START A BUSINESS - MAINE

How to start a roadside assistance company in Maine

Form the business and register for sales tax; we found no state roadside or locksmith license, and parts are taxed while separately listed labor is not.

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1 Is roadside assistance right for you?

Roadside companies help stranded drivers with jump starts, tire changes, fuel delivery, lockouts and winch-outs. It suits people who like driving and stay calm next to traffic.

2 Form the business and register for sales tax

1. Choose a structure. LLCs and corporations file with the Maine Secretary of State.
2. Register with Maine Revenue Services to collect Maine's 5.5% sales tax on parts and other goods.

3 Licenses

We found no Maine State license for roadside assistance or locksmith work. Check zoning and local permits with your town.

4 Sales tax on repairs

Under Maine Revenue Services Bulletin No. 1, when the invoice lists parts and labor separately, only the parts are taxed (5.5%). If you do not separate them, the whole charge is taxable. A repair with no parts is not taxed. Tools and equipment are taxed when you buy them.

5 Your first steps

1. Form the business and register for sales tax.
2. Buy commercial auto and liability insurance.
3. Sign up with motor clubs or insurers.
4. List your business on Nearby Car Care

Requirements at a glance

Sales tax on parts; labor itemized is not taxed

Required - State - Maine Revenue Services

Maine Revenue Services Bulletin No. 1: when parts and labor are separately stated on the invoice, sales tax (5.5%) applies only to the parts. If they are not separately stated, the entire charge is taxable. Repairs that include no parts are not taxed. Tools and equipment are taxable when the shop buys them.

We found no Maine State license for roadside assistance.

Official agencies and links

Instructional Bulletin No. 1: Service Stations and Auto Repair Shops

Maine Revenue Services

https://www.maine.gov/revenue/sites/maine.gov.revenue/files/inline-files/Bull120160308.pdf

Frequently asked questions

Do I need a license for roadside assistance in Maine?

We found no state license.

This guide is general information, not legal advice. Rules change and can depend on your city or county, so confirm with the official agencies linked below before you apply.

https://nearbycarcare.com/resources/business/start-roadside-assistance-company/maine/