legal, accounting or tax advice consult the appropriate professional.

Annuities are issued by **The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company (VALIC)**, Houston, TX or **The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York (USL)**, New York, NY. Guarantees are backed by the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company and each company is responsible for the financial obligations of its products. Beginning January 1, 2026, USL will be Corebridge Financial's sole authorized issuer of new annuities in New York.

Securities and investment advisory services offered through VALIC Financial Advisors, Inc., member FINRA, SIPC and an SEC-registered investment adviser.

VALIC Retirement Services Company provides retirement plan recordkeeping and related services and is the transfer agent for certain affiliated variable investment options.

All companies above are wholly owned subsidiaries of Corebridge Financial, Inc.

Corebridge Retirement Services, Corebridge Financial and Corebridge are marketing names used by these companies. Learn more about our affiliated companies: corebridgefinancial.com/names.

