



Investor Info Pack

KEY ENTITIES & RESOURCES

1

Pre-Registration

Thinking about setting up base in the Kingdom of Bahrain? Here are useful resources regarding establishing a company in Bahrain as well as information on visiting for the purposes of registration:



Ministry of Industry
and Commerce

Registration Requirements

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is primarily responsible for receiving individual and company registration requests and processing them according to the rules and regulations of the Kingdom of Bahrain as well as issuing commercial registration certificates after obtaining all the necessary approvals.

Resources

Here are useful links to help you understand the requirements and process of setting up a company in Bahrain:



[Business Registration Guide](#)



[Registration Requirements](#)



[Business Activities, Required Licenses and Approvals](#)



[Service Providers Directory](#)



Kingdom of Bahrain, Ministry of Interior Nationality, Passports & Residence Affairs

Visiting Visa

As part of the Ministry of Interior, the Nationality, Passports & Residence Affairs (NPRA) is responsible for issuing visiting visas, residency permits, passports and national IDs. Through the Bahrain eVisaSystem, visitors can check eligibility, list of countries that can apply for an eVisa, list of countries that are eligible for visas on arrival as well as apply for an eVisa online, check the status of an application or apply for an extension.

Resources

Here are useful links to help you understand the requirements and process of applying for a visa to visit Bahrain:



eVisa system



Countries Eligible to Get Visa Online



Countries Eligible to Get Visa On-Arrival



Golden Residency Visa





2

Registration

Ready to setup in Business-Friendly Bahrain?

Below are the required resources and steps to register your company and obtain your Commercial Registration (CR):



Online Company Registration

SIJILAT is the official electronic portal for registering and licensing of commercial establishments in the Kingdom of Bahrain and is in sync with all electronic systems of the relevant government entities. Through the portal, you can apply for a Commercial Registration (CR), view Business Activities & Fees, renew your CR, search for active commercial registrations, access service providers directories and more.



To access the SIJILAT portal, please visit: <https://www.sijilat.bh/>

Please note that a number of approvals are required within the registration process including, and not limited to, the following:



1

Documentation

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is responsible for validating the required documentation submitted as part of the commercial registration application.



2

Security Clearance

The Nationality, Passport & Residence Affairs will need to provide security clearance for the shareholder(s) whose passport or national ID copies were submitted as part of the registration process.



3

Government Approvals

The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning are responsible for site approvals for company registrations.



4

Notarization (if required)

Notarization of the Articles & Memorandum of Association is required at either a public or private notary as part of the registration process. Other documents may require authentication or notarization.



5

Bank Account (if required)

With the exception of a Foreign Branch, a corporate bank account will need to be opened with a licensed Financial Institution in Bahrain to deposit the capital. The capital deposit certificate issued by the bank will then need to be uploaded to Sijilat as the final stage in activating the CR.

REQUIRED

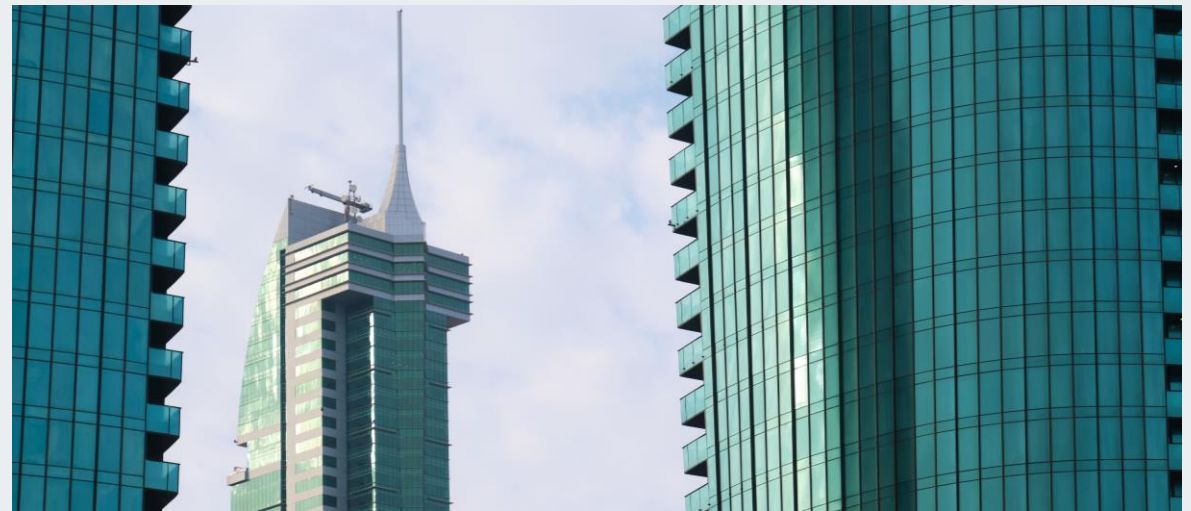
Please note that an eKey is required to access SIJILAT and all eGovernment related services.

A valid CPR number (for Bahrainis) or National ID is needed to setup an eKey.

For all other nationalities, please consult the [service providers directory on SIJILAT](#) to view a list of professional bodies who can be hired to register on your behalf.



<https://www.ekey.bh/>



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Post-Registration

Once your company is registered and your Commercial Registration (CR) has been issued, you may need to apply for permits including, and not limited to, the following:



Labour and Work

To apply, renew or cancel work permits please refer to the following: Registration Guide, New Establishment Registration & New Work Permit or visit the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) website:



<https://lmra.bh/portal/en/home>



VAT Registration

To adhere with Bahrain's VAT and Excise regulations refer to the following National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) Registration guide and VAT Registration Guide or visit:



<https://www.nbr.gov.bh>



Social Insurance

To register your employees with the Social Insurance Organization (SIO) please refer to the following SIO Registration guide or visit:



<https://www.sio.gov.bh/>



OPTIONAL

Training and Development

Tamkeen provides a range of business solutions to support the hiring of Bahraini nationals including financing, grants, training, mentoring, advice and information sharing.

To learn more, visit:



<https://www.tamkeen.bh/>



Supporting Entities

The following entities are available to support and are not required for the registration process.
Click on a logo to go to the entity's respective website.



National Government Portal

Bahrain's national eGovernment portal is the gateway to access all the key governmental entities e-services.



<http://www.bahrain.bh/>



Kingdom of Bahrain
TENDER BOARD

Tender Projects

The Tender Board is an independent regulator of government procurement practices in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

To view or bid for public tenders, click on the logo above or visit the website below.



<https://www.tenderboard.gov.bh/>



Advisory and Financing

The Bahrain Development Bank (BDB) offers financial and advisory services specifically designed to meet small and medium businesses special needs.



<https://www.bdb-bh.com/>



Public Offering

To get listed as a public shareholding company on the Bahrain's stock exchange (BSE), also known as Bahrain Bourse, please visit the website below or click on the logo above.



<https://www.bahrainbourse.com/>



Business Community

The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) is the sole representative of the private sector and an advocate of its interest. To become a member, please visit the website below or click on the logo above.



<https://www.bahrainchamber.bh/en>

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Key Resources by Activity

For additional information, please refer to the following entities that pertain to the respective sectors:
Click on a logo to go to the entity's respective website.

Financial Services

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) is the sole regulator of the financial services sector in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



Part of the FinTech Consortium, the Bahrain FinTech Bay provides dedicated co-working spaces for FinTechs.



FinHub973 is the region's first cross border, digital innovation platform that connects and facilitates collaboration between financial institutions and FinTechs under the supervision of the central bank.



Tourism

The Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) is the licenser of all tourism and leisure related activities including starting a tourism business or obtaining a tourism license via the BTEA portal. For more details, please visit the website by clicking on the logo.



The Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities is the regulator of the Culture and National Heritage Sector in Bahrain.



Technology & Innovation

The Information & eGovernment Authority facilitates IT-related projects and e-services platforms for all the governmental organizations and ministries.



The Telecommunication Regulatory Authority is the sole regulator of the telecoms sector in Bahrain.



StartUp Bahrain is the national ecosystem for innovative scalable startups.



Healthcare

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is the driving force behind public sector healthcare facilities and public health initiatives. The ministry is also the licenser of "Healthcare" products such as health foods and cosmetics.



The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) is the licenser and regulator of all healthcare activities, facilities and practitioners in Bahrain.



The Supreme Council of Health is the facilitator of the health care sector in Bahrain, primarily responsible for setting the national health strategy.



Manufacturing & Industrial Services

Managed by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), the Industrial Services System allows existing manufacturing facilities to register or renew their industrial license, apply for duty exemption as well as apply to be granted the “Made in Bahrain” mark. Please refer to the [Industrial Services Registration Guide](#) for more information.



The Bahrain International Investment Park (BIIP) is an industrial development that offers property options for export-oriented domestic projects, internationally traded manufacturing and services activities including highly subsidized industrial land, pre-built industrial units as well as office units to let.



The Bahrain Investment Wharf (BIW) is an industrial park that offers pre-serviced plots of industrial, logistic, commercial & residential estate that aims to encourage the expansion of Bahrain's light and medium manufacturing industry.



Transport & Logistics

The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications (MTT) is the licensor and regulator of Bahrain's Civil Aviation Affairs, Ports and Maritime Affairs, Land Transport Affairs, Bahrain Post, in addition to the Telecommunications industry.



Refer to the Customs Affairs for a list of HS Codes for different categories of goods, their duty rate and if a permit is required for certain imports/exports.



The Bahrain Logistics Zone (BLZ) is a dedicated customs-free, value-added logistics park.



Under the management of APM Terminals, the Khalifa bin Salman Port is one of the most modern in the Arabian Gulf, able to handle container vessels with an efficiency matching that of the most productive ports in the world.



Bahrain Airport Company is the operator and managing body of the Bahrain International Airport.



Education

The Ministry of Education (MOE) is the licensor of education institutes from Pre-School Nurseries all the way to High Schools in Bahrain.



The Higher Education Council is the licensor of higher education institutes such as universities and degree-level educational establishments.



The Ministry of Labour and Social Development is the licensor of private educational and vocational training institutes.



The Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) is an independent body that sets performance standards for the education sector, vocational training, K-12 education (public and private) and universities.



Real Estate

The Survey and Land Registration Bureau (SLRB) is in charge of land, aerial, and hydrographic survey services, and the registration of real estate properties in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) is the regulator of the real estate sector and licensor of property developers and development projects in Bahrain.



Benayat Building Permit Portal is the system used to apply for building permits for all types of building projects including Investment, Residential, Industrial and Commercial.



The Urban Planning & Development Authority overlooks and contributes to the establishment of integrated and sustainable urban communities in Bahrain.

