



## Starting a company

**Starting a company online (incorporating) is as simple as reserving your company name (NZ\$10.22), completing the incorporation application (NZ\$153.33) and returning your signed consent forms.**

Here we will take you through how to incorporate the most common type of company - the New Zealand limited company - but you can now incorporate or register all company types online.

## Getting started

To incorporate or register a new company you will need to be logged on as a registered user of the website.

[Read more...](#)

### [Reserving a company name](#)

The Registrar of Companies is responsible for the approval and reservation of company names. This is the first step to incorporating your company with the Companies Office.

### [Applying to incorporate a company](#)

You will need to have a number of details about your company on hand to successfully incorporate your company.

### [How we process your application](#)

Applications to incorporate a company are processed automatically. We will then send you the director and shareholder consent forms.

### [Director and shareholder consents](#)

Signed consent is required from directors and shareholders in order to complete the incorporation process. These must be returned to the Companies Office within 20 working days.

### [What happens next?](#)

After incorporation, director's obligations to the Companies Office are few and simple to meet. Directors have a responsibility to file annual returns and update the Companies Office with changes to the company details.

### [Unlimited companies](#)

Unlimited companies are quite rare - they are used to meet very particular, frequently foreign, legal requirements.

### [Registering Australian overseas companies](#)

Registering an Australian overseas company online is simple and inexpensive (NZ\$163.55). It is quick and easy, not to mention significantly cheaper than applying by post.

### [Registering overseas companies \(other jurisdictions\)](#)

Any overseas company that is carrying on business in New Zealand must register within ten working days of commencing to carry on business (section 334(1) of the Companies Act 1993).

### [FAQs](#)

Answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about starting a new company.

### [Did you know?](#)