

Objective

Abki Solutions works closely with Economic Development Organizations (EDOs), Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs), and state and local government bodies across the United States (US) to support investment promotion and attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from India and other fast-growing markets in Asia. Through its network and lead generation capabilities, Abki helps connect international businesses with US regions that offer strong opportunities for expansion, technology development and job creation.

This guide has been prepared primarily for Indian entrepreneurs, corporates, startups, and technology companies that are establishing a presence in the US with employees, office infrastructure and local operations. It provides a basic overview of the company registration process and key considerations when setting up a business in the US.

EDOs and IPAs interested in attracting Indian investors, start-ups and companies are encouraged to connect with Abki Solutions to explore FDI attraction opportunities and outreach initiatives.

Introduction

Foreign entrepreneurs and Indian founders can legally register a company in the United States (US) without physically visiting the US.

With the right documentation and service support, the process can be completed entirely online within a few days.

One of the most popular options for international entrepreneurs is registering a Limited Liability Company (LLC) which offer business-friendly regulations and simplified compliance requirements.

Typical Timeline: 1–7 Business Days

Estimated Cost: \$200–\$800

Why Foreign Entrepreneurs Choose the US

- Business-friendly laws in states
- Access to global investors and financial institutions
- Limited liability protection for business owners
- Tax efficiency with pass-through taxation structures
- Access to the North American market and global customers

Can Foreigners Register a Company in the US?

Yes. Foreign nationals can legally register a company in the US without citizenship or residency.

Entrepreneurs can establish:

- LLC (Limited Liability Company)
- Corporation (C-Corp)

Most international founders prefer an LLC structure because it offers flexibility, lower compliance costs, and simpler management.

Do Indian Entrepreneurs Need a Visa?

A visa is not required to own or register a company in the US.

However, if the founder wishes to live or operate actively in the US, common options include:

- E-2 Investor Visa
- L-1 Visa for transferring employees to a US office

For most founders, the company can be registered and managed remotely from India.

LLC vs Corporation

LLC Advantages

- Pass-through taxation
- Flexible management
- Limited liability protection
- 100% foreign ownership allowed

Corporation Advantages

- Ability to issue shares
- Easier access to venture capital
- Widely recognized corporate structure

Steps to Register an LLC in the US

Step 1 – Choose a State

Popular options could be Delaware, Wyoming, and Nevada. Many state governments, EDOs, IPAs also help entrepreneurs from international locations through Abki Solutions to set-up in their respective territories for creation of jobs and growth.

Step 2 – Select a Company Name

The name must be unique and include “LLC”.

Step 3 – Hire a Registered Agent

Required to receive official government communication.

Step 4 – File Formation Documents

Submit Articles of Organization to the Secretary of State.

Step 5 – Apply for Employer Identification Number (EIN)

Required for tax filings, hiring employees, and opening bank accounts.

Step 6 – Open a US Bank Account

Documents required usually include formation documents, EIN, and passport.

Cost of Company Registration

Estimated total cost: \$200 – \$800 depending on state fees and service providers.

Timeline

Online company registration: 1–7 business days

Mail filing: 7–14 days

Bank account opening: 1–4 weeks depending on bank requirements.

Taxation for Foreign-Owned LLCs

Foreign-owned LLCs are generally taxed only on income generated within the US.

Common compliance requirement:

- IRS Form 5472 for reporting foreign ownership.

Banking and Payment Solutions

Popular banking options:

- Wells Fargo
- Chase
- Bank of America
- Wise
- Mercury
- Brex

Payment processors:

- Stripe
- PayPal
- Square

Key Takeaways

- Foreigners can legally register a company in the US.
- LLC is the most popular structure for international entrepreneurs.
- Delaware and Wyoming are the most common states for registration.
- Registration typically takes 1–7 business days.
- Total setup cost ranges between \$200 and \$800.

Conclusion

Abki Solutions and its management team have supported more than 150 companies the last 10 years in establishing their presence in international markets, including multiple locations across the US. The team has worked closely with Economic Development Organizations and government partners in regions such as Washington State, Fairfax County (Virginia), and Rhode Island, helping companies navigate market entry, regulatory requirements, investment planning, and business expansion strategies.

With deep experience in cross-border business facilitation, Abki Solutions assists entrepreneurs, startups, and corporates from India and across Asia in exploring opportunities in the US and building successful long-term operations. EDOs and government agencies interested in engaging with Indian investors and companies are welcome to connect with Abki Solutions to explore FDI attraction opportunities and investment outreach initiatives.

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