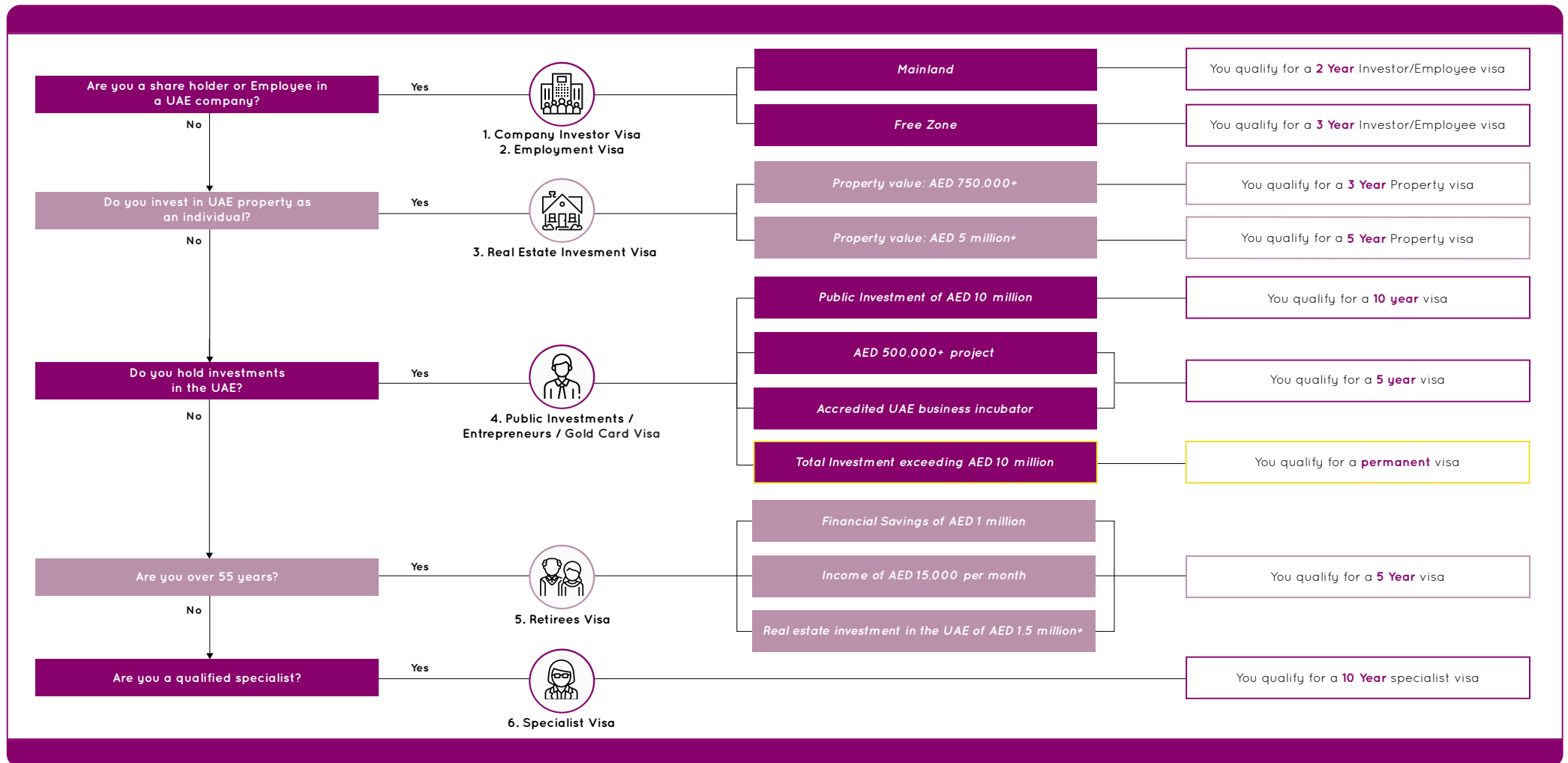


UAE RESIDENCY OPTIONS AT A GLANCE

Over the past decade the UAE has become one of the most popular jurisdictions worldwide for the relocation of individuals. With no taxes applied on individuals, straight forward administrative requirements and low processing costs, coupled with excellent accessibility, high-quality of life, political stability and sunny weather year-round, the UAE is indeed a very attractive proposal as a residency jurisdiction. The UAE's position has further been reinforced by the ongoing tax backlash in other relocation hubs – e.g. amended UK tax regimes pertaining to “non-doms”, increased costs of the lump-sum tax system in Switzerland – as well as plans from various countries to “tighten the screw” on Europe’s tax heavens.

Following the introduction of long-term visa options, the present fact sheet – and its illustrative chart below – help you navigate the different visa options available in the UAE.





RESIDENCY IN THE UAE

What's new in 2021?

The UAE has overhauled its UAE's immigration framework once again, with the formal introduction of a Green card visa system (Validity: 5 & 10 years) and a Permanent Residency for investors, entrepreneurs, specialized talents and researchers.

The new measures have been introduced to enhance the competitiveness and flexibility of the UAE labour market, facilitate sector growth, spur knowledge transfer and skills development, and create greater stability and security for residents.

The UAE Government also announced it would allow people who have lost their jobs to remain in the country for up to 180 days from the earlier 30 days.

Why the UAE?

- Total exemption from income tax and wealth tax for individuals
- No quotas on the number of issued residence permits
- No requirement to obtain a fiscal quitus from the foreign country
- No minimum requirement regarding the time spent annually in the jurisdiction¹
- Competitive costs for issuance and renewal of the residence permit
- Presence of internationally recognized financial, legal and tax services providers
- Primary hub and platform to access international business
- Political stability
- Yearly sunny climate

Taxation

A residence permit holder is not subject to income tax and wealth tax in the UAE. He/she may claim additional tax relief through UAE's vast network of double tax treaties. A residence permit allows its holder to reside anywhere in the UAE and authorizes him/her to enter and exit the country an unlimited amount of times.

What are the other specific regulatory changes related to visas?

- Extension of business trip permits from three months to six months
- Sponsorship of parents under the visa of direct family members
- One-year residency extension for humanitarian cases
- Extension of children's age limit on parents' residency from 18 to 25 years
- Extension of grace period upon job loss or retirement to 90 to 180 days

Who we are

We are a multi-services platform catering to a broad spectrum of clients – from individual entrepreneurs and local SMEs to wealthy international families, to established blue-chip companies and multinationals. Our one-stop-shop offering is unique in the Middle East: a holistic and cross-disciplinary combination of a market-leading corporate services firm, a law firm's specialist expertise and a regulatory & compliance services practice, all through one single platform.

We have broad experience in assisting clients with multi-jurisdictional interests in securing an alternative residence and domicile. Bringing together our tax and private wealth expertise, our team can support our clients in all aspects of their immigration.

Headquartered in the UAE, we are an entrepreneurial firm for entrepreneurial clients.

Who will assist you



Stephanie Campbell
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1. Other than visiting the UAE at least once every six months; however, in order to obtain a tax residence certificate, an applicant must in principle reside in the UAE for at least 180 days in the past year. Exemptions – based on subjective "close ties to the country" criteria are available.



RESIDENCY IN THE UAE

Residence Visa Type	Validity & Renewability	Key Conditions	Documents Required	Presence required in the UAE	Timeframe	Dependents' visa	Required legal presence "day counting"
Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainland: 2 Years FreeZone: 3 Years Renewable on completion of 2 / 3 year visa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid Trade license Valid Immigration Card Medically fit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Company trade license copy Current passport copy Medical fitness result Emirates ID registration Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	7-10 working days	Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions	Employee visa - Applicant must return to the UAE within 180 days to keep the visa active. Investor visa - Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Real Estate Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years 5 years Renewable on completion of 3 / 5 year visa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property value must be more than AED 1 million for 3 years visa Property value must be more than AED 2 million for 5 years visa Property must be constructed and fit for habitation Property must be constructed and fit for habitation Property should have a mortgage no more than 70% of the value for 3-year visa Property should be wholly owned by the investor and not loaned for 5-year visa Applicant shall present a valid title deed, indicating the Applicant as direct (co-) owner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport copy Number of properties under the applicant's name in the UAE Title deed which reflects the property value Latest Utility bills/ security deposit slip Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	7-10 working days	Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Remote working visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 year Renewable completion of 1 year 	<p>If you are an employee, you need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide proof of employment with a contract valid for one year from your current employer earn a salary of minimum USD 5,000 per month provide the salary slip for the last month and bank statements for the preceding three months. <p>If you are a company owner, you need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide proof of ownership of company for one year or more have an average monthly income of USD 5,000 per month provide bank statements of the company's account for the preceding three months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport and UAE visa copy Medical fitness result Emirates ID registration Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	7-10 working days	<p>Sponsorship of children until the age of 25 (instead of 18 previously)</p> <p>Sponsorship of parents</p> <p>Extension of the grace period for leaving the country upon job loss or retirement to 90 to 180 days (instead of 30 days previously).</p>	Employee visa - Applicant must return to the UAE within 180 days to keep the visa active.
Free Lance Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 years 5 years Renewable on completion of 3 / 5-year visa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-employed workers based in the UAE and overseas in specialised fields such as artificial intelligence, blockchain and digital currencies. Precise Key conditions - TBC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport and UAE visa copy Medical fitness result Emirates ID registration Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsorship of children until the age of 25 (instead of 18 previously) Sponsorship of parents Extension of the grace period for leaving the country upon job loss or retirement to 90 to 180 days (instead of 30 days previously). 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.



RESIDENCY IN THE UAE

Residence Visa Type	Validity & Renewability	Key Conditions	Documents Required	Presence required in the UAE	Timeframe	Sponsorship visa	Required legal presence "day counting"
Entrepreneurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 years Renewable automatically on completion of 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous project with a minimum of AED 500,000 OR Entrepreneurs having approval of an accredited business incubator in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport copy Corporate bank account statement reflecting a deposit for 3 years Approval of an accredited business incubator in the country Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions Visa can be extended to include business partners, on the condition that each partner contributes AED 10 million. The long-term visa can include the spouse and children, as well as one executive director and one advisor. Investors from abroad may apply for a multiple-entry permit for a six-month period. 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Green Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 years Renewable automatically on completion of 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-residency status has been further expanded to investors, entrepreneurs, highly-skilled individuals, top students and graduates. Those running Small and Medium Enterprises, scientists and other talented people will also be considered. Precise Key conditions - TBC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport and UAE visa copy Medical fitness result Emirates ID registration Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsorship of children until the age of 25 (instead of 18 previously) Sponsorship of parents Extension of the grace period for leaving the country upon job loss or retirement to 90 to 180 days (instead of 30 days previously). 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Public Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 years Renewable automatically on completion of 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount to be fully deposited by the applicants existing UAE registered company illustrating no less than AED 10 million in UAE investments; no loans / finance support, retained for min. 3 years in a UAE bank & financial solvency up to AED 10 million OR Establishing a UAE company with a capital of no less than AED 10 million; no loans/ finance support, retained for min. 3 years in a UAE bank & financial solvency up to AED 10 million Real estate can qualify as part of the AED 10 million but only 40% of the total investment amount can be Real estate investments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport copy Company License copy (parent company (translated and super legalized) & UAE company) Corporate bank account statement reflecting a deposit of AED 10 million for 3 years Memorandum of Association or equivalent Company establishment card Audit report Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions Visa can be extended to include business partners, on the condition that each partner contributes AED 10 million. The long-term visa can include the spouse and children, as well as one executive director and one advisor. Investors from abroad may apply for a multiple-entry permit for a six-month period. 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Retirees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 years Renewable automatically on completion of 5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real Estate Investment: Own a property in the UAE of a minimum market value of AED 1 million (approx. USD 270,000) OR Financial Savings: Fixed deposit for 3 years or cash savings in the UAE personal bank account of no less than AED 1 million (approx. USD 275,000) OR Monthly Income: Proof of an income of not less than AED 15,000 per month (approx. USD 4,084) OR Combination of Property and financial Savings: To combine both real estate investment (option 1) and financial savings (option 2) with both combined the financial savings must be AED 1 million fixed for 1 year and Property worth AED 500,000 (approx. USD 400,000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport, UAE visa copy UAE bank account statements reflecting financial savings of no less than AED 1 million or income of AED 15,000 or property worth AED 1 million Valid UAE health insurance 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions The long-term visa can include the spouse and children, as well as one executive director and one advisor. Investors from abroad may apply for a multiple-entry permit for a six-month period. 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.
Specialised talents & Researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 years Renewable automatically on completion of 5 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holder of PhD degree from one of the top 500 universities in the world Mohammed bin Rashid Medal for Scientific Excellence Contribution to major scientific research Published articles/scientific books in distinguished publications Membership in an organization associated, which requires excellent work 10-year professional experience Specialization in areas of priority to the UAE (additional requirement for doctors) Emirates Scientists Council must accredit scientists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current passport copy PHD degree (legalized, translated and super legalized) Valid UAE health insurance Subject to qualifying the route of investment 	Yes	6-8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant is qualified to sponsor dependents' visa for spouse and children under 18 years subject to certain conditions Visa can be extended to include business partners, on the condition that each partner contributes AED 10 million. Investors from abroad may apply for a multiple-entry permit for a six-month period. 	Applicant must return to the UAE within 365 days to keep the visa active.