

HEALTH CLUB

Also known as, a **fitness club**, **fitness center**, **health spa**, and commonly referred to as a **gym** is a place that houses exercise equipment for the purpose of physical exercise.

Municipal Zoning

Be sure to contact the city, town, and county to see if you can operate the business in your chosen location. It is common for local zoning restrictions or ordinances to prevent certain types of businesses from operating in a specific area. For example, a city ordinance may not allow adult oriented businesses to operate near places of worship or where children gather.

Federal

- Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) irs.gov

State

- Register your LLC, LLP, or Corporation (SCSOS) - sos.sc.gov
- Physical fitness Certificate of Authority (SCDCA) - <https://consumer.sc.gov/business-resources/laws/licensing/physical-fitness>
- IRS Tanning Tax <https://scdhec.gov/health-regulation/indoor-tanning-regulations/irs-tanning-tax>
- State License (Admission tax for membership fee) (SCDOR at MyDORWAY) - <https://dor.sc.gov/> Contact SCDOR if questions about Admission tax @ (803) 898-5000
- Business Personal Property Tax (SCDOR) - dor.sc.gov
- State Professional License <https://llr.sc.gov> ;
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration <http://www.scosha.llronline.com>

Municipal

- County Business License [more info](#)
- City Business License [more info](#)

Hiring Employees

- Obtain an EIN (IRS) – irs.gov
- Register w/E-Verify (report within 3 days of employment) (DHS) – e-verify.gov
- Register w/SC New Hire (report within 20 days after employees first day of work) (SCDSS) - newhire.sc.gov
- Register with SC Dept of Revenue for Withholding (SCDOR) – dor.sc.gov
- Register with SC Dept of Employment & Workforce for Unemployment Insurance (SCDEW) – dew.sc.gov
- Order or Print employment workplace posters (LLR) – llr.state.sc.us
- Obtain Workers Compensation Insurance (if required, [click here for more info](#))

Other Considerations

- Experience in exercise and fitness**
- Certification** through a major authority such as the [American College of Sports Medicine](#), the American Council on Exercise, the [Aerobics and Fitness Association of America](#), or the [National Strength and Conditioning Council](#).

Disclaimer

This industry guide is shared you as-is with no guarantees, expressed or implied, of accuracy or relevance. The guide provides a starting point or general overview but is not a substitute for performing requirements research and due diligence on your own.

- CPR Certification** through an official first aid certification authority. Most personal trainer certification programs require CPR certification. Check with fitness certification company for any specific knowledge required beyond CPR, such as how to use an AED or first aid training.
- Where can I find the requirements for AEDs when they are used in the workplace?**
<http://www.scosha.llronline.com/index.asp?file=faq.htm>
- Employ or obtain a health care professional to serve as its AED liaison**
<https://www.aedbrands.com/resource-center/choose/aed-state-laws/south-carolina/>
- Report any clinical use of the AED to the AED liaison.**
- Business insurance** <https://www.doi.sc.gov/>; <https://www.sba.gov/business-guide/launch-your-business/get-business-insurance#section-header-2> , **surety bonds**
- Decide if you will target a specific market.** For example, seniors, athletes, body builders or **if you will work with a diverse market**, make sure you have current knowledge about fitness in differing markets. Seniors require a different type of training than body builders.
- Write a **business plan** outlining the details of your business, your target market, and how you will **finance your business**.
- Create a **marketing plan** with strategies on how to get clients.
- Purchase equipment.**
- Develop a system for getting referrals and testimonials.**

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