



Secretary of State
Business Programs Division

1500 11th Street, 3rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Business Entities
(916) 657-5448

Name Reservation Request **(Corporation, Limited Liability Company, or Limited Partnership Names)**

To request the reservation of a corporation, limited liability company or limited partnership name, complete the Name Reservation Request Form on the following page, attach a check in the amount of \$10.00 (made payable to the Secretary of State) and submit the request:

- **By mail**, along with a self-addressed envelope, to Secretary of State, Name Availability Unit, 1500 11th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Please refer to our Business Entities Mail Processing Times web page at http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/bpd_processing_times.htm for current mail processing times.
- **In person** (over-the-counter) at the Secretary of State's office in Sacramento. *Corporation* names can also be reserved, in person, at any of the Secretary of State's regional offices located in Fresno, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. Please refer to our Regional Offices web page at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/regional.htm> for regional office addresses. A special handling fee of \$10.00 is applicable for each name reserved in person. The special handling fee must be remitted separately and will be retained whether the proposed name is accepted or denied for reservation. The special handling fee is not applicable to requests submitted by mail.

Only one reservation will be made per request form. You may list up to three names, in order of preference, and the first available name will be reserved for a period of 60 days. The remaining names will not be researched.

A name reservation is made for a period of 60 days. The name reservation can be renewed to the same applicant or for the benefit of the same party, but not for consecutive periods.

E-mail and/or online requests for name reservations cannot be accepted at this time. Please complete the [Name Reservation Request Form](#) on the following page.

Note: The reservation of a proposed corporation, limited liability company or limited partnership name does not guarantee that the reserved name complies with all federal and state laws. At the time of filing the document containing the reserved name, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have complied with all federal and state laws, including specific name requirements. In some circumstances, the reserved name may require additional approval/consent pursuant to applicable law at the time of filing. Name styles for particular types of business entities and the need for consent/approval required by law are not considered at the time of the name reservation. Therefore, no financial commitment relating to the proposed name should be made based on the reservation, since the business entity record is not created/qualified/amended until the appropriate documents have been submitted to and filed by the Secretary of State.

CORPORATION NAMES:

A corporation name must not be a name that is "likely to mislead the public or the same as, or resembling so closely as to tend to deceive," the name of a California or foreign corporation that has registered with this office or a name that has been reserved by another party. Note: Names are considered deceptive if the only difference is a corporate ending. (Corporations Code section [201\(b\)](#) and [2106\(b\)](#).)

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) NAMES:

An LLC name: (1) must not be a name that is "likely to mislead the public or which is the same as, or resembles so closely as to tend to deceive," the name of a California or foreign LLC that has registered with this office or a name that has been reserved by another party. Note: Names are considered deceptive if the only difference is an LLC ending; (2) must end with the words "Limited Liability Company," or the abbreviations "LLC" or "L.L.C." The words "Limited" and "Company" may be abbreviated to "Ltd." and "Co.," respectively; (3) may not contain the words "bank," "trust," "trustee," "incorporated," "inc.," "corporation," or "corp.;" and (4) must not contain the words "insurer" or "insurance company" or any other words suggesting that it is in the business of issuing policies of insurance and assuming insurance risks. (Corporations Code section [17052](#) and [17452\(a\)](#).)

LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (LP) NAMES – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008:

An LP name: (1) must be distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from the name of an existing LP or an LP name that has been reserved by another party. Note: Names are not considered distinguishable if the only difference is a limited partnership ending; (2) must end with the phrase "Limited Partnership" or the abbreviation "LP" or "L.P.;" and (3) may not contain the words "bank," "insurance," "trust," "trustee," "incorporated," "inc.," "corporation," or "corp.;" Note: If entity is a foreign LP that is a foreign limited liability LP, the name must contain the phrase "limited liability limited partnership," or the abbreviation "LLLLP" or "L.L.L.P." and may not contain the abbreviation "LP" or "L.P." (Corporations Code section 15901.08.)

An LP name is reserved pursuant to Section [15901.09](#) of the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2008 (the Act of 2008)¹. A name reserved on behalf of an LP that remains subject to the prior law will be reviewed for compliance with that prior law at the time of filing the document.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: In addition to completing the information on page 1 of this Name Reservation Request Form, a request to reserve an LP name must also state the eligibility for the reservation as required by Section [15901.09](#). **Please select the applicable statement below** and attach this page to page 1 of this request form. Note: Only one statement may be selected.

The exclusive right to the use of the proposed LP name is being reserved by:

- a person intending to organize an LP under Chapter 5.5 of the California Corporations Code and adopt the name.
- a domestic (California) LP or a foreign (out of state or country) LP authorized to transact business in California intending to adopt the name.
- a foreign LP intending to obtain a certificate of registration to transact business in California and adopt the name.
- a person intending to organize a foreign LP in the foreign jurisdiction and intending to have it obtain a certificate of registration to transact business in California and adopt the name.
- a foreign LP formed in the foreign jurisdiction under the name.
- a foreign LP formed in the foreign jurisdiction under a name that does not comply with the requirements of Corporations Code section 15901.08(b) or 15901.08(c), but the name to be reserved may differ from the foreign LP's actual name only to the extent necessary to comply with Section 15901.08(b) or 15901.08(c).

¹ **ACT OF 2008:** A domestic (California) LP is subject to the Act of 2008: (1) if it was formed on or after January 1, 2008; or (2) if it was formed prior to January 1, 2008, and has elected to be governed by the Act of 2008. All foreign LPs, regardless of when they registered in California, are subject to the Act of 2008. Effective January 1, 2010, all California LPs will be subject to the Act of 2008. The Act of 2008 can be found in the Corporations Code commencing with Section 15900. For a list of the primary changes under the Act of 2008, please refer to the [Notice of Legislative Change \(PDF\)](#) available on our website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/pdf/ab339_notice.pdf.