Hotel Licensing Checklist for New Owners







Launching your hotel? Here's a quick overview of the key permits and certifications you'll need to get started.

Business License - Obtain from local city/county.

Zoning and Land Use Permits – Ensure property is zoned for hotel use.

Building Permits – Required for renovations or modifications.

Health Department Permits - Necessary for food service or pools.

Alcohol Beverage License (if serving alcohol) - Get from the state's ABC board.

Sign Permit - Needed for exterior signage.

Fire Department Permit - Ensure fire safety compliance.

Elevator Permit (if applicable) – Schedule regular inspections.

ADA Compliance – Ensure the hotel meets accessibility standards.

Sales Tax Permit – Register with the state to collect sales tax.

Liquor Tax Permit (if serving alcohol) – For state alcohol tax reporting.

Employer Identification Number (EIN) – Required for taxes and hiring.

Workers' Compensation Insurance – Mandatory for staff protection.

Franchise Documents (if part of a franchise) – Review agreements.

State-Specific Permits – Check for additional state hospitality permits.

Note: For precise and location-specific requirements, it's recommended that you consult local government offices, legal advisors, or industry-specific consultants.