

Permissible Corporate Entities in New York

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Type of Corporate Entity	Permissible Form of Practice in NY	Specific Requirements for Architects	PE, LS, LA, CID permitted to join	Does Profession Practiced have to be in Title?	Statute
Sole Proprietor / Sole Practitioner	yes	-	-	advertising cannot be false, fraudulent, or misleading	-
Professional Partnership	yes	all partners must be licensed in NY	yes, all partners must be PE, LS, LA in NY; CID may not own	advertising cannot be false, fraudulent, or misleading	NYS Partnership Law
Professional Service Corporation (PC)					
Domestic	yes	each shareholder, officer and director must be licensed in NY	yes, all shareholders, officers, and directors must be PE*, LS, LA in NY; CID may not own	yes	NYS Business Corporation Law Article 15
Foreign	yes	only individual providing service must be licensed in NY, however each shareholder, officer and director must be licensed in some jurisdiction**	yes, only individual providing service must be NY licensed for that profession*, however each shareholder, officer and director must be licensed in some jurisdiction**	yes	NYS Business Corporation Law Article 15-A
Design Professional Service Corporation (DPC)	yes	greater than 75% of shareholders, officers and directors must be licensed in NY and must be employees Permits less than 25% of ownership to be non-licensees. Single largest shareholder and CEO must be licensed in NY	yes, greater than 75% of all shareholders, officers and directors must be licensed in NY; CID may not own greater than 75% of the shares but may be non-licensed shareholder of less than 25% stake	yes	NYS Business Corporation Law Section 1503
Professional Service Limited Liability Company (PLLC)					
Domestic	yes	each member and/or manager must be licensed in NY	yes, each manager and/or member must be PE*, LS, LA in NY; CID may not own	yes	NYS Business Corporation Law Article 12
Foreign	yes	each member and/or manager must be licensed in NY and original jurisdiction	yes, each manager and/or member must be PE*, LS, LA in NY and original jurisdiction; CID may not own	yes	NYS Business Corporation Law Article 13
Domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC)	no	-	-	-	-
Registered Limited Liability Partnership (LLP/RLLP)					
Domestic	yes	all partners must be architects in NY	yes, each partner must be PE*, LS, LA in NY; CID may not own	yes, same guidelines as PC's	Partnership Law Article 8-B; Section 121-1500
Foreign	yes	all partners must be architects in NY	yes, each partner must be PE*, LS, LA in NY; CID may not own	yes, same guidelines as PC's	Partnership Law Article 8-B; Section 121-1500
General Business Corporation (GBC)	no, unless grandfather	-	-	-	-
Grandfathered General Business Corporation (GBC)	yes	-	-	-	NYS Ed. Law Section 7307.4 and 7327.4
Professional Association (PA)	no	-	-	-	-
Limited Liability (LTD)	no	-	-	-	-

* Per Section 7210 of the NYS Ed. Law, all business entities must obtain a "Certificate of Authorization" to provide engineering services
 **Requirement that definition of "some jurisdiction" = jurisdiction PC was originally formed in