LICENSES, PERMITS & CERTIFICATIONS - FLORIDA

Florida car dealer licenses, bonds and permits

What Florida requires of these businesses: registration, tax, licenses and the official links to check.

Sources verified 2026-11-21 - Updated 2026-11-21

1 The rules at a glance

- Sales tax registration (6% plus county surtax)
- FLHSMV dealer license and training seminar
- Garage liability $25,000 plus $10,000 PIP
- $25,000 bond or letter of credit
- 8 hours of continuing education every 2 years (independent dealers)

Requirements at a glance

Florida sales and use tax registration

Required - State - Florida Department of Revenue

Register with the Department of Revenue to collect sales tax: 6% state rate plus any county discretionary sales surtax.

Form your LLC or corporation with the Florida Division of Corporations (Sunbiz) first. Check your county and city for a local business tax receipt.

Official application: https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales_tax.aspx

FLHSMV dealer license and training seminar

Required - State - Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Apply to FLHSMV with proof that you (or a designated employee) attended a training seminar at a licensed dealer training school within the past 6 months, garage liability insurance of at least $25,000 combined single limit plus $10,000 PIP, an inspected location, fingerprints and a sales tax number. Independent dealers complete 8 hours of continuing education every 2 years.

Fees: See the FLHSMV application (form 86056).

Official application:
https://www.flhsmv.gov/motor-vehicles-tags-titles/dealers-installers-manufacturers-distributors-importers/mv-rv-mh-dealer-broker-licenses/

Dealer surety bond or letter of credit ($25,000)

Required - State - Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Each year, before the license issues, deliver a $25,000 surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit.

Amount: $25,000

Official agencies and links

Motor Vehicle, Recreational Vehicle and Mobile Home Dealer/Broker Licenses
Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
https://www.flhsmv.gov/motor-vehicles-tags-titles/dealers-installers-manufacturers-distributors-importers/mv-rv-mh-dealer-broker-licenses/

Sales and Use Tax
Florida Department of Revenue
https://floridarevenue.com/taxes/taxesfees/Pages/sales_tax.aspx

Florida Statutes 320.27, Motor vehicle dealers
The Florida Senate
https://www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2026/320.27

Frequently asked questions

How much is the Florida dealer bond?
$25,000, as a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit, every year.

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.