



Setting up a RAK Free Trade Zone company always involves selecting a combination of Business Licence, Legal Entity and Facility. We offer you the following options:

BUSINESS LICENCES	Commercial Licence General Trading Licence	Consultancy / Services Licence Industrial Licence
LEGAL ENTITY	Free Zone Establishment (a new business entity with a sole business owner) Free Zone Company (a new business entity which is owned by 2-5 partners) Local Branch Foreign Branch	
FACILITY	Standard Office (9 m ²) Executive Office (25 m ²) Shell and Core Office (from 124 m ²)	Flexi Desk (Business Centre) Warehouse (205 m ² and 416 m ²) Land (for industrial use)

Types of Business Licences

Licence	Activities Covered by the Licence	Number of Allowed Activities	Processing Period
COMMERCIAL	Import, export, distribution, or warehousing of goods.	Two different activities or seven similar activities.	2-3 days
GENERAL TRADING	Import, export, distribution, or warehousing of goods.	More than seven different activities.	2-3 days
CONSULTANCY / SERVICES	Any type of management, marketing, academic, real estate, logistic or industrial consultancy.	Two different consultancy activities.	2-3 days
INDUSTRIAL	Import of raw materials, manufacturing, processing, assembling, packaging, export of finished products.	One product line.	2-3 weeks

The processing periods mentioned above are approximate only.

What Do I Need to Know About Business Licences?

Applicants should be aware of the following points when applying for a Business Licence:

- ▶ Every company operating within RAK Free Trade Zone is required to obtain a Business Licence (also known as a Trade Licence). A Business Licence is a time-limited permit granted to a company to undertake commercial, consulting or industrial activities within RAK FTZ.
- ▶ Companies licensed by RAK Free Trade Zone are not authorised to do business in the UAE market - a local agent or distributor has to be specially appointed for carrying out business activities in the UAE market.
- ▶ Each licence is valid for one year starting from the date of issue and must be renewed annually. Submission of audit reports is a mandatory requirement for Business Licence renewal.
- ▶ All rates are subject to periodic revisions and the licensed companies will be informed of such revisions at the time of Business Licence renewal.

Consult the Pricing section for licence fees or visit our website www.rakftz.com.

Legal Entities

A company or individual wishing to set up a business at RAK FTZ can be registered as one of the following four legal entities:

NEW ESTABLISHMENTS	Free Zone Establishment Free Zone Company	A new business entity with a sole business owner. A new business entity which is owned by 2-5 partners.
BRANCHES	Local Branch Foreign Branch	A branch of a domestic firm residing in the United Arab Emirates The Parent Company should have existed for more than one year (also applicable to Subsidiary Company). A branch of a foreign firm residing outside the United Arab Emirates. The Parent Company should have existed for more than one year (also applicable to Subsidiary Company).

Important Information

The notes below highlight common issues and essential information to be considered during the registration process. Please review RAK Free Trade Zone's **Rules and Regulations** for additional details.

- ▶ An applicant holding a UAE Residence Visa should obtain a No Objection Letter from his/her sponsor prior to the submission of the application.
- ▶ Applicants seeking a Consultancy Licence need to submit proof of academic qualifications and professional experience related to the intended field of activity at RAK Free Trade Zone.
- ▶ The validity of a Business Licence is one year, and the licensed company should either renew the licence or request for official de-registration to avoid any fines and penalties.
- ▶ Licences are valid only in the RAK Free Trade Zone - clients shall not operate from outside RAK FTZ premises with the Business Licence.
- ▶ At the renewal stage, all companies are requested to submit audit reports prepared by audit firms registered in the UAE (a list of such audit firms is available at www.rakftz.com).
- ▶ Licences can be amended by request, with necessary approvals and payment of the relevant fees.
- ▶ RAK Free Trade Zone carries out inspections of facilities allotted to companies on a regular basis to assess level of activity of the company.
- ▶ Approval of visas and renewal of Business Licences is subject to the level of activity and scale of operation of the company.
- ▶ Subleasing of the facilities is not permitted.
- ▶ Licensees will be required to comply with UAE customs regulations.