A foreign corporation may not transact business in this state until it obtains a Certificate of Authority from the Secretary of State.

The following activities, among others, do not constitute transacting business as stated in A.C.A. 4-27-1501 (B):

1. Maintaining, defending, or setting any proceeding;

2. Holding meetings of the board of directors or shareholders, or carrying on other activities concerning internal corporate affairs;

3. Maintaining bank accounts;

4. Maintaining offices or agencies for the transfer, exchange and registration of the corporation’s own securities or maintaining trustees or depositories with respect to those securities;

5. Selling through independent contractors;

6. Soliciting or obtaining orders, whether by mail or through employees or agents or otherwise, if the orders require acceptance outside this State before they become contracts;

7. Creating or acquiring indebtedness, mortgages and security interests in real or personal property;

8. Securing or collecting debts or enforcing mortgages and security interests in property securing the debts;

9. Owning, without more, real or personal property;

10. Conducting an isolated transaction that is completed within thirty (30) days and that is not one in the course of repeated transactions of a like nature; and

11. Transacting business in interstate commerce.

Corporations which fail to obtain a Certificate of Authority may not maintain a proceeding in any court in this State based on cause of action arising from the transaction of business and may be found liable for civil penalties ranging from $100 to $5,000. For information regarding the application seeking authorization to do business in this State please visit our website at www.sos.arkansas.gov, or write:

Business and Commercial Services Division
State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094
(501) 682-3409 (888) 233-0325