

	<b>GP</b>	<b>LP</b>	<b>LLC</b>	<b>S Corp.</b>	<b>C Corp.</b>	<b>Sole Proprietorship</b>	<b>LLP</b>	<b>LLLP</b>	<b>Benefit Corp.</b>	<b>Professional Corp.</b>
<b>Number of stakeholders</b>	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	100 shareholders	Unlimited	One owner	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Restrictions on ownership</b>			Some states do not allow professionals to form LLC	Must be individuals; may not be owned by Corporations, LLCs, or partnerships Owners must be US-residents one class of stock	Can have many classes of stock (common and preferred)				Can have many classes of stock (common and preferred)	Many states restrict ownership; some only allow licensed professionals in the specific professional practice to own shares; others require a majority of shares to be owned by such professionals
<b>Capital contributions</b>	Partners contribute money or services to the partnership	Partners contribute money or services to the partnership	Members contribute money or services to the partnership	Shareholders typically purchase stock in the corporation	Shareholders typically purchase stock in the corporation	Sole proprietor contributes whatever capital needed	Partners contribute money or services to the partnership	Partners contribute money or services to the partnership	Shareholders typically purchase stock in the corporation	Shareholders typically purchase stock in the corporation

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<b>Management</b>	Partners; equal participation	General partners; limited partners have no management rights Limited partners may vote on certain matters	Members or managers (election) If member-managed, each member has one vote If manager-managed, members have no management rights; may vote on certain matters	Board of directors Shareholders elect directors Day-to-day operations run by officers appointed by directors	Board of directors Shareholders elect directors Day-to-day operations run by officers appointed by directors	Sole proprietor manages the business	Partners; equal participation	General partners; limited partners have no management rights Limited partners may vote on certain matters	Board of directors Shareholders elect directors Day-to-day operations run by officers appointed by directors	Board of directors; board membership often restricted Shareholders elect directors Day-to-day operations run by officers appointed by directors
<b>Financial rights</b>	Equal share in profits	Share in profits according to contribution	Equal share in profits	Distributions at discretion of board of directors	Distributions at discretion of board of directors	Sole proprietor gets all the profits	Equal share in profits	Share in profits according to contribution	Distributions at discretion of board of directors	Distributions at discretion of board of directors
<b>Formalities</b>				Annual shareholder meeting and director meeting Must keep record of minutes	Annual shareholder meeting and director meeting Must keep record of minutes				Annual shareholder meeting and director meeting Must keep record of minutes	Annual shareholder meeting and director meeting Must keep record of minutes

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<b>Liability</b>	Personal liability for debts and obligations of partnership	General partners are personally liable for debts and obligations of partnership	No personal liability for debts and obligations of LLC	No personal liability for debts and obligations of the corporation	No personal liability for debts and obligations of the corporation	Sole proprietor personally liable for debts and obligations	No personal liability for debts and obligations of partnership  Scope of limited liability may vary; some states limit liability only in case of a negligent tort	No personal liability for debts and obligations of partnership	No personal liability for debts and obligations of the corporation	No personal liability for debts and liabilities of the corporation
<b>Taxation</b>	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Corporation taxed on its earnings at the corporate level and the shareholders have a further tax on any dividends distributed ("double taxation")	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the sole proprietor	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Entity not taxed, as the profits and losses are passed through to the owners	Corporation taxed on its earnings at the corporate level and the shareholders have a further tax on any dividends distributed ("double taxation")	Corporation taxed on its earnings at the corporate level and the shareholders have a further tax on any dividends distributed ("double taxation")
<b>Transferability</b>	Only financial interest is freely transferable; transfer of interest in management requires partners' consent	Only financial interest is freely transferable; transfer of interest in management requires partners' consent	By default only financial interest is freely transferable; transfer of interest in management requires members' consent	Free transferability of ownership interest	Free transferability of ownership interest		Only financial interest is freely transferable; transfer of interest in management requires partners' consent	Only financial interest is freely transferable; transfer of interest in management requires partners' consent	Free transferability of ownership interest	Free transferability of ownership interest
<b>Continuity</b>	Dissolution upon occurrence of	Dissolution upon occurrence of	Dissolution upon occurrence of	Perpetual	Perpetual		Dissolution upon occurrence of	Dissolution upon occurrence of	Perpetual	Perpetual

	certain events	certain events	certain events				certain events	certain events		
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<b>Advantages</b>	Extremely flexible structure, so can be tailored to the needs of the owners  No formal requirements	Protection from personal liability for investors  Extremely flexible structure, so can be tailored to the needs of the owners  Investors are forced to be passive	Protection from personal liability for the owners  Extremely flexible structure, so can be tailored to the needs of the owners	Protection from personal liability for the owners  No taxation on entity level	Protection from personal liability for the owners  Ability to raise outside investment through issuance of shares, options and bonds  Free transferability of shares		Extremely flexible structure, so can be tailored to the needs of the owners	Protection from personal liability  Extremely flexible structure, so can be tailored to the needs of the owners  Investors are forced to be passive	Protection from personal liability for the owners  Free transferability of shares  Raise growth capital without losing control of the social or environmental mission of their business	Protection from personal liability for the owners  Free transferability of shares
<b>Disadvantages</b>	Partners are exposed to personal liability	General partners are exposed to personal liability	Setting up properly can be tricky, especially with multiple members	Restrictions on number and identity of owners	Strict formalities to follow				Strict formalities to follow  Must publicly report on their social and environmental performances and is legally accountable	