FEDERATED

SETTING UP A BUSINESS IN MAINLAND

Introduction

Mainland company formation allows investors to trade directly within the UAE and internationally, offering greater flexibility under the Department of Economic Development (DED).

Benefits

- Operate anywhere in the UAE
- Access to government contracts
- Unlimited visa quotas (based on office size)
- Flexible business activities
- 100% foreign ownership (most sectors)
- Ability to open branches or subsidiaries

Document Requirements

- Passport copies of shareholder(s)
- Emirates ID and visa copy (if resident)
- Trade name reservation
- Memorandum of Association (MOA)
- Ejari or lease agreement
- Initial DED approval
- Payment receipt for license and establishment card

Eligibility

- Open to individuals and corporate entities
- Compliant with DED-approved activities
- Minimum capital depends on business type
- Office must meet zoning and size standards

Process and Steps

1. Select activity and company structure
2. Reserve trade name and apply for initial approval
3. Draft and notarize MOA
4. Secure tenancy and submit to DED
5. Pay fees and collect license
6. Apply for establishment card and investor visa

Timeline

• Trade name & approval: 1–2 days
• MOA & tenancy: 2–3 days
• License issuance: 3–5 days
Total: approx. 7–10 business days

Disclaimer: Processing times are approximate and may vary depending on application category, volume, and other external factors.