

What is BizPaL?

BizPaL is an online tool that based on your business activity generates a personalized list of permits and licences required from three levels of government—local, provincial and federal—to start up your business. If your business is up and running, BizPaL can help verify that you have the correct permits and licences.

Why do you need BizPaL?

- ▶ **Save time and money**—As most of the information is available from a single source, you spend less time searching and more time building your business.
- ▶ **Improve business planning**—Know which permits and licences are needed so that you get it right the first time.
- ▶ **Get answers**—Available 24-hours to help you navigate government requirements. All questions are tailored for your specific business.

How does BizPaL work?

A Q&A wizard walks you through a series of questions based on your business location and activities. Simply answer the questions and BizPaL will provide a list of permits and licences and information on how to obtain them.

For example:

- ▶ Will your business have outdoor sidewalk seating?
- ▶ Will you be placing a permanent or temporary sign on your property?
- ▶ Will you have a commercial vehicle?

Additional information may be obtained by clicking on the individual permit or licence such as:

- ▶ a brief description;
- ▶ whether prerequisites or inspections are required;
- ▶ links to more information and contact numbers; and/or
- ▶ direct access to application forms, for print or email submission.

Did you know?

BizPaL is simple and straightforward and reduces the time spent searching for permits and licences. What used to take a full day now takes 20 minutes.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between BizPaL and OneStop?

BizPaL provides information on permits and licences from three levels of government. OneStop allows users to complete certain business registrations online.

Can I apply and pay for permits and licences on BizPaL?

It is possible to access permits and licences directly from BizPaL when the regulating government of a permit or licence provides this information. In other cases, application forms are made available for printed submissions.

Do I need any kind of identifying number, such as a business number to use BizPaL?

BizPaL is anonymous – you do not identify yourself in any way.

Can I use BizPaL if my local government is not listed?

Yes. If your local government does not appear in the list of locations, choose 'Local Government Not Listed'. BizPaL will generate a list of permits and licences required at the provincial and/or federal level. Contact your local government to find out which additional permits and licences may be required.

What if the type of business I am interested in is not listed?

The current list of business types was created to be as inclusive as possible, keeping in mind regional differences in British Columbia.

If the specific business type you are interested in is not listed, you may choose something similar for an idea of what is needed.

Am I responsible for permits and licences not found using BizPaL?

Yes. While every attempt has been made to ensure BizPaL covers all permits and licences that may be required, BizPaL does not replace legal requirements.

Where can you access BizPaL?

www.bcbizpal.ca

BizPaL is also available through participating government websites – local, provincial and federal.

