START A BUSINESS - DELAWARE

How to start a vehicle wrap and graphics business in Delaware

Delaware wrap shops need a Division of Revenue business license and pay gross receipts tax; 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 get a Division of Revenue license

1. Choose a structure. LLCs and corporations file with the Delaware Division of Corporations.
2. Get a Division of Revenue business license. Delaware has no sales tax; instead, businesses pay a gross receipts tax on what they take in.
3. Check your town or county for a local business license.

3 Licenses

We found no separate Delaware State license for wrap installation beyond the Division of Revenue business license. Check zoning and local licenses with your town or county.

4 No sales tax: gross receipts tax

Delaware has no sales tax, so you do not charge customers tax. You pay a gross receipts tax yourself: for service businesses, .3983% of receipts after the first $100,000 a month, plus a $75 yearly business license ($25 for each extra location). Product sales up to $8,500 a year can go on the service license; above that you need a retailer license.

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 get the Division of Revenue license.
2. Set up a clean installation bay.
3. Learn the marking rules for fleet customers.
4. List your business on Nearby Car Care

Requirements at a glance

Division of Revenue business license and gross receipts tax

Required - State - Delaware Division of Revenue

Delaware has no sales tax. Every business needs a Division of Revenue business license and pays a gross receipts tax on what it takes in. For service businesses the license is $75 a year for the first location ($25 for each additional), and the gross receipts tax is .3983% after the first $100,000 a month. Product sales up to $8,500 a year can be reported under the service license; above that you need a retailer license.
Fees: $75 a year for the first location, $25 for each additional location

Form your LLC or corporation with the Delaware Division of Corporations first. Towns and counties may require their own business license.
Official application: https://revenue.delaware.gov/frequently-asked-questions/gross-receipts-tax-faqs/

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

Gross Receipts Tax FAQs
Delaware Division of Revenue
https://revenue.delaware.gov/frequently-asked-questions/gross-receipts-tax-faqs/

Tax Tips for Occupations / General Service
Delaware Division of Revenue
https://revenuefiles.delaware.gov/docs/services.pdf

Frequently asked questions

Do wrap installers need a license in Delaware?
A Division of Revenue business license; we found no separate state installer license. Ask the Division which license type fits your work.

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/delaware/