

DID YOU KNOW

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL LICENSE EVEN IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?

There are new laws in California that make it easier to start a business and pursue a professional career!

Under AB 2184, the Immigrant Business Inclusion Act, you can apply for a local business license without a Social Security Number as of January 1, 2019. You can use any of the following forms of identification instead:

1. California driver's license;
2. California identification number;
3. Individual taxpayer identification number ("ITIN"); or
4. Municipal identification number

Under SB 1159, you can also apply for a state professional license with an ITIN. Licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs are prohibited from denying someone a professional license (such as a license for cosmetology, dental hygienists, social workers, or accountants) based on their immigration status.

Do you operate your business out of your home? If so, you do **not** have to list your home address on your business license application. You can use a mail service, such as the United States Postal Service, FedEx/Kinkos, or Mailboxes, etc. as an alternative address.

Finally, your personal information is protected! Local governments are required to protect your personal information and keep it private, including your home address, your identification number, and your income and tax information.

To apply for a business license, you will need to go to your local government office to fill out an application. In some cases, you can fill out an application online.

If you are denied a business license or professional license because of your immigration status, this is unlawful and you have rights! Please let us know by going to: <https://bit.ly/2k4tEbs>

For any questions, please contact Sasha Feldstein at sfeldstein@caimmigrant.org