

Enterprise registration:

To run Business in Norway, you choose between:

- Self-employed / Sole proprietorship (Enkeltpersonforetak/ENK)
- Limited company

(Aksjeselskap/AS)





Self-employed / Sole proprietorship

This is a private company of one person. You can hire people in this company, but the person who has the company cannot be on the salary list. The owner personal pays tax for the company's profit and are responsible for all of its action.



Limited Company

This kind of company has shareholder / shareholders. Minimum capital is NOK 30 000 to start the company. All the owners can be on the salary list if wanted. The company is its own tax subject and it is responsible for all of its action.

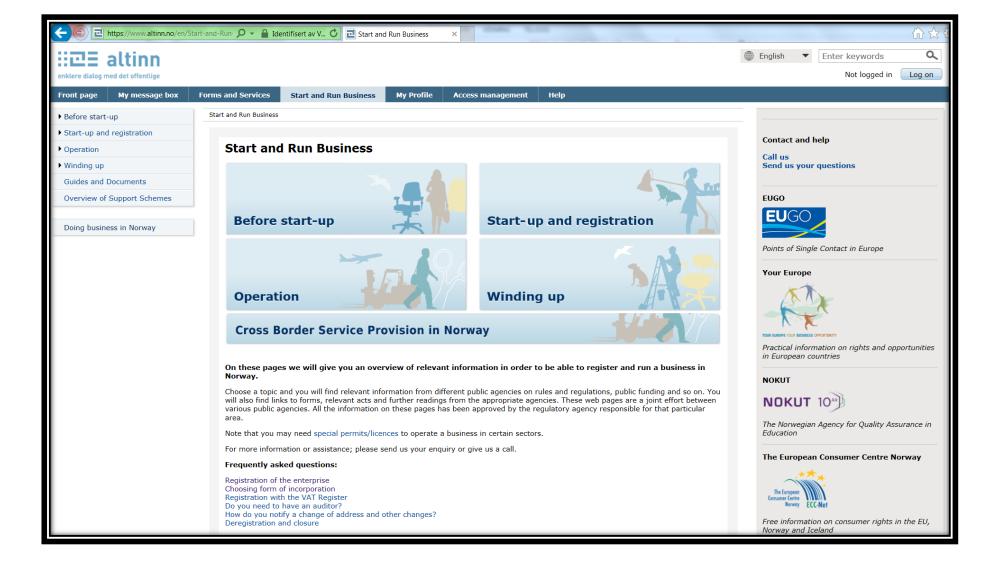


Registration:

 The registration must be sent by website www.Altinn.no by a form called Samordnet registermelding. Protocols from the board and documentation from the bank about the capital must be attached. An accountancy firm can assist with this.



Registration: www.altinn.no





Auditor:

Small limited companies can choose not to audit their annual accounts provided that certain conditions are met:

- Operating revenues are less than NOK 5 million
- The balance sheet total is less than NOK 20 million
- •The average number of employees does not exceed ten full-time equivalent years.



Accounting:

 You have to record income and expenses. From the beginning it is important to save all vouchers relating to the firm. It is further important to open a separate bank account that only apply to the firm. That way you get a better overview of income and expenses in the company.



After the company has been registered you can make invoices to customers without VAT up to NOK 50 000. After this amount you must register the company for VAT, by using the same form as for registration of the company.

Some sectors of business are not VAT mandatory – for example education/teaching, health treatment.



When the company has been registered for VAT it must report to the tax office 6 times a year. These are the deadlines for reporting and payment. Reporting and payment deadlines are the same.

- - 10.04. for January and February
- 10.06. for March and April
- - 10.08. for May and June
- - 10.10. for July and August
- - 10.12. for September and October
- - 10.02. for November and December





- By late payment you must pay 9 % p.t. interest. The rate changes twice a year.
- The reporting will find place in the website www.Altinn.no by a form called "alminnelig omsetningsoppgave." This means that the papers must be sent to the accountant for bookkeeping in good time before the deadlines.



There are two key concepts in the VAT system:

- VAT on sales output VAT (utgående merverdiavgift)
- VAT on purchase income VAT (inngående merverdiavgift)

Seller collects output tax on sales of goods and services and are allowed to deduct input tax on the purchases you make to your business.



Percentages in Norway:

- 25 %: applies to most goods and services
- •15 %: applies to food- and drinks tuffs
- 8 %: applies to transportation,
 room rentals in the hotel business



The outgoing invoice:

Sales must be documented by outgoing invoices. There are formal requirements for an invoice in Norway. The invoice must contain following information:

• Seller`s name	• Decay
 Purchaser's name 	 Specification of sales
• Invoice number	 Specification of VAT
 Organization number 	 Specification of the total amount
• Invoice date	



Tax papers:

- The due for annual submit is 31. May the year after the fiscal year. It contains several forms that will be sent by the website www. Altinn.no to the tax office.
- Companies as AS must additionally annually report from the board to a public register called Brønnøysund.
- Tax is calculated on the basis of profits in the firm.

Limited company pay 27 % tax on the profits of the firm. The payment of company tax will find place in October the year after. After one year in business the tax office will send info regarding advance tax. That means that the company pay tax in the income year based on the figures from last year. If there are big differences the company can change the amount by contacting the tax office.



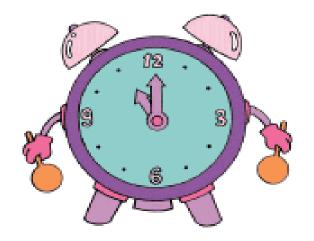
Deadlines for advance tax:

For Self-employed (ENK)

- 15. March
- 15. May
- 15. September
- 15. November

For Limited company (AS):

- 15. February
- 15. April



Tax papers are the companies reporting to Norwegian Tax Authorities. The Norwegian rules must be followed, and it is important that the papers are correct. If you give the Tax Authorities wrong and incomplete information, you can have additional tax.



Salary calculation and human resources:

Employment contract:

Each employee must have an employment contract. In Norway there are strict rules for what an employment contract must contain.

Minimum conditions are:

- Salary
- Probation
- Feature of wrong payment
- Paid and unpaid leave
- Overtime
- Time off in lieu
- Signature



Registration for new employees

All new employees must be registered in "AA-Registeret". In some industries is also required that employees have id-cards, when they are at work. This applies to the construction industry and the cleaning industry. This is to ensure the safety, health and working environment at the workplace.



Salary and other benefits

-Traditional forms of salaries:

- Fixed monthly salary
- Wages pr. Hour
- Commission
- Bonus

-Car allowance

The employee may be covered by car allowance.

- NOK 4,10 from 1 to 10 000 km
- NOK 3,45 from 10 001 km and up

Car allowance is not taxable to the employee. The employer must not pay employer tax.

-Other benefits as free newspapers, mobile phone and broad band is taxable under separate rules.



Employer tax and payroll withholding tax for employees

Salary calculation must be reported to the public authorities monthly within the 5. of the month after by the website www.altinn.no. The payment of payroll withholding tax for employees and employer tax must be paid 6 times a year. These are the deadlines for payment:

- 15. March for January and February
- 15. May for March and April
- 15. July for May and June
- 15. September for July and August
- 15. November for September and October
- 15. January for November and December

Employer tax is calculated on gross salaries, holiday pay, mobile phone.

The general rule is 14.1 % of gross wages.

The employer is obliged to deduct tax on gross salaries based on the employee's tax card. The amount is deposited monthly on a separate bank account until payment day 6 times a year.



Holiday pay (Feriepenger)

Holiday pay is earned a year before the holiday started. If you have not worked in the company the year before the holiday, you will be entitled to vacation, but not vacation pay. Vacation pay is normally 12 % of gross salary. This give 5 weeks holiday. Employees over 60 years have 6 weeks holiday.



Summary

There are many rules when doing business in Norway. It will pay to be familiar to main rules, but it is also useful to get help of an accounting firm.