

Jax Kitchen – Being in business in Florida

Operating a food business in Florida: *(not necessarily the correct order, this list is a helpful guide, but not exhaustive)*

Determine **structure** of your business: sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation (consider s-corporation election). Register Fictitious Name as necessary. If you are forming a business entity visit: <https://dos.myflorida.com/sunbiz/>

Apply for an **Employer ID Number** (EIN). <https://www.irs.gov/> Required for business bank account. Work-on setting-up a **credit card** processor if you plan to take credit cards.

Become **licensed** with the proper state agency DBPR Hotels & Restaurants or Dept of Agriculture. See Jax Kitchen Steps to Use Jax Kitchen as a ... documents on Jax-kitchen.com

Food trucks with **hood**- Fire Marshal Inspection – 904-630-0445

General Liability Insurance – is also products liability policy (maybe a first line of defense in a lawsuit) (required by Jax Kitchen)

Florida **Reemployment Tax** (a/k/a unemployment insurance for employees) - Check your businesses requirements.

<https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/reemployment.aspx>

Workers Compensation Insurance - Check your businesses requirements. Ask your insurance agent for more information.

Apply for **FL Sales Tax Certification** (do not file/pay late... penalties & fines are *brutal*). This will also allow you to purchase resale items tax-exempt.

<https://floridarevenue.com/Pages/default.aspx>

Local jurisdiction **business operation permit/tax**: Each municipality (county/city) likely has a permit or tax related to operating a business.

Jacksonville Business Tax: <https://taxcollector.coj.net/Taxes/Local-Business-Tax.aspx>

St Johns County: <https://sjctax.us/local-business-tax/>

Consider hiring an **accountant or experienced bookkeeper**

For business growth - Track your sales and expenses & file tax returns. Pay taxes and you will have proof of income/success and you can borrow based on your ability/success for expansion/growth. Lenders do not loan money to businesses that don't show profits.