

# Resources For Starting A Nonprofit

## START HERE

### [Starting a Nonprofit?](#)

Select the link, “How to Start a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit” and review the information packet from the N.C. Center for Nonprofits website. Find a sample **mission statement** and **bylaws** on pages 13-20. The web page includes other valuable links to help you get started. The N.C. Center for Nonprofits is a statewide network of member organizations that advocates for the nonprofit sector and provides information and training to member organizations. For membership and additional information, call 919-790-1555.

### [How Do I Start a Nonprofit Organization?](#)

Use this article from the Candid Learning website as a portal to starting your nonprofit. It outlines every step of the process with links to further information, samples and advice. The website also includes free and fee-based live and on-demand learning opportunities as well as a knowledge base of articles on a wide range of nonprofit topics. Select the Candid Learning article, [What are nonprofit bylaws? Where can I find samples?](#) to find information on bylaws.

### [Bylaws from Gale Legal Forms](#) (requires a library card)

Select the GALE Cengage Learning button, select Gale Legal Forms, login with your library card number, and search *bylaws* as a keyword. Choose a fillable form.

## TAKE STEPS TO BECOME A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

### [N.C. Secretary of State](#)

The website contains general information and forms, including the [Articles of Incorporation](#) form. You can also search for corporation names. For assistance, call 919-814-5400.

### [U.S. Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\) Charities & Nonprofits](#)

The IRS website provides comprehensive information and forms for nonprofits. Visit the website to apply for tax exempt status and obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN). For assistance, call the IRS Tax Exempt and Government Entities Customer Account Services at 877-829-5500 or visit [How to Contact Us](#).

### [N.C. Department of Revenue \(NCDOR\)](#)

The NCDOR website includes the publication, “[State Taxation and Nonprofit Organizations](#)”, detailing guidelines and tax requirements for nonprofit organizations in North Carolina. Call 877-252-3052 for more information.

## GET ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION

### [Forsyth County Public Library Nonprofit Resource Center \(NRC\)](#)

The NRC, located on the third floor of Central Library, offers research materials on a wide variety of topics of interest to the nonprofit sector. From the library website, visit the [Business and Investing category](#). Search ProQuest databases for journal articles or Candid’s Nonprofit E-books collection for e-books to support your research. In addition, use [Foundation Directory Online \(FDO\)](#) to identify potential funding to support your nonprofit organization’s mission and programs. For assistance on library resources, call the Information Services department at 336-703-3020.

### [HandsOn Northwest North Carolina](#)

HandsOn offers both free and fee-based programs and classes, including sessions on nonprofit governance, management, and boards. They also offer individual consultations with staff to advise those who are considering starting their own nonprofit. Call 336-724-2866 for information.

### [Wake Forest University Community Law & Business Clinic](#)

The Community Law Clinic is staffed with students of the Wake Forest University Law School and School of Business. Assistance is provided free of charge to small businesses and nonprofit organizations who are accepted as clients. Decisions to accept an engagement are made in the Fall and Spring semesters, and work is performed during the academic year (August through May). The office is located on the campus of Wake Forest University in Worrell Professional Center, Suite 2302. Contact the office by calling 336-758-4950 or sending an email to [CLBC@wfu.edu](mailto:CLBC@wfu.edu).

## **SEARCH FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

As an alternative to starting your own nonprofit, you may want to partner with an already existing organization. Use this list to find other nonprofit organizations that already do what you want to do.

### **[GuideStar:](#)**

Search by state, city, type of organization, and keywords. Download the organization's 990 tax return filing. Sign in to get the most information from the website.

### **[N.C. Secretary of State List of Nonprofit Corporations by N.C. Counties](#)**

Choose the county, select all, and copy & paste into a spreadsheet.

### **[IRS Exempt Organizations Business Master File](#)**

Select the state, download the .csv file, and import into a spreadsheet.

### **[IRS Exempt Organizations Select Check Search](#)**

Select the search button and search by name and/or location.

### **[N.C. Center for Nonprofits: Directory of Members](#)**

Search by category and/or location.

### **[NC211 Community Resources from United Way](#)**

Search by type of service and city, county, state or zip code.

**Information Services Department  
Forsyth County Central Library  
660 W. Fifth St.  
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101  
336-703-3020**



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