**Business Regulations**

A new business in Wisconsin will be subject to some or all of the following regulations through local, state, or federal regulatory agencies. This list is by no means complete; it does not cover specific city or county requirements. Contact appropriate agencies below for further information. Working with a business attorney and accountant is strongly suggested.

An excellent place to start is **Business Wizard:** <http://ww2.wisconsin.gov/state/wizard/app/LoadIntro> or call the **Wisconsin Business AnswerLine (800) 940-7232**. They can provide you with assistance in finding out which license or permit requirements apply to your business.

**Basic Business Regulations**

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| **What** | **Where** | **Contact** |
| **Business Entity Registration**  All forms of businesses except  Sole proprietors & general partnerships | WI Dept. of Financial Institutions | [www.wdfi.org](http://www.wdfi.org)  (608) 261-9555 |
| Sole Proprietors/General Partnerships | County Reg. of Deeds  WI Secretary of State | List of County Reg. of Deeds in WI:  <http://www.wrdaonline.org/ListOfOffices/>  <http://www.sos.state.wi.us/>  (608) 266-8888 |
| Trademark or Service Mark | WI Secretary of State | <http://www.sos.state.wi.us/>  (608) 266-8888 |
| **Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN)** | IRS | <http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&-Self-Employed/Employer-ID-Numbers-EINs>  (800) 829-4933 |
| **Independent Contractor Law** | IRS (when calling the IRS, the contractor must inform IRS the EIN is required by WI Worker’s Compensation Law for contractors) | Independent Contractors or Employee?  <http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&-Self-Employed/Independent-Contractor-Self-Employed-or-Employee>  (877) 829-5500 |

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| ***WI Business Tax Registration***  -WI Employer Identification Number (EIN)  -Seller’s permit  -Local exposition tax  -Consumers use tax permit  -Use tax certificate  -Alcohol Beverage  -Retail Alcohol Beverage  -Cigarette and Tobacco Products  -Dry Cleaning Facility | WI Dept. of Revenue | <http://www.revenue.wi.gov/businesses/index.html>  (608) 266-2776 |
| **Health Inspection**  (sale of food or lodging) | WI Dept. of Health Services  WI Dept. of Public Health | <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/>  608-266-1865  <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/localhealth/> |
| **Licensing, Permits or Certificates, Regulatory Issues** | Wisconsin Business AnswerLine  Business License Wizard | (800) 940-7232  <http://ww2.wisconsin.gov/state/wizard/app/LoadIntro> |
| **Safety and Buildings**  **Fire Department** (local) | WI Dept. of Safety & Professional Services | <http://www.dsps.wi.gov/home>  (877) 617-1565 |
| **Safety Requirements (OSHA)** | OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration | <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/occupational/wiscon/>  Clinical Labs: (800) 862-1013  Environmental Labs: (800) 442-4618  WI Occupational Health Lab (Industrial Hygiene): (800) 446-0403  WSLH Proficiency Testing:  (800) 462-5261 |
| **Zoning** (Is the location zoned for your business?) | City/Village/Town Zoning Department | Contact your local zoning authority |

Employment is regulated by both federal and state laws. The following briefly summarizes major legal guidelines.

**Regulations for Employers**

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| **What** | **Where** | **Contact** |
| **Labor Law Posters** | WI Dept. of Workforce Development | <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/posters.htm>  (608) 266-3131 |
| **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Requirements** | U.S. Dept. of Justice | <http://www.ada.gov/>  (800) 514-0301 |
| **Immigration Law / I-9 Form** | U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services | <http://www.uscis.gov/>  (800) 375-5283 |
| **Unemployment Insurance & Worker’s Compensation** | WI Dept. of Workforce Development | <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/ui/>  (800) 247-1744  <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/wc/>  (608) 266-1340 |
| **Payroll & Estimated Taxes (Federal)** | IRS | <http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&-Self-Employed/Employment-Taxes-2>  (800) 829-4933 (businesses)  (800) 829-1040 (individuals) |
| **Payroll & Estimated Taxes (State)** | WI Dept. of Revenue | <http://www.revenue.wi.gov/businesses/index.html>  (608) 266-2772 |
| **Labor Standards Law**  **Equal Rights & Opportunities** | WI Dept. of Workforce Development | <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/>  (608) 266-6860 (Equal Rights)  <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/labor_standards_bureau/>  (608) 266-3345 (Labor Standards) |

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| **Social Security Estimated Tax (FICA)** | Social Security Administration | <http://www.ssa.gov/>  (800) 772-1213 |
| **Employee Benefits**  Insurance, Pension, and Profit Sharing | U.S. Dept. of Labor | <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/>  (866) 444-3272  Affordable Care Act:  <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform/> |
| WI Health Insurance | WI Office of the Commissioner of Insurance | <http://oci.wi.gov/pub_list/pi-206.htm>  (608) 266-0103 |