

STARTING A BUSINESS IN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

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“ A Day Without Business Services is like a Day Without Sunshine.”

Khalifa Industrial Free Zone

2022-2023

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DIBN BUSINESS SERVICES

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KEZAD

KEZAD Group is the UAE's largest operator of fully integrated economic zones, business services, staff accommodation and industrial real estate solutions. The Group is committed to creating competitive business ecosystems that encourage sustainable growth, through an open, agile, and integrated environment. This attracts foreign and local investment to Abu Dhabi by offering market access, low operating costs, and ease of doing business both regionally and globally.

The 12 economic zones under KEZAD Group are located in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra, and provide world-class transportation infrastructure together with multimodal connectivity by road, sea, air, and future rail networks. The zones offer 100% foreign ownership, 100% repatriation of capital and profit, the potential for duty-free trade within the region, and advanced technology platforms that bring together the port community systems with the economic zones. These exclusive offerings allow both clients and partners to be more competitive in an ever-changing global environment.

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Company License Type

Familiarize yourself with the basics of business licencing that is compliant with the United Arab Emirates legal provisions.

Industrial License

Permits import of raw material, manufacturing, processing, assembling, packaging and export of intermediate and/or finished products and such other industrial activities as are published in the Industrial Licence Category List.

Trading Licence OR General Trading Licence

Permits trading activities that include import, export, distribution, stocking, warehousing of products and items specified on the Licence and such other trading activities as are published in the Trading Licence Category List.

A General Trading Licence is issued if the total number of products exceed 17 (Seventeen) or the total number of groups exceed 3 (three).

Service License

Permits service activities such as management and economic consulting services, marketing services, logistical support services such as cargo and freight forwarding, restaurants, retail food outlets, catering services, travel agencies, etc. as are published in the Service Licence Category List.

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Registration & Licencing Procedures

KEZAD Group offers a helping hand at every stage of setting up your business here, including the registration and licensing stage, through dedicated support personnel for applicants.

KEZAD Group offers a streamlined and efficient registration and licensing process which ensures that most licenses are issued within a week of submission of the completed application, payment and relevant documentation.

During this process, dedicated Client Relationship Executives are appointed to all applicants to provide support. This single point of contact ensures that licensing, visa applications and other services are all executed smoothly and efficiently.

Online registration will guide you to set up the company according to the legal type, license type and facility type.

Note: To complete your online registration and license forms you are kindly requested to enter your COLA (Confirmation of Lease Agreement) reference number.

Advantages of Business Set Up In KEZAD

- Ample and reliable supply of utilities (power, gas, and water) at the most competitive rates in the UAE
- No corporate and income tax
- Duty-free trade in the GCC free trade area for “MADE IN UAE” products
- Prime location facilities at very competitive lease rates

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Speed to Market and Proximity Advantage

- Fast access to key markets through two major ports, five international airports, and future rail, connecting KEZAD Group's economic cities and free zones with the rest of the UAE and GCC
- Simplified and flexible company formation
- Presence of supporting entities such as raw material suppliers packaging and specialized logistics services within the zone
- KEZAD Group is the single interface for all approvals

Flexibility in Scale of Operations

- Option to operate for the local and regional /global markets through Free Zone and Domestic Economic Zone facilities
- Flexibility in lease tenure, structuring, etc.
- Infrastructure to support a wide range of businesses, from start-ups to mega projects
- Future-ready development with provisions for expansion and integration with new projects

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Growing Community of Businesses, Zones, and Amenities

- Multiple residential, social areas, leisure facilities within 10 minutes' drive
- Multiple on-site staff accommodation facilities
- Zoned approach with shared amenities for better planning and leaner development for clients
- Dedicated zones for SMEs, logistics and business parks

Land Leasing Process

Processing stages for Land application

- These applications are referred to the Plot Allocation Committee, which assigns the best unit or plot for the applicant's business.
- Talks between the applicant and KEZAD Group before reaching a final agreement on the venture being established in the economic zones.
- Applicants may opt for a Preliminary Agreement allowing time to complete the required conditions precedent, or move on to signing the final agreement, for which, KEZAD Group has developed a bankable instrument that enhances access to third-party finance and investment.

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