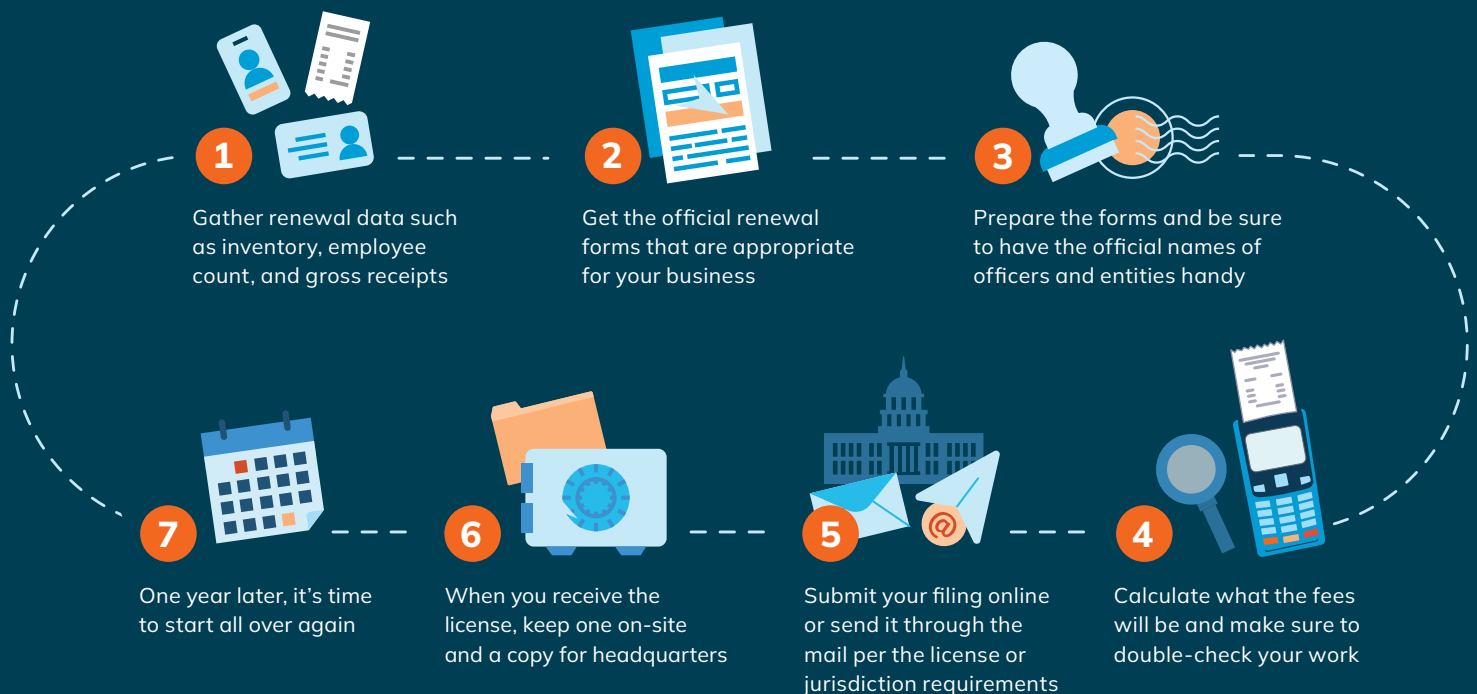


Business License Life Cycle

Different types of businesses can require several different business licenses for every location. Supermarkets, for example, can have as many as 20 separate licenses, while a travel agency might only require three. Whatever your business, it's important to understand the business license life cycle so you can stay on top of each step.

Here are the steps of the business license life cycle:

Once you know the steps for getting the proper business licenses for your company each year it will make the process easier.



! Don't forget that you'll need to stay informed to keep up with changing license requirements along with potential new regulations from changing government leadership.

How Avalara can help:



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Typical Industry Requirements for Business Licenses

You're about to start a business, but before you open your doors, it's critical to secure all the required business licenses. Determining what you need, though, can take you through a perplexing labyrinth of rules, regulations, and interpretations dictated by local, county, state, and federal governments.

Here are a few of the licensing requirements for some common industries:



Supermarkets

Likely number of business licenses per location: **20**

One common license is the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) license which lets you sell fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables. Several others are required to sell things like alcohol or even lottery tickets.



General Retail

Likely number of business licenses per location: **1-5**

A general retail store will require a standard business license, but it may vary depending on city, county, and state laws.



Construction/Contracting

Likely number of business licenses per location: **10**

In most places, a construction or contracting company requires having a general business license. Other specialties will also need separate licenses to perform their work.



Convenience Stores

Likely number of business licenses per location: **10**

A corner convenience store requires several different licenses to operate because it has a wide variety of products. These can include tobacco and fuel, but also specialty items like bait and prepared foods.



Restaurants

Likely number of business licenses per location: **6**

Like most workplaces, opening a restaurant requires a business license, but it will also need a food service license and in many cases an alcohol license.



Hospitality

Likely number of business licenses per location: **15**

Hotels present a licensing challenge including lodging specific requirements, but also specialty requirements for facilities like a pool, a gym, laundry services, a restaurant, etc.

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