

What is BizPaL?

BizPaL is a web-based service that allows business clients to easily generate a customized list of the permits and licences they may require from all levels of government— federal, provincial, and municipal.

How does it work?

Step 1

- Identify the location and type of business you are opening or currently operating

Step 2

- Answer the series of questions provided by BizPaL for your business sector; for example, if a restaurant, will you be serving alcohol: yes or no?

Step 3

- You're done! Confirm your answers and BizPaL will automatically produce a customized list of business permit and licence information based on the information you provided.

Is information available for all business sectors?

Currently, you can access information for about 250 business sectors. This number will increase as new municipalities and business sectors are added to the program over the next 18 months.

Is there a cost to use this service?

No.

Do I have to be a member of a group or sign up for anything to use the system?

No. The system is available for anyone to use.

Will I get a list of ALL the licences and permits I'll need?

The system generates your list depending on your responses to the questions. The more accurately you answer the questions, the more accurately BizPaL can produce the forms and permit information.

Will BizPaL supply the applications I'll need?

After you answer the targeted questions, BizPaL will provide either

- a link to an on-line application
- a downloadable version of the application
- contact information where you can get additional information

Is BizPaL available to all Nova Scotians?

Yes. Access to this information is available not just to all Nova Scotians but to anyone across the globe who has Internet access.

Halifax Regional Municipality and New Glasgow are the first Atlantic Canadian municipalities to implement the service. Over the next 18 months BizPaL will be expanded across the province.

I don't live in either of these areas. Can I still use BizPaL to help me find out what permits and licences I need?

Regardless of where you live in Nova Scotia, the federal and provincial requirements for any given business sector remain the same. However, until your municipality's information is available through BizPaL, you will need to contact them directly.

My business is already running, what can BizPaL offer me?

BizPaL can help you quickly identify any new licences and permits that may be required.

How much is it costing the province to offer this service?

- The cost to implement BizPaL across the province, including developing the website and incorporating the NS municipalities into the program, is in the range of \$64,000.
- The annual cost to operate this service is estimated to be \$36,000.
- There is no cost to municipalities.

