



# Yakama Nation 101: Department of Revenue

The Department of Revenue (DoR) is the center for licensing with the Yakama Nation. Services include vehicle licensing, business licensing and more. Any company doing business on the reservation, whether working directly with the Yakama Nation or not, must get a business license from the DoR office.

With this, each licensing process has a list of policies, guidelines and more to follow both for staff and clients.

Julia Moya, Revenue Manager at DoR, said the department follows Title 30 out of RYC, the revised Yakama Nation Law and Order code. Chapter 30.02 is applicable for business licenses. 30.02 lists rules and regulations, as well as defining offenses and prescribing penalties. Sections within list what land perimeters, hiring regulations and more guidelines that applicants need to abide by.

The licenses are valid for one calendar year and reset every January - all clients must reapply each calendar year and pay applicable application costs. Applications can be picked up at the DoR office, and staff are available to help with the application process upon request. The application process reviews required documentation that is submitted at the time and ensures compliance with any applicable guidelines and code.

Moya said a common misconception with DoR is the process of denial of a licensing application. Denials are only given if there is a disconnect between application information, or overdue payments towards other tribal departments or loans. While the denial is given, there is information citing where in the code there is a conflict, ways to appeal, and make it known that reapplications are always accepted.

For more information you can visit the Department of Revenue at the Agency Headquarters located at 401 Fort Road, Toppenish, WA 98948 or by telephone at (509) 865-5121.

*“The Tribal Council has the full Authority to Revoke, deny, modify, limit, or otherwise alter the extent of any license or permit and to establish and enact such laws relating to the establishment or conduct of business within the Yakama Reservation as it may deem desirable. Department of Revenue simply processes the applications and has no Authority to deny any business license without the consent of the Tribal Council Law and Order Committee.” (Ch. 30.02.17)*

## 2023 Statistics

**New business license applications received 56**

**Renewal business license applications received 337**

**Non-profit new business license applications received 1**

**Non-profit renewal business license applications received 5**

**Total applications approved 396**

**Total applications denied 2**

**Total applications pending 1**

***Of the 337 renewal business license applications, 178 are Legends Casino vendors.***