START A BUSINESS - ARKANSAS

How to start a vehicle wrap and graphics business in Arkansas

Form the business and register for sales tax; ask how installation is taxed, and know the USDOT marking rules your fleet customers rely on.

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1 Is a wrap business right for you?

Wrap shops design, print and install vinyl wraps, fleet graphics, lettering and USDOT numbers. It suits detail-oriented people with design or installation skills.

2 Form the business and register for sales tax

1. Choose a structure. Register your business with the Arkansas Secretary of State.
2. Get a retail permit from the Department of Finance and Administration. Arkansas taxes repair, cleaning and towing of vehicles.
3. Check your city or county for local licenses and zoning.

3 Licenses

We found no Arkansas State license for wrap installation. Check your city or county for licenses and zoning.

4 Sales tax

Materials are taxable. Ask the Department of Finance and Administration how your installation charges are treated.

5 Marking rules your customers rely on

Vehicles that need a USDOT number show the carrier name and USDOT number on both sides, readable from 50 feet.

6 Your first steps

1. Form the business and register with the Department of Finance and Administration.
2. Check local licenses and zoning.
3. Buy insurance and equipment.
4. List your business on Nearby Car Care

Requirements at a glance

Arkansas retail permit and sales tax

Required - State - Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration

Get a retail permit from the Department of Finance and Administration and collect state and local sales tax. Repair, cleaning and towing of vehicles are taxable services in Arkansas.

Register your business with the Arkansas Secretary of State first. Fees not verified here.

Official application:
https://codeofarrules.arkansas.gov/Rules/Rule?levelType=section&titleID=26&chapterID=33&subChapterID=241&partID=971&subPartID=9363&sectionID=62

Sales tax on wraps and installation

Required - State - Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration

Installation, alteration and refinishing of motor vehicles are taxable services, so tax the wrap and its installation.

USDOT number marking on commercial motor vehicles

Required in some cases - Federal - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Vehicles that need a USDOT number show the carrier's name and USDOT number on both sides, readable from 50 feet in daylight (49 CFR 390.21).

Official agencies and links

49 CFR 390.21, Marking of self-propelled CMVs and intermodal equipment

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (eCFR)

https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-390/subpart-B/section-390.21

26 CAR 30-502, Services subject to tax: taxable services

Code of Arkansas Rules (Department of Finance and Administration)

https://codeofarrules.arkansas.gov/Rules/Rule?levelType=section&titleID=26&chapterID=33&subChapterID=241&partID=971&subPartID=9363&sectionID=629

Frequently asked questions

Do wrap installers need a license in Arkansas?

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-vehicle-wrap-business/arkansas/