

# Corporate/Entity Names in New York State

## Words That May Raise a “Red Flag”

When forming business and not-for-profit entities or filing Assumed Name Certificates in New York State, certain words may cause problems or delays in getting your document filed. Bear in mind that names containing these words may be “available” and can easily be reserved – however, when it comes time to file the documents, in most cases, they will be rejected by the NY Department of State unless prior approval has been received by the appropriate state department (i.e. Banking, Insurance, etc...). In many cases, abbreviations or derivations of the words set forth below will also cause rejection. The final decision is in the hands of the filing officer.

### Alcoholism, Substance Abuse and Services:

- Alcoholism
- Alcohol Abuse
- Substance Abuse

### Attorney General:

- Exchange

### Children and Family Services:

- Adoption
- Day Care Center\*
- Blind
- Handicapped

*\*Purposes for the establishment or operation of a day care center for adults.*

### Allowed for Cooperative Corporations Only:

- Cooperative
- Cooperation

### Public Health:

- Hospital
- Medical Center

### Department of Financial Services, Banking Division:

- Acceptance
- Bank
- Finance
- Guaranty
- Investment
- Loan
- Mortgage
- Savings
- Trust

*\*Some examples of derivatives might include, but are not limited to,: “trustee”, “invest” and “financial” but the decision rests with the state filing office administrator.*

### Department of Financial Services, Insurance Division:

- Annuity
- Assurance
- Benefit
- Bond
- Casualty
- Endowment
- Fidelity
- Guaranty(ee)
- Indemnity
- Insurance
- Surety
- Title
- Underwriter

### Allowed For Redevelopment Companies Under Private Housing Finance Law Only:

- Redevelopment



### Department of Education:

Note that the use of any of the words below in the name of a business entity will require consent from the Department of Education. The use of the words Arboretum, College, Museum or University in the name of a not-for-profit corporation will also require consent from the Department of Education.

- Academy
- Arboretum
- College
- Conservatory
- Driving School
- Education
- Elementary
- Historical
- Historical Society
- History
- Institute
- Instruction
- Kindergarten
- Library
- Museum
- Nursery School
- Prekindergarten
- Preschool
- Public Radio
- School
- Secondary
- Seminar
- Teaching
- University
- Workshop

*Note: The use of the words "Institution" and "Institutional" in a business entity's name will not require Education Department consent provided that the name in question, in its totality, does not in any way suggest or imply educational purposes (for example, "Jones Institutional Equity Fund, L.p.)."*

### Secretary General of the United Nations:

- United Nations

### State Board of Industrial Appeals:

- Council
- Industrial Organization
- Labor
- Union

If the words or derivatives are in a context which implies it is formed as an organization of working men or wage earners or for the performance, rendition or sale of services as labor or management consultant, adviser or specialist or as a negotiator or arbitrator in labor.

### US Olympic Committee:

- America Espirito Sport
- Fraternite
- Citius Altius Fortius
- Olympiad
- Olympic
- Pan-American
- Paralympiad
- Paralympic

### Allowed For Professional Entities Only:

- Acupuncture
- Architecture
- Athletic Trainers
- Chiropractic
- Dentistry and Dental Hygiene
- Dietetics and Nutrition
- Doctor\*
- Engineering and Land Surveying
- Interior Design
- Landscape Architecture
- Law(yer), Attorney\*
- Legal Services\*\*
- Massage Therapy
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Ophthalmic Dispensing
- Optometry
- Pharmacy\*
- Physical Therapy and Physical Therapist Assistants
- Physician's Assistants and Specialist Assistants
- Podiatry
- Professional Midwifery
- Psychology
- Public Accountancy
- Radiology\*
- Respiratory Therapists and Respiratory Therapy Technicians
- Social Work
- Shorthand Reporting
- Speech-language Pathologists and Audiologists
- Veterinary Medicine and Animal Health Technology

*\*\*"Doctor" implies a professional, unless used in context which clearly denotes a purpose other than the practice of medicine.*

*\*\*"Legal Services" is permitted where the phrase is placed in a context which clearly implies otherwise; e.g.: "Dan's Legal Services Supplies, Inc."*

*\*\*"Law(yer)": implies a professional, unless used in a context which clearly denotes a purpose other than the practice of law. Attorney is prohibited by LLCL §204 (f) and Judiciary Law §485.*

*\*\*"Pharmacy" used in connection with a retail establishment is acceptable whereas "pharmacist" implies a professional.*

*\*\*"Radiology" is a medical specialty and implies a professional. "Radiology" technician is acceptable provided it is stated in the filing document that professionals will not be employed and diagnoses will not be made.*

### Words and Phrases That are Fully Prohibited:

- Board of Trade
- Community Renewal
- Chamber of Commerce
- Partnership\*
- State Police\*\*
- State Trooper\*\*
- Tenant Relocation\*\*\*
- Urban Development\*\*\*
- Urban Relocation\*\*\*

*\*Prohibited for LLCs only.*

*\*\*Can be used by not-for-profit corporations whose membership is composed exclusively of state policemen or state troopers, as the case may be.*

*\*\*\*Allowed for not-for-profits only.*