



CANDEO®
SERVICES DMCC | DUBAI



FAMILY RELOCATION

HOW TO OBTAIN RESIDENCY

Vibrant cultural offerings, Unparalleled Quality of Life and Health care system. Becoming a resident in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) typically involves obtaining a residence visa, which grants foreign nationals **the right to live and work in the country**. The most relevant routes identified for your needs are the following:

Golden Visa through Investment

The Golden Visa is a long-term residency visa that provides a pathway for investors, entrepreneurs to obtain a 10 years residency permit that may be extended to their spouses or minor children.

- Real Estate Investment of above AED 2 million for a 10 years renewable visa
- Real Estate Investment for above AED 1 million for a 5 years renewable visa
- Can be sold throughout the tenure of the permit, however renewal conditions must be met at the time of expiry.

In the case of a married couple, they have the option of either being both shareholder of the property and thus apply for a Golden Visa individually (in which case the total invested value in the same property must be above AED 4 million) or have one of the spouses be the single shareholder, obtain the Golden Visa and extend the benefits to their spouse by mean of a dependent visa application. The dependent spouse will then be tied to the sponsoring spouse, rather than to the property itself. We recommend to safeguard succession procedures with a DIFC Will.

How we can help

- Assist with your Home Search
- Handle Registration Process
- Assist with connection of utilities, furnishing etc.



Registration ca. 1 week
Investment of AED 2 million or more
Registration ca. 6% of property value

Standard Residency Permit through Business Ownership

Setting up a business in a free zone is often the easiest and fastest way to establish a company and obtain residency by mean of sponsorship by the company itself. The number of residency permits the company can extend, depends on the office size.

- No minimum investment or capital required
- Shareholder or employees eligible for 2 years renewable residency permit
- Managers who draw more than AED 30'000 per month for over 6 months and who hold a university degree may apply for a Golden Visa and exit the company as Employee therefor no longer be tied to the company.

If the married couple wishes to be co-shareholder, they will both be eligible for a shareholder visa. However, it is wroth to note that local banks provide greater retail services to employees than to business owners of new entities. Hence, it might be beneficial to have one of the partners be an employee rather than a shareholder. Alternatively, one resident spouse may extend their benefits to their spouse by mean of dependent visa application. The dependent spouse will then be tied to the sponsoring spouse, rather than the company. We recommend to safeguard succession procedures of the shares and assets with a DIFC Will.

How we can help

- Guide you to chose the most appropriate activity and free zone
- Incorporation and subsequent A to Z company administration
- Assist with Home Search separately



Setup ca. 5 to 8 weeks
No minimum investment
Annual expenses

TAX RESIDENCY

Individual

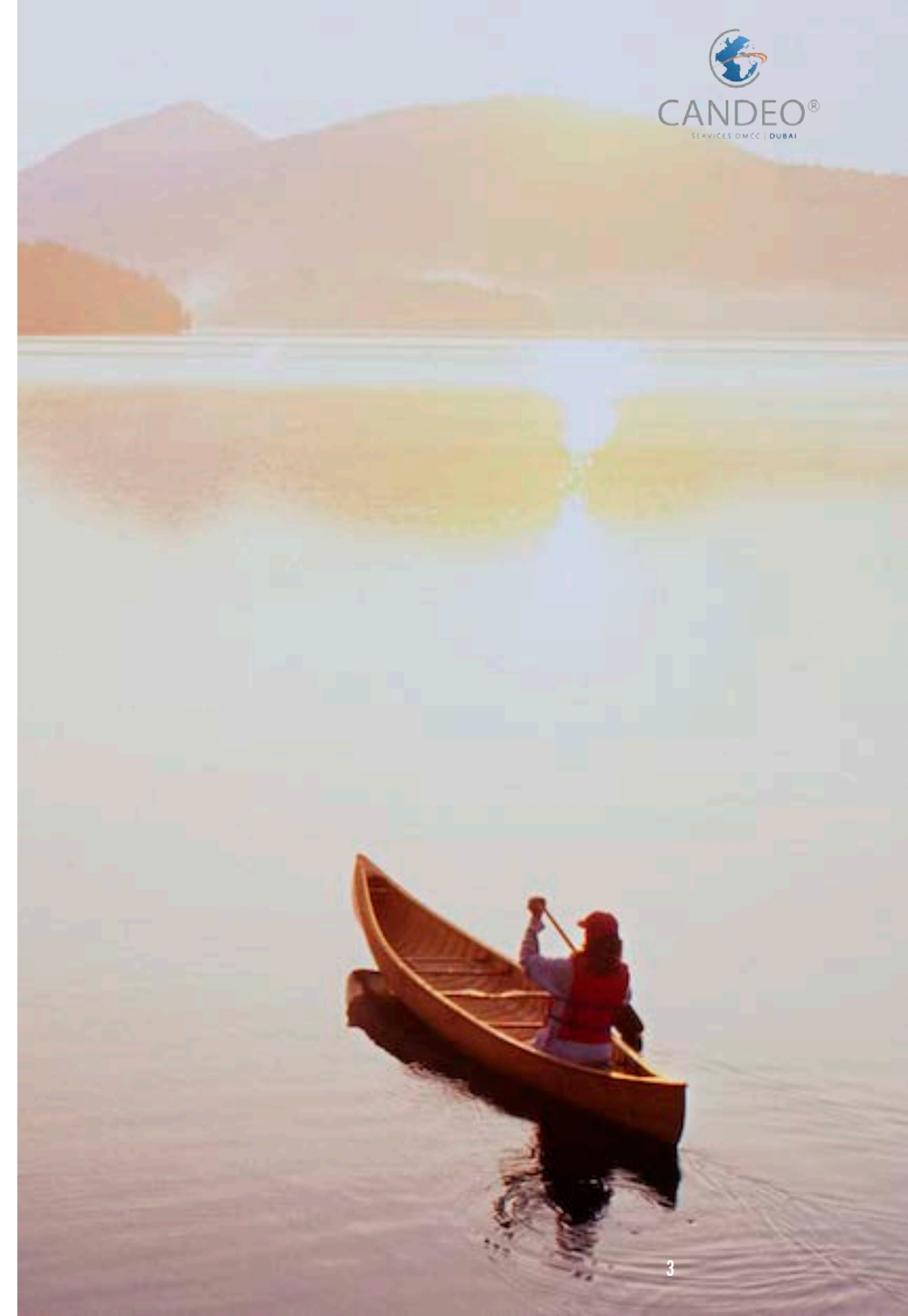
The UAE is known for its favorable tax environment, offering a one-year tax rate for individuals and businesses (except for certain sectors like oil and gas, and banks). However, tax residency is still an important concept, particularly when it comes to international tax treaties and obligations. The following criteria must be met:

- Physical Presence Test (min. 183 days within calendar year)
- Permanent Home (rented or owned)
- Valid residence visa (regardless of type)
- Having a local bank account for over 6 months
- Having employment or business activity in the UAE (not a must)

Corporate Tax Residency Certificate for Double Tax Treaties

For businesses, the concept of tax residency in the UAE depends on whether the business entity is subject to tax under the UAE's corporate tax regime, which was introduced in 2023 for certain sectors and profits above a threshold. To obtain a Corporate Tax Residency Certificate, the following is needed:

- Company must be existing for one-year, valid trade license
- Effective Place of Management (resident Manager)
- Lease agreement physical office
- Bank statements more than 6 months



UAE TAXES IN A NUTSHELL

The UAE's favorable tax environment

No Personal Income Tax:

The UAE does not impose tax on personal income, making it an attractive destination for expatriates.

Corporate Tax:

Every UAE Entity is a UAE Tax Person and therefore subject to Corporate tax registration. The Standard Tax Regime grants a tax rate of Zero Percent (0%) on net profit threshold of AED 375'000 and Nine Percent (9%) on profits exceeding AED 375'000. It further provides for several tax relief possibilities, such as

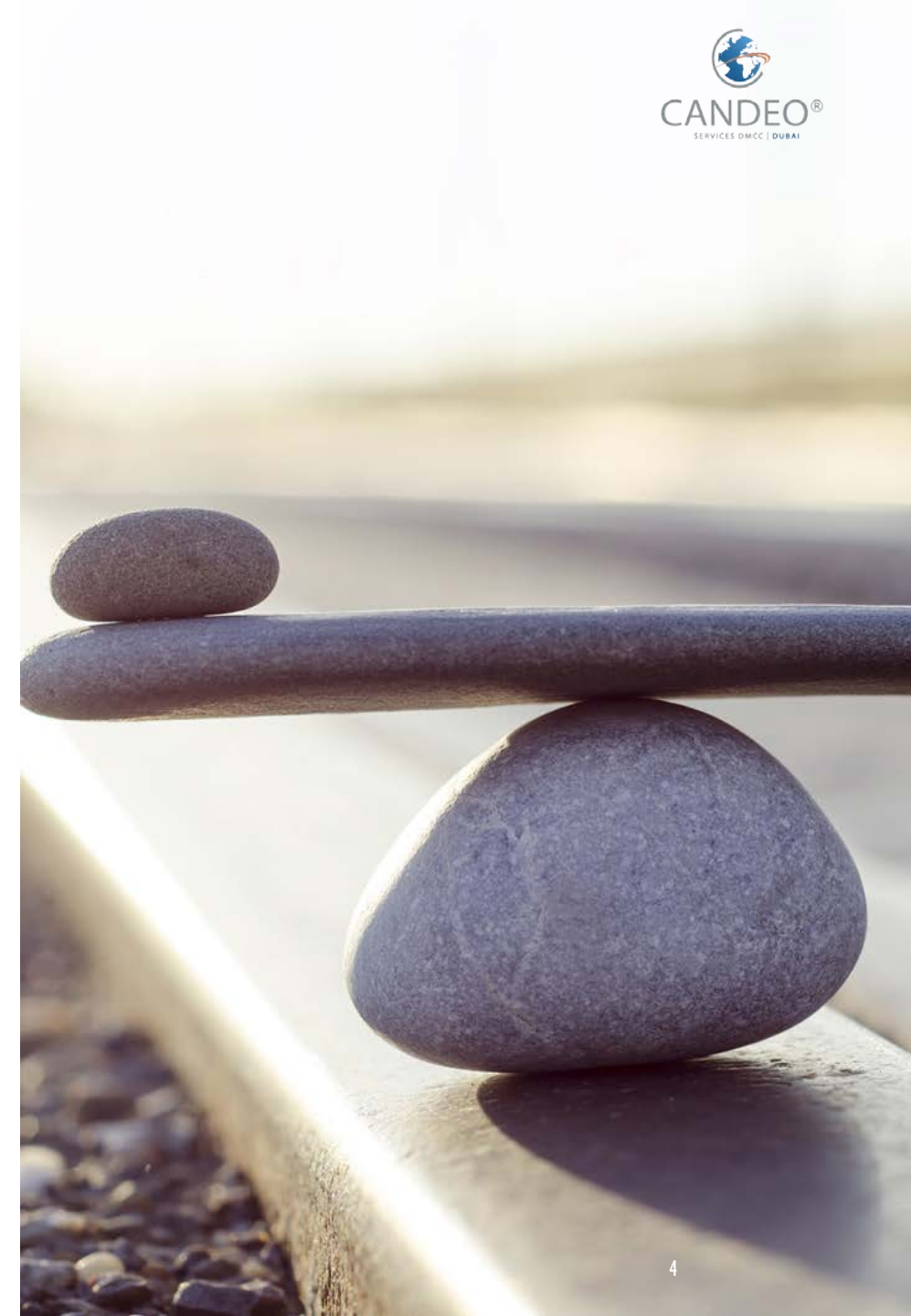
- Small Business Relief (0% Rate on all Income if revenue is below AED 3 mio)
- Qualified Free Zone Relief (0% Rate on Qualifying Income if all conditions are met)

Global Taxation:

Businesses engaged in cross-border activities enjoy access to a growing number of Double Tax Treaties. Individuals and businesses need to apply for a Tax Residency Certificate if they want to benefit from double taxation treaties or prove their residency status.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

The UAE introduced Value Added Tax (VAT) in January 2018 at a rate of 5%. Businesses must register for VAT if their annual taxable turnover exceeds AED 375,000. If turnover is below this threshold, businesses can voluntarily register for VAT, but it is not mandatory.



PROCESS (RESIDENCY & BUSINESS)

Here's a step-by-step guide on how to set up a business in the UAE specifically for obtaining residency:

1. Decide on the Type of Business and Structure

The first step is to determine what type of business you want to establish and where.

- Mainland company (onshore) necessary for retail business locally, more complex administration than Free Zone
- Free Zone company ("midshore") ideal for family offices, trading or services outside the UAE or within Free Zones
- Offshore company (does not provide residency permit), ideal for pure holding activities

2. Chose the Right Business Activity

The UAE allows a wide range of business activities. Typical choices are:

- Single Family Office, allows holding and/or management of assets and businesses
- Trading activities
- Consulting or other services
- Manufacturing or Logistics

3. Incorporation / setup

Having chosen an activity and business intentions, the appropriate Free Zone can be identified accordingly.

- Trade license and establishment card will be issued for a **12 months validity**
- Resident Manager, who may also act as Director and Secretary and Permanent Office solution are mandatory
- Accountant and Auditor must be appointed

4. Apply for Residency Visa (shareholder / employees)

Upon receipt of the trade license and establishment card, residency permits can be processed for the shareholder and/or employee(s). Resident shareholder or employee may then extend their visa to their spouses or minor children if desired

5. Bank accounts, driving licenses, residential property lease, post paid mobile number etc.

Upon receipt of residency permit, the resident will have access to all local services.

TIME FRAME

Depending on the jurisdiction and chosen activity, we recommend to allow a soft two months time frame for the formation of the company up until the residency permit. Business bank account opening will start thereafter and may take another 1 to 7 weeks.

COSTS TO BE CONSIDERED

SETUP FEES

One-time expenses for the formation of the company, including service and applicable government

COMPANY ANNUAL EXPENSES

Annual expenses in relation to the maintaining of the company, including license government fees, permanent office solution, and operational expenditure for accounting, audit and administrative services.

RESIDENCE PERMIT FEES

Permit and service fees in relation to the UAE Residency, applicable at each application / renewal.

ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION

Candeo may assist with all administrative and regulatory matters throughout the lifecycle of the company, including accounting, coordination of financial audit, and UAE Corporate Tax registration and submissions.

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Making an informed choice for peace of mind

In the UAE, **free zones** are specially designated areas that offer a range of benefits to businesses, including **100% foreign ownership, tax exemptions, and simplified regulations**. Each free zone in the UAE caters to specific types of business activities. The activities allowed in each free zone can vary depending on the focus or industry that the free zone serves. Free zones exist in all Emirates, and allow cross boarder living however we recommend having the residency in the Emirate you chose to live in.

Legal Framework

While each free zone has its own regulatory framework for registration procedures and scope of activities, federal laws apply to all free zones except the Dubai International Financial Center and the Abu Dhabi Global Markets free zones. The DIFC and ADGM are financial zones with their own legal system and are the only free zones for financial service activities.

DMCC

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoums flagship Free Zone intended and ideally located for commodities trading as well as most non-financial services. The Free Zone is at the heart of Dubai's vibrant Jumeirah Lake Tower district, facing the Marina and only few minutes away from major landmarks such as Burj Al Arab, Mall of the Emirates etc.

Ideal for

- Global reputation
- Ecosystem of renowned international companies
- Ideal office solutions for substance and usage if required
- Well located and smart office solutions
- International business standards

Specialties: Single Family Office, Commodities Trading, Consultancies

IFZA

A vibrant and rapidly expanding free zone strategically located in Dubai Silicon Oasis, providing an optimal setting for a diverse array of businesses, from emerging startups to established multinational corporations. This free zone is situated within Dubai's technological epicenter, just a short distance from key landmarks such as Dubai International Airport, Downtown Dubai, and the iconic Burj Khalifa.

Ideal for

- Soft setups for visa purposes, or for light commercial activities
- Rapidity
- Large activity list
- Situations with no or little substance requirements on the business end

Specialties: Consultancies, General Trading, Information Technology, E- commerce

Snapshot Family Office

Scope of a Single Family Office License (DMCC)

Includes offices founded by family members for the provision of services to the same single family; such services include consulting, asset management, concierge work, day to day accounting and management of legal affairs, corporate governance issues and all the administrative and office affairs; where such firms are not allowed to offer any of the above-mentioned services to any third party other than the family's own members, entities, businesses, trusts or foundations.

Such office may hold assets (tangible and financial) locally and globally. Note: Requires undertaking letter and evidence of having USD 1 million in investible assets (do not need to be transferred or held).

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Acquisition

Buying residential property in the UAE can be a great investment, especially for those interested in the country's thriving real estate market and tax incentives. The UAE does not impose a property tax on residential property ownership. However, there are other fees associated with property transactions:

- Registration Fees, typically, 4% of the property value.
- Real Estate Agent Fees, typically around 2% of the sale price.
- Trustee Government fees (variable fixed fees).
- Service Charges, vary based on development and size.
- Housing Fee of 5% of the annual average rent included in the monthly electricity bill (DEWA)

Rental market

The rental market in the UAE is robust, with many expatriates opting to rent rather than buy property. As of 2024 the rental market in Dubai is seeing increasing demand, with limited availabilities.

- Lease agreements are for one year renewable, generally paid upfront
- Rental increases are regulated and allow up to 20% increase depending on market value
- Agent fees are generally 5%, Security deposit is generally 10%
- Lease agreements are standardized and must be certified (*EJARI*)
- Housing Fee of 5% of the annual actual rent included in the monthly electricity bill (DEWA)

How we can help

- Assist with your Home Search
- Handle Acquisition or Rental Registration Process
- Assist with connection of utilities, interior design and furnishing etc.



HEALTH CARE

The UAE has a modern and highly developed healthcare system, offering world-class medical services that attract both local residents and international patients. Healthcare is a priority for the government, and significant investments have been made to build a robust infrastructure and offer cutting-edge medical treatments.

All expatriates are required to have health insurance in the UAE. While employers typically provide health insurance for employees, business owners can choose from an outstanding network of private health insurance providers locally and internationally.

How we can help

- Coordinate requests for proposals through our partner network locally and globally
- Administrative assistance with handling of claims if applicable



OUR SERVICE PROPOSAL

On the basis of the requirements identified, Candeo is pleased to offer the following services:

Golden Visa through property investment

1. Administrative handling of home search and acquisition procedures
2. Golden Visa Application procedures
3. Local relocation services (conversion driving license, utilities registration, mobile etc)
4. Assist with bank account opening
5. Assist with Health Insurance solutions
6. Tax Residency Certificate procedures

Residency permit through business setup

Business services

1. Business Setup
2. Annual administration, accounting and tax filing services
3. Assist with bank account openings
4. Corporate Tax Residency Certificates

Relocation services

1. Residency Permit Application procedures
2. Assist with home search for residential address
3. Registration of utilities and driving license conversion
4. Assist with bank account opening
5. Assist with Health Insurance solutions
6. Tax Residency Certificate procedures

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

The following documents may be required throughout the process.

Some of these may take time to prepare:

For Visa purposes

- Valid Passport (ideally more than 3 years validity)
- Passport pictures (digital, white background)
- Legalized up until UAE Embassy Marriage Certificate (not an immediate necessity but best to have)
- Legalized up until UAE Embassy Education Degree (not an immediate necessity but increasingly required)

Where necessary Candeo can arrange online Power of Attorneys notarized by the UAE Notary Public, as well as attestations and legalizations inside the UAE.

NOTICE

This presentation provides general information only. It is not intended to be a substitute for legal or tax advice. US Persons are advised to seek and follow expert guidance in relation to their obligations.

Candeo is happy to introduce to relevant experts in its partner network.



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