# Things to Know When Starting Your Business

## ESTIMATED START-UP COSTS



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One of the most important first-steps in starting a business is to know your start-up costs and have an accurate picture of your financial situation.

The following list covers the basics for most businesses, but you might have to adapt it for your specific situation.

As you create this list, take into consideration start-up costs that are necessary and those that can wait until your business is profitable. This will allow you to leverage your funds better in the beginning.

Fill in estimated costs that apply to your specific business. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance (Liability, Extended Coverage, Theft, Product Liability, Fire, Vandalism, Auto, Business Interruption, Errors and Omissions, Workers Comp) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Permits (Industry specific, Contractors, Building, Special Use, Sign) \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ Business License (City or County) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fictitious Business Name \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sellers Permit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Health and Food Permit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Building and/or Remodeling Costs \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signage (Exterior and interior) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Website (Design, hosting, domain) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Legal consulting and filing fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Accounting consulting \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Bank Services and cash reserve \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Internet Services \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Technology (software, POS, computer) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Equipment and fixtures \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Rent and security deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Inventory \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Office furniture and supplies \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Utilities and security deposit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payroll services \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Marketing and Promotional \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Property Insurance \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Branding (logo design, marketing pieces, attire) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **My Financial Picture**

What are my estimated start-up costs?  How much money do I have to invest?
If there is a difference between what you will need and what you have, how will you solve this problem? Will you trim start-up costs? If so, which ones?
If you will be needing additional funding, where will that come from? What are your options? What is your credit score?
What is your credit score? What credit issues, if any, do you need to address?

This is just a sampling of the most basic types of expenses to consider when starting your business.

It's important to do your due diligence in researching the kinds and amounts of costs you might incur in the start-up and initial 6 months of operating your business.

Cash flow is critical to the success of any business and you want to make sure you are prepared, financially, to sustain your business until you are seeing revenue coming in and being consistently profitable.

For help with this, or any other aspect of starting your business, contact us today at rhondaloweconsulting@gmail.com

This information is meant to be educational only and does not constitute financial or legal advice. Consult with a professional for what is right for you and your business.