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# DUBAI

FREEZONE COMPANY SETUP  
IN THE UAE

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In this ebook, we will guide you through the process of incorporating a company in the UAE, highlighting the essential steps involved.

We'll explore the benefits of incorporation, the step-by-step process, visa procedures, required documentation, and post-incorporation considerations. This comprehensive guide aims to help you efficiently navigate the complexities of establishing and managing a business in the UAE.

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An aerial photograph taken from an airplane window, showing the wing and engine of the aircraft in the foreground. Below, the Dubai Free Zones are visible, characterized by their distinctive palm tree shape and curved, radiating landmasses extending into the sea. The city skyline is also visible in the background.

# 1.

## **Introduction**

### **Dubai Free Zones**

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# Introduction to Dubai Free Zones

Setting up a business in one of the UAE's Freezones offers numerous benefits including 100% foreign ownership, tax exemptions, and simplified business processes. This guide provides a comprehensive overview of the steps involved in establishing a Freezone company in the UAE.





# 2.

## Benefits of Setting Up a Freezone Company

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# Benefits of these free zones



## 100% Foreign Ownership

Unlike mainland companies, Free Zone companies allow full ownership by foreign investors.



## Tax Exemptions

Freezone companies enjoy corporate tax exemptions and no import/export duties.



## Repatriation of Profits

Full repatriation of profits and capital is permitted.



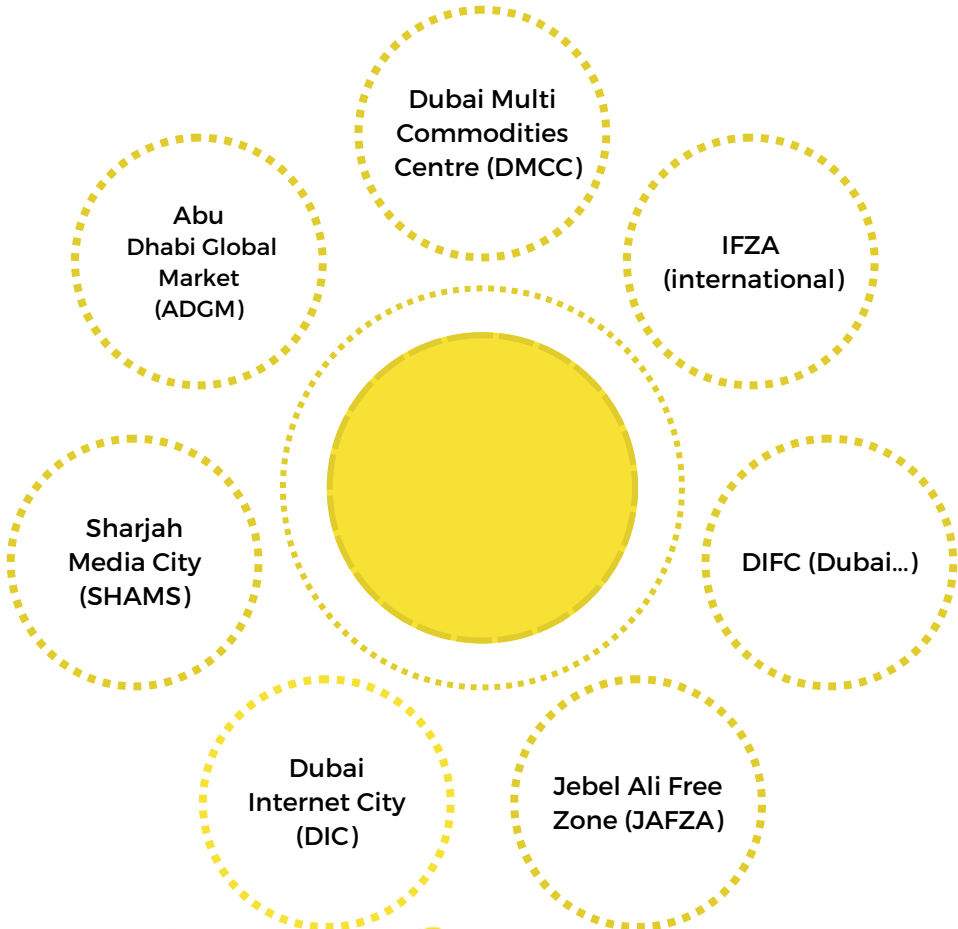
## Strategic Location

The UAE's strategic location provides access to markets in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.



# Types of Freezones in the UAE

The UAE hosts numerous Freezones, each catering to different business activities. Some of the prominent Freezones include:



# 3.

## Steps to Set Up to Setting Up a Freezone Company

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A background image of the Dubai skyline at sunset, featuring the Burj Khalifa and other skyscrapers silhouetted against a warm, orange and yellow sky. The water of the Dubai Marina is visible in the foreground.



# Steps to Set Up a Freezone Company

## 1 Choose a Freezone

Select the Freezone that aligns with your business activities.

## 2 Select a Business Activity

Ensure the Freezone permits your intended business activities.

## 3 Determine the Company Structure

Decide between setting up a Freezone Establishment (FZE) or a Freezone Company (FZC).

## 4 Submit Application

Complete and submit the application form along with the required documents.

## 5 Lease Agreement

Sign a lease agreement for office space within the Freezone.

## 6 Licensing and Visa

Obtain your business license and visas for employees.





# 4.

## Visa Processing of Setting Up a Freezone Company

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# Visa Processing for Freezone Companies

One of the significant advantages of setting up a Freezone company in the UAE is the streamlined visa processing for business owners and employees. Here is a detailed guide on the visa processing steps:



## Types of Visas Available

- **Investor/Partner Visa:** For company owners and shareholders.
- **Employee Visa:** For staff employed by the Freezone company.
- **Dependent Visa:** For family members of investors and employees.



## Visa Application Process

- 1 **Entry Permit:** Once the Freezone company is established, the first step is to apply for an entry permit, allowing the visa applicant to enter the UAE.
- 2 **Status Change:** After entering the UAE, the applicant needs to change their visa status. This can be done either by an in-country status change or by exiting and re-entering the UAE.
- 3 **Medical Examination:** The applicant must undergo a medical examination at an authorized medical center in the UAE.
- 4 **Emirates ID Application:** Submit an application for an Emirates ID, which includes biometric data collection.
- 5 **Visa Stamping:** Finally, the residency visa is stamped in the applicant's passport by the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA).

# 5.

## Required Documents for Setting Up a Freezone Company

# Required Documents



- ✓ Passport copies of shareholders
- ✓ Business plan & company profile
- ✓ Proof of address
- ✓ NOC from the current sponsor (if applicable)
- ✓ Application form



# 6.

## After Setting Up a Freezone Company

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An aerial view of a city skyline at dusk, featuring several prominent skyscrapers and a multi-lane highway. The sky is a mix of orange and grey, suggesting a hazy or overcast evening. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow rounded rectangle containing the word "Emifast" in black text.

# After...

## Business Licenses

**Annual Renewal:** Freezone business licenses must be renewed annually. Ensure all necessary documents are submitted on time to avoid fines.

**Activity Updates:** Any changes in business activities should be reported to the Freezone authority.



## Financial Reporting

**Bookkeeping:** Maintain accurate and up-to-date financial records.

**Annual Audits:** Some Freezones require companies to submit audited financial statements. Ensure your books are audited by a certified auditor approved by the Freezone authority.



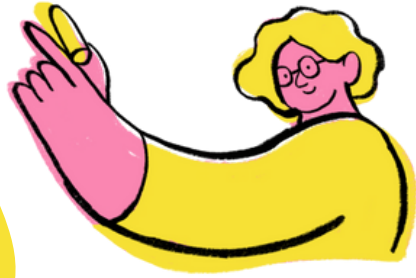
# After...

## Employment and Labor Laws

**Employee Contracts:** Comply with the UAE labor laws by issuing legally compliant employment contracts.

**Wage Protection System (WPS):** Pay salaries through the WPS to ensure compliance with the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization (MOHRE) regulations.

**Work Permits and Visas:** Ensure all employees have valid work permits and residency visas.



## Tax Compliance

**VAT Registration:** If your company's annual turnover exceeds the VAT threshold, you must register for VAT with the Federal Tax Authority (FTA).

**VAT Returns:** File regular VAT returns and ensure timely payment of any VAT due.

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# Facing challenges with **business set?**

Let Emifast handle the complexity for you. Our company formation package guarantees a seamless and hassle-free setup, without the headache of paperwork, regulations, and complicated requirements.

## Contact Us



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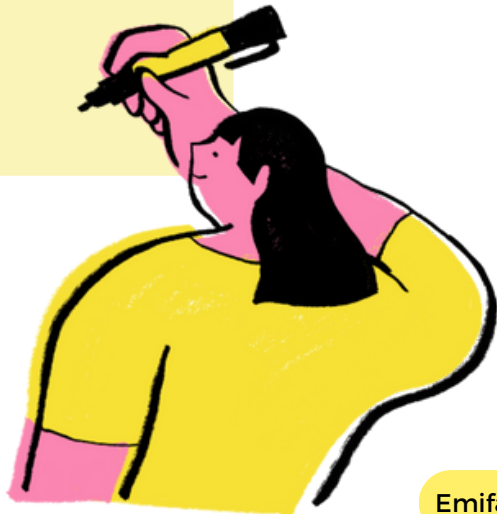
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