

WHETHER YOU'RE A BUSINESS OWNER OR A CITIZEN

accessing government programs or services, you don't want to spend a long time filling out forms or searching government websites.

That's why the Government of British Columbia has been working steadily since 2001 to streamline services and eliminate the burden of excessive and unnecessary regulatory requirements on B.C.'s citizens and businesses.

Our government has been:

- ▶▶ reducing the number of regulatory requirements;
- ▶▶ improving existing ones; and,
- ▶▶ ensuring government processes are simple and streamlined.

Reducing red tape involves changes to processes, forms, government websites, legislation and more to make it easier for citizens and business to deal with government.

Reducing red tape for... parents and families

- ▶▶ It's easier to take your child fishing thanks to changes to the Wildlife Act. Adults who accompany youth (16 years old or younger) will be allowed to fish in waters stocked with catchable rainbow trout.
- ▶▶ Parents have more dining options now that they can take their children to eat in restaurants with pub licences.
- ▶▶ Wait times for children and youth needing mental health services have been reduced so that families can now find out within a day if they qualify for services.

Reducing red tape for... students and apprentices

- ▶▶ StudentAidBC's new [dashboard](#) will give students an at-a-glance view of their loan applications so they can access messages, update their profile and track the amount of money they have borrowed and repaid.
- ▶▶ An apprentice can now quickly find [trades training spaces](#) available at all 14 institutions offering trades programs. Once the apprentice selects a trade, they can go directly to the institution's website to register or get more information.



Celebrating an "A" in red tape reduction for the 4th year in a row.

Facts:

43% total reduction
in requirements
since 2001.

2001

2015

Reduced over 1700
requirements
since last year.

More than **200**
red tape reduction projects
are underway
or completed.



Reducing red tape for... citizens

- ▶▶ British Columbians can now get information and assistance to register to be an organ donor at any of the 61 [Service BC](#) locations. Last year's pilot program shows the simplified system could boost the number of organ donations up to four times the amount registered under the previous system.
- ▶▶ You can now buy local beer and wine in select grocery stores.
- ▶▶ You can simply apply online for [special occasion licences](#) to host parties or outdoor weddings instead of filling out paperwork at BC Liquor Stores, police stations and municipal halls.
- ▶▶ It's easier for citizens to access their personal income assistance and disability assistance information through MySelfServe, an online tool.

Reducing red tape for... small business owners

- ▶▶ Owners of breweries, distilleries and wineries can now sell their products at farmers' markets.
- ▶▶ Operators of ski hills and golf courses can easily host special events or festivals that serve alcohol through a new special-event permit.
- ▶▶ Event operators, businesses and groups raising money for non-profit and charitable organizations can also use the special event permits.
- ▶▶ An [online guide](#) makes it easier for prospective restaurateurs to find information about the various agencies, steps and requirements involved in opening a restaurant in one convenient location.
- ▶▶ A simplified two-page [request for proposal form](#) has reduced the paperwork burden for small business owners who can now quickly and easily bid for government contracts and increase opportunities to grow their businesses.
- ▶▶ Businesses now have quicker access to important health and safety and compensation information for their employees through a new help line at the [Employers' Advisers Office](#).
- ▶▶ Provincial sales tax help, including tools and services for business operators is available through [eTaxBC](#), a toll-free helpline and [online support](#) for questions or webinars about sales tax.