

Before and after

Business License Tax Application

City of Baldwin Park · Form, English, fillable · Original: [source PDF on the agency website](#)

Before

Fails PDF/UA-1: 13 rules, 424 failed checks

1 pages · 1796 KB · not tagged · has text

After

Passes PDF/UA-1 machine checks (veraPDF)

4 pages · 181 KB · tagged · 105 fillable fields

Main problems found

- Window shows the file name instead of the document title
- No tag structure at all (screen readers get no headings, lists or reading order)
- Document language not set
- Not marked as a tagged PDF
- Content that is neither tagged nor marked as decoration
- Tab order not set to follow the structure

What we did (LibreOffice rebuild with fillable fields + field names added)

- Original had 424 failed checks: no tags, no language, and its 112 fill-in fields had no spoken names; 29 of them were literally named "undefined".
- Rebuilt as a tagged fillable form with 105 clearly named fields grouped under headings (split phone boxes merged; a signature field added).
- The number-and-fee grids became real data tables with row and column headers.
- Rotated sidebar labels (Business Information, Vending Machines) became headings.

Still to do before delivery to a client: a person reads the file with a screen reader (NVDA) to confirm reading order and alt text, and the agency approves the rebuilt layout. Rebuilt files carry the same content as the original, not a pixel copy of its design.