



**Secretary of State
Business Programs Division**

Business Entities, 1500 11th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Limited Liability Companies

California Tax Information

Registration of a limited liability company (LLC) with the California Secretary of State (SOS) will obligate an LLC that is not taxed as a corporation to pay to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) an annual minimum tax of \$800 and a fee based on the annual total income of the entity. The tax and fee are required to be paid for the taxable year of registration and each taxable year, or part thereof, until a Certificate of Cancellation is filed with the SOS. (California Revenue and Taxation Code sections [17941](#) and [17942](#).) An LLC is not subject to the taxes and fees imposed by Revenue and Taxation Code sections 17941 and 17942 if the LLC did no business in California during the taxable year and the taxable year was 15 days or less. (California Revenue and Taxation Code section [17946](#).)

An LLC that is taxed as a corporation is obligated to pay to the FTB an annual minimum tax of \$800, and generally determines its California income under the Corporation Tax Law commencing with California Revenue and Taxation Code section [23001](#).

PLEASE NOTE: A domestic nonprofit LLC is a taxable entity and subject to the tax requirements stated above unless the LLC has applied for tax-exempt status and the FTB determines the LLC qualifies for tax-exempt status. Therefore, until such a determination is made, a nonprofit LLC must file a tax return and pay the associated tax (and, if applicable, the fee) every year until the LLC is formally cancelled. If the LLC intends to seek tax exempt status:

- At the time of filing its Articles of Organization with the SOS, the LLC must include, in an attachment to that document, additional statements as required by the law under which the LLC is seeking exemption. Please refer to the FTB's Exemption Application Booklet (FTB 3500 Booklet) for information regarding the required statements and for suggested language.
- After filing its Articles of Organization with the SOS, the LLC may apply for tax-exempt status by mailing an Exemption Application (Form FTB 3500), along with a copy of the filed Articles of Organization and all other required supporting documentation, to the FTB, P.O. Box 942857, Sacramento, California 94257-0501.
- The FTB 3500 Booklet and Form FTB 3500 can be accessed from the FTB's website at <https://www.ftb.ca.gov> or can be requested by calling the FTB at 1-800-338-0505. For further information regarding franchise tax exemption, refer to the FTB's website or call the FTB at (916) 845-4171.

For further information regarding franchise tax requirements, please contact the FTB at:

From within the United States (toll free)	(800) 852-5711
From outside the United States (not toll free)	(916) 845-6500
Automated Service - From within the United States (toll free).....	(800) 338-0505
Automated Service - From outside the United States (not toll free)	(916) 845-6600

Professional Services Information

A domestic or foreign LLC may not render professional services. (Corp. Code § [17701.04](#).) "Professional services" are defined in California Corporations Code sections [13401\(a\)](#) and [13401.3](#) as:

Any type of professional services that may be lawfully rendered only pursuant to a license, certification, or registration authorized by the Business and Professions Code, the Chiropractic Act, the Osteopathic Act or the Yacht and Ship Brokers Act.

If your business is required to be licensed, registered or certified, you should contact the appropriate licensing authority before filing with the SOS in order to determine whether your services are considered professional.