

# What You Need to Know About Company Name Reservation And Company Registration

According to the Intellectual Properties and Companies Commission (CIPC) and the 2008 Companies Act, a company may be registered with or without a company name. The registration number becomes the company name and one may apply to add a reserved name later. The company will need to first reserve a name and then apply for a name change and record this new name by way of a change to the Memorandum of Incorporation.

You may apply for up to 4 names during each application process. You may also register a “Defensive Name” for “trading as” and the right to use this name needs to be renewed every two years if you want to keep on using it. You will need to budget for name reservation and company registration fees.

**Note** : If you submit more than one name, put the name which is your first choice, at the top of the list because this is the name that an availability search will be performed on first. Otherwise, you might end up with a name you don't really want and someone else may end up applying for and getting the name you really wanted.

## Exercise: Company Name Registration