



ANSH LEGAL



Dubai International
Financial Centre

DOING BUSINESS IN UAE
FREE ZONES

Licensed Activities

- Fintech
- Banking
- Private Banking
- Investment Banking
- Brokerage
- Capital Markets
- Insurance, Re-insurance & Captives
- Fund Management
- Wealth Management
- Asset Management
- Private Equity

Financial Activities



- Corporate Offices
- Professional Service Providers
- Retail & Convenience
- Cafes & Restaurants
- Art Galleries

Non Financial Activities



Process For Registration

Stage 1

- Provide DIFC with a Letter of Intent (LOI)

Stage 2

- Provide DFSA with a Regulatory Business Plan (RBP)

Stage 3

- Submit the application document to DFSA

Stage 4

- DFSA issues an In-Principal Approval

Stage 5

- Registration and Incorporation with Registrar of Companies (ROC) includes office set-up, visas, bank accounts etc.

Stage 6

- DFSA Final inspection and authorisation

Documentation

- **For a Pvt Company**

https://www.difc.ae/files/8915/5773/3855/Incorporation_of_a_Private_Company_Handbook.pdf

- **For a Public Company**

https://www.difc.ae/files/5215/5541/9854/Incorporation_of_a_Public_Company_Handbook.pdf

- **For a Branch Company**

https://www.difc.ae/files/9115/5548/6423/Registration_of_a_Recognised_Company_Branch_Handbook.pdf

Legal & Regulatory Framework

Regulatory Bodies

- DIFC Authority
- Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA)
- Dispute Resolution Authority (DRA)

Federal Law No. 8 of 2004

Federal Law No. 8 of 2004 on “The Financial Free Zones in the United Arab Emirates” (the Financial Free Zone Law):

- allows the creation of a financial free zone in any Emirate of the UAE, by a Federal Decree.
- exempts the financial free zones and permitted financial activities from all federal civil and commercial laws.
- confirms the application of federal criminal laws in the financial free zones, including the federal laws on anti-money laundering;
- prohibits DIFC authorised firms from dealing in deposit taking from the state’s markets in the UAE Dirham.
- restricts DIFC authorised insurers’ dealings in the state to carrying out re-insurance activities.

Costs

- Base Capital
- Annual Cost
- Fees Charged by Registrar of Companies (ROC)

https://www.difc.ae/files/1315/7406/6698/DIFC-RC-GL-02_Rev.10_ROC_Table_of_Fees.pdf



| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3A | 3B | 3C | 4 | 5 |
|--------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Accepting Deposits | Dealing in Investments as Principal (Not as Matched Principal) | Dealing in Investments as Principal (Only as a Matched Principal) | Providing Custody (Only if for a fund) | Managing a Collective Investment Fund | Arranging Credit or Deals in Investments | An Islamic Financial Institution whose entire business is conducted in accordance with Sharia and Which Manages a Profit Sharing Investment Account |
| Managing a PSIAu | Providing Credit | Dealing as Agent | Acting as the trustee of a fund | Managing Assets | Advising on Financial Products or Credits | |
| | | | | Providing Trust Services as a Trustee of an Express Trust | Arranging Custody | |
| | | | | Managing a PSIAr | Insurance Intermediation | |
| | | | | Providing Custody (other than for a fund) | Insurance Management | |
| | | | | | Operating an alternative trading system | |
| | | | | | Providing Fund Administration | |
| | | | | | Providing Trust services other than as a trustee of an express trust | |
| | | | | | Operating a Crowdfunding Platform | |

| Financial Services | Registration (One-time fee) | Data Protection Fees | DFSA Application | DFSA Annual Renewal fees | Commercial License Annual Recurring Fees | Base Capital Requirements |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Category 1 & 5 | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$70,000 | \$70,000 | \$12,000 | \$10 million |
| Category 2 | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$40,000 | \$40,000 | \$12,000 | \$2 million |
| Category 3A & 3C | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$12,000 | \$500,000 |
| Category 3B | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$12,000 | \$4 million |
| Category 4 | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$12,000 | \$10,000 |
| Category 4 (Crowd funding Platform) | \$8,000 | \$1,000 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 | \$12,000 | \$140,000 |
| Representative Office | \$2,000 | \$1,000 | \$4,000 | \$4,000 | \$4,000 | N/A |



NAMING POLICY FOR ENTITIES ESTABLISHED IN DIFC

- https://www.difc.ae/files/5315/5186/7325/DIFC-RC-MA-01_Rev.03_DIFC_Naming_Guidance.pdf

Visa

- There is no link between a number of visas and the license category.
- The allocation ratio is 1 visa / 80 SQFT.
- Please access this URL <http://www.difc.ae/government-services-client-handbook-price-list> to obtain the pricelist pertained to Visa Work Permit.





Property Solutions

- Commercial Office Space
- Co-Working Spaces
- Retail Space
- Business Centres
- Event Spaces
- Data Centres
- Book a Venue

Commercial Office Spaces

LEASED OFFICE SERVICES

- Facilities management
- Utilities including central cooling system and emergency power
- 24 hour security with CCTV surveillance
- IT packages and integrated data centre solutions
- Fit-out technical consultation
- P.O boxes within the centre
- Parking
- Conference and catering facilities

Leased Offices

- Flexible core & shell space
- Grade A quality
- Safety systems: fire alarms, smoke and heat detectors, automatic sprinkler system, emergency lighting
- Efficient and cost effective central cooling system
- Electrical fittings and connectivity

Services Offices

- Conferencing and meeting facilities
- Cutting edge communication tools
- Instant internet and telecom connectivity
- Mail receipt and distribution
- Storage
- IT support
- Housekeeping
- Hot and cold beverages
- 24 hour security

Co- Working Hub Spaces

The DIFC Work Hub is open to:

- FinTech firms
- InsurTech firms
- RegTech firms

By joining the DIFC Work Hub, you will benefit from:

- No incorporation and registration fees
- Reduced commercial license fees
- Flexi-desk arrangements and low-cost workspaces
- No minimum share capital requirement



About ANSH

Ansh Legal through its offices in the UAE and UK has a large network of affiliated law firms, corporate services firms, management consultants, tax advisers and professionals in several jurisdictions where its clients operate or have their assets or business interests. We actively advise several multi-national conglomerates, funds, family offices and high net worth individuals. Our lawyers have been advising several banks, financial institutions, governmental authorities and bodies and multi-national conglomerates over the past several years.

Being a multi-service law firm registered with Abu Dhabi Global Market Authority in the UAE and the Companies House, UK, the firms together assist on UAE and Indian law matters and coordinate advise on other jurisdictions through local experts. Our key practice areas are:

❑ Corporate

- Cross border investments
- Corporate mergers & acquisitions
- Funds
- Start-ups
- General Corporate & Commercial

❑ Finance

- The full spectrum of debt financing – bank lending, secured financing, margin financing, structured financing, leveraged and acquisition financing, infrastructure finance
- Securities and capital market matters including start-up funding, private placements
- Crypto and block chain technology
- Secondary market matters
- Insolvency and restructuring

❑ Financial regulatory

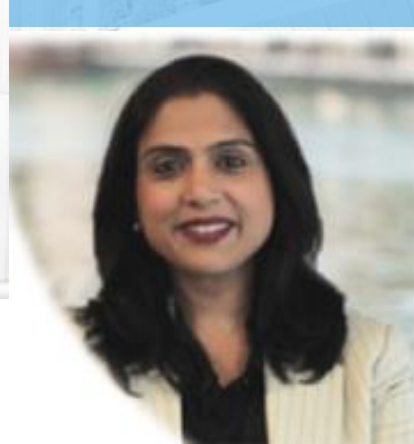
❑ General

- Succession and estate planning
- Technology and media
- Healthcare
- Commercial contracts
- Employment matters
- Dispute resolution advisory and support

Team



Aditya Shroff
Director



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