

50,000+  
Businesses  
Served

60+  
Offices  
Globally

450+  
Team Members  
Globally

YOUR ASEAN  
BUSINESS LAUNCHPAD

# Empowering Businesses since 2008

- Company Incorporation
- Accounting & Tax Filing
- Business Permits & Licenses
- Visa & Work Permits
- FDA & Trademark Registration
- Legal Services
- Service Office & Virtual Office
- Real Estate Services
- Business Matching
- Import / Export Service

We speak: English - Chinese - Thai - Russian - Burmese - Indonesian - Arabic - Kazakh

# DUBAI, UAE COMPANY SETUP



CAN BE 100% OWNED BY FOREIGNERS FOR MOST INDUSTRIES

## Key Facts about starting a business in Dubai, UAE

### 1. Minimum Company Requirements

- Minimum 1 shareholder (individual or corporate entity).
- 100% foreign ownership allowed for most business activities.
- Minimum 1 director/manager required (no nationality restriction).
- A registered physical business address in the UAE is mandatory (Ejari for Mainland/office or flexi-desk for Free Zone).

### 2. Easy Incorporation from Overseas

- Company can be fully incorporated remotely, even if you are not in Dubai.

### 3. Corporate Bank Account Requirements

- Most UAE banks require at least one authorised signatory to hold a valid UAE Residency Visa and Emirates ID.
- Non-resident signatories may be accepted, subject to enhanced due diligence and bank approval.

### 4. Mandatory Corporate Tax Filing (Annual Returns)

- All UAE-registered companies must file a Corporate Tax Return within 9 months after the end of their financial year, in accordance with Federal Tax Authority requirements.

### 5. Tax System Overview

- UAE corporate tax range from 0% to 9% depending on company revenue and zoning.
- Corporate Income Tax is levy on profit above AED375,000 a year.
- Dubai follows the UAE federal VAT system - 5%
- 0% Dividend Tax. 0% Personal Income Tax.

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Key Facts about starting a business in Dubai, UAE

## 6. Compliance Requirements

- Companies must register for Corporate Tax with the Federal Tax Authority within the prescribed timeline established by the FTA (registration deadlines depend on license issuance and FTA decisions).
- All UAE companies must maintain proper accounting records reflecting their financial position, and records must be available for FTA inspection.
- Audited financial statements are required where specified under UAE Corporate Tax rules (e.g., revenue thresholds) or by Free Zone authorities for license renewal.
- Mainland and Free Zone companies must renew their trade licenses annually as part of ongoing compliance.

## 7. Flexible Ownership Structure

- Shareholders may be individuals (natural persons) or corporate entities, local or foreign.
- Shareholders may be 100% foreigners or a mix of locals and foreigners.

## 8. Paid-Up Capital

- No minimum capital for most businesses, but banks and immigration authorities generally prefer at least AED20,000–AED100,000 depending on the business.

## 9. Business Licensing

- Certain industries require additional business licenses before operating (F&B, import/export, education, hospitality, etc.).
- Business activities may require external regulator or authority approvals before the trade license can be issued or the activity can be operated.

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Overview of the cost to start and maintain a Company in Dubai, UAE

## MAINLAND COMPANY

- Business Name Reservation
- Drafting of Memorandum of Association
- MOA Notary Service Fee & Submission to DED
- 2 years UAE Residency Visa
- VIP Medical Check Up
- Basic Health Insurance (upgradeable)
- Emirates ID Card

One-time  
Fee of  
THB  
525,000

Includes 1 year Chinese / Thai /  
Burmese / English support

## FREEZONE COMPANY

- Business Name Reservation
- Drafting of Memorandum of Association
- MOA Notary Service Fee & Submission to FTZ
- 1 year Flexi Desk service within the Free Zone jurisdiction
- 2 years UAE Residency Visa
- VIP Medical Check Up
- Basic Health Insurance (upgradeable)
- Emirates ID Card

One-time  
Fee of  
THB  
435,000

Includes 1 year Chinese / Thai /  
Burmese / English support

## OPTIONAL

1 year EJARI service  
(inclusive of DED & Bank  
inspection assistance  
service)

**FROM THB60,000/MONTH**

Bookkeeping Service

**FROM THB15,000/MONTH**

### Note:

- We recommend the minimum paid up capital of AED50,000 for foreign owned companies to ease Bank Account Opening process.
- You're required to be present in Dubai for about 10 days to process your medical check, Emirates ID application and Bank Account Opening.

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