

COMMERCIAL PACKAGE ACTIVE ENTERPRISE

Unlock the benefits of the DIFC Active Enterprise, a unique and attractive company structure that includes an option to have employees.

Flexible and easy-to-use structures offered by the region's leading financial centre.



- → Option to have employees: If the Active Enterprise or its affiliate has an office in DIFC.
- → Reduced licensing fees: USD 100 Application Fee (one time) and an annual commercial licence fee of USD 1,000 (Data protection fee of USD 750 - if applicable).
- → Flexible registered address: An Active Enterprise can have its own DIFC office space, co-working desk, share office space with its DIFC affiliate or, if the entity has no employees, use an appointed corporate service provider's registered address in
- → Common law jurisdiction with independent DIFC Courts
- → Quick and easy, fully digital registration process: In-principal approval may be granted within three business days from the application submission.
- → No attestation required for corporate documents
- ightarrow Globally competitive and attractive tax regime
- → Zero currency restrictions and 100 per cent foreign ownership
- → Zero restrictions on capital repatriation

Who can establish an Active Enterprise?

An Active Enterprise is a private company which can be established by a Qualifying Applicant:



DIFC Registered Entity other than a Prescribed Company, NPIO or



Controlling shareholder or UBO of a DIFC Registered Entity (other than a or Foundation)



UAE/Emirate Government Entity, an entity 25% owned (directly or indirectly owned) by a UAE/Emirate Government Entity, or an entity otherwise controlled by a UAE/Emirate Government Entity



Ultimate beneficial owner that controls a DIFC registered entity



Family Operated Business

Definitions:

- a. the Federal Government, the government of Dubai or the government of
- any Emirate;
 b. a person in which a government entity listed in (a) above owns (directly or indirectly) an interest of at least twenty five percent (25%) (or such other percentage approved by the Board of Directors of DIFCA); or is otherwise Controlled by a government entity listed in (a) above.

Family Operated Business with a large presence in the UAE: means a business that meets the definition of a family under the Family Arrangement Regulations and has a large presence in the UAE, that meets at least 2 of the following criteria:

- 1. total asset value of at least USD10 million;
- 2. at least 100 employees
- at least 30,000 sq. ft. of space in the UAE (including offices, retail, schools, manufacturing, etc.); or
 all the shareholders are UAE nationals or the common ancestor for the business is a UAE national.



What business activities can an Active Enterprise carry out?

An Active Enterprise can be used for Holding Companies, Managing Office and/or Proprietary Investment activities



Investment in Real Estate



Investment in Agricultural Enterprises & Management



Investment in Healthcare Enterprises & Development



Investment in Commercial Enterprises & Management



Investment in Educational Enterprises & Management



Investment in Industrial Enterprises & Management



Investment in Oil & Natural Gas Projects



Investment in Retail Trade Enterprises & Management



Managing Office



Holding Company



Two easy steps to start setting up your business



APPLY FOR INITIAL APPROVAL

An application for initial approval is completed through DIFC portal. Information required will vary depending on the qualifying requirement.



REGISTER WITH DIFC

Once Initial Approval application is submitted you may proceed with filling out the Register with DIFC application to speed up your onboarding process. However, please note that you can only submit it after the Initial Approval has been granted.



