

Your Nonprofit Formed in 4 Steps

A guide from the entrepreneurship pros
at [incorporate.com](https://www.incorporate.com)



1 Name your nonprofit.



You have the passion, talent, and drive. But before any of that matters, your nonprofit needs a name. Ask yourself these questions when brainstorming:

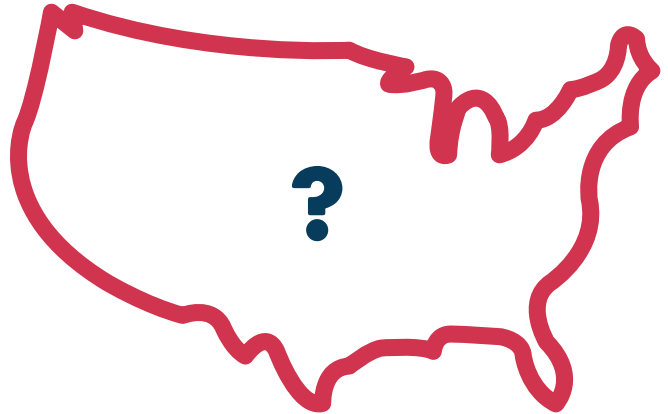
- ▶ Does the name convey what my organization does?
- ▶ Does it reflect my desired brand image, and will it appeal to my target audience?
- ▶ Will it hold up if my nonprofit expands geographically or shifts focus?
- ▶ How will my name perform in internet searches and when used on social media?
- ▶ Have I checked to see if my name requires consent from any state government agencies or associations? (For example, most New York nonprofit corporations with a scientific purpose need to run their name by the New York State Education Department.)
- ▶ Have I considered how my name will look and sound with “Inc.” on the end, since many states require such an indicator?
- ▶ Is it already taken by someone in my industry or region?
Contact [incorporate.com](https://www.incorporate.com) and we will do a comprehensive name search for you.



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Select a state.

But do it wisely. It might be easiest to incorporate and form your nonprofit wherever it's physically located, but you don't have to. States like Delaware and Nevada can offer tax benefits and simpler incorporation processes. That being said, incorporating out of state doesn't necessarily free you of your home state obligations. Visit our [State Guides page](#) or give us a shout to explore the ins and outs of choosing a state.



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Choose a business structure.

It might seem obvious to you, but spelling out the "what, where, when, and why" of your nonprofit is crucial from the beginning stages of incorporating. When you submit your formation documents to the state government, they will need to figure out how to classify you. At [incorporate.com](#), we can help you decide which purpose is right for you, and take care of submitting all the paperwork.

Most nonprofits fall under the following categories and qualify as a 501(c)(3):

Religious: general types of religions and churches

Charitable: providing services beneficial to the public interest

Scientific: research for the public interest. Note that research related to commercial or industrial operations will not qualify for nonprofit status.

Literary: writing, publishing, and distributing books directed toward promoting the public interest

Educational: a broad purpose that allows instruction for both self-development and the benefit of the community

There are also less common tax-exempt statuses that receive a 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) designation. Visit our [nonprofit FAQ page](#) or contact us directly to learn more.



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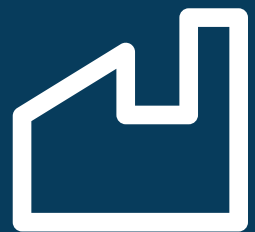
Apply to be tax-exempt.

Tax-exempt status is the golden ticket when it comes to having a sustainable nonprofit. This status is granted by the IRS, and you'll need to apply using the appropriate paperwork and process. Here's a list of what this status could mean for your organization:

- ▶ Exemption from federal income tax
- ▶ Exemption from federal unemployment taxes
- ▶ Tax deductions for donors
- ▶ Grants from foundations and government agencies
- ▶ Bulk mailing permits
- ▶ A separate line of corporate credit
- ▶ Increased business credibility

Contact incorporate.com today. We'll file all the paperwork and navigate the IRS process for you.

You handle the real work. We'll handle the legwork.



incorporate.com is ready to help your organization become a fully operational, tax-exempt nonprofit. Our range of packages and services is designed to make the incorporation process as simple and fast as possible. It's all so you can get back to doing what you best: doing good. Contact us today at 1-855-402-1516.



Don't take it from us.

"Extremely friendly, accurate, and knowledgeable. Delivered on all they promised."

MICHAEL EGBERT
Palo Alto, CA

"Your company made it very easy for me to get an LLC, and it saved me a lot of time and frustration."

TERRI MCLEAN
Woodbridge, VA

"Much easier than incorporating on one's own. I've done it both ways and it was well worth the money."

JAMES IRELAND
Las Vegas, NV

"The process was very simple and the price was great!"

MARILYN FIELDS
Middletown, NY





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