

KEY FACTS GOLDEN VISA

HOW TO OBTAIN A GOLDEN VISA IN THE UAE

THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) HAS BECOME A GLOBAL HOTSPOT FOR PROFESSIONALS, ENTREPRENEURS, AND INVESTORS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH LONG-TERM RESIDENCY IN A COUNTRY KNOWN FOR ITS ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES, MODERN LIFESTYLE, AND STRATEGIC LOCATION. ONE OF THE MOST APPEALING PATHWAYS TO RESIDENCY IN THE UAE IS THE GOLDEN VISA PROGRAM, INTRODUCED IN 2019 TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN TOP TALENT AND SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT.

Here, we explore the eligibility criteria and options available for obtaining a Golden Visa in the UAE.

WHAT IS THE UAE GOLDEN VISA?

The Golden Visa is a long-term residency visa that allows foreigners to live, work, or study in the UAE without the need for a local sponsor. It offers a 10-year residency that can be renewed. This visa is particularly attractive because it provides a sense of stability and the ability to reside in the UAE with family members under favourable terms.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE GOLDEN VISA

The UAE offers several pathways to obtain the Golden Visa, catering to a diverse range of individuals and entities:

Investors in Real Estate

- > Investment Amount: Minimum AED 2 million in property
- > Additional Requirements: The investment must be in freehold properties; the real estate can be mortgaged, provided the investor pays at least AED 2 million upfront

Entrepreneurs and Business Owners

- > Individuals who have AED 2 million paid up shares in a UAE-based company are eligible to apply
- > Entrepreneurs can qualify if they own or are partners in a UAE-based company generating at least AED 2 million in revenue annually

Holding a Fixed Deposit of AED 2 Million or More

- > Individuals holding a fixed deposit of AED 2 million or more in a local bank account
- > The fixed deposit must be held for a minimum of two years

Skilled Workers and Professionals Who Hold a Bachelor's Degree

- > Applicants must have a valid employment contract in the UAE, with their occupation falling under designated high-demand fields such as medicine, engineering, information technology, education, or law
- > The total salary must be AED 30,000 including all allowances and the bank statement must show a minimum AED 30,000 salary transfer per month in the last six months

BENEFITS OF THE UAE GOLDEN VISA

- > Long-Term Residency: A 5- or 10-year renewable visa ensures stability and eliminates the need for frequent renewals
- > Family Inclusion: Holders can sponsor their spouse, children (of any age), and domestic staff
- > No Local Sponsor Needed: Visa holders can live, work, or start businesses without requiring a local Emirati partner
- > Business Advantages: Golden Visa holders gain access to UAE business-friendly policies and tax benefits
- > Access to Services: Priority access to healthcare, education, and government services is often provided

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE UAE GOLDEN VISA

1. Initial Eligibility Check: Confirm eligibility based on your category and criteria.
2. Documentation: Prepare the necessary documents, such as proof of investment, academic credentials, or employment contracts.
3. Application Submission: Apply via the official UAE Golden Visa website or through the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA).
4. Approval Process: Upon approval, the visa will be stamped into your passport.

HOW TRIDENT CAN HELP

Trident Trust can help you with the application process. Please contact our Trident Trust Dubai team at dubai@tridenttrust.com to discuss your requirements.

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