

Name of licensing authority	Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC)
Emirate	Dubai
address	The Gate, Level 14, DIFC P.O. Box 74777, Dubai, UAE https://www.difc.ae/getting-here/
contact numbers	Tel: +971 (0)4 362 2222
Main website	www.difc.ae
A brief description of the licensing authority	Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) is one of the world's most advanced financial centres, and the leading financial hub for the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA), which comprises 72 countries with an approximate population of 3 billion and a nominal GDP of USD 7.7 trillion. With a 16-year track record of facilitating trade and investment flows across the MEASA region, the Centre connects these fast-growing markets with the economies of Asia, Europe and the Americas through Dubai. DIFC is home to an internationally recognised, independent regulator and a proven judicial system with an English common law framework, as well as the region's largest financial ecosystem of almost 27,000 professionals working across over 2,900 active registered companies – making up the largest and most diverse pool of industry talent in the region. The Centre's vision is to drive the future of finance. Today, it offers one of the region's most comprehensive FinTech and venture capital environments, including cost-effective licensing solutions, fit-for-purpose regulation, innovative accelerator programmes, and funding for growth-stage start-ups. Comprising a variety of world-renowned retail and dining venues, a dynamic art and culture scene, residential apartments, hotels and public spaces, DIFC continues to be one of Dubai's most sought-after business and lifestyle destinations.
Date of establishment of licensing authority	Dubai International Financial Centre was officially announced and established in 2004.
Total number of licensed companies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total number of registered entities, broken down by company type. ▪ Total number of new incorporations per 	Reaffirming Dubai's growing reputation across the global finance industry, the number of new firms operating in DIFC grew 20 per cent, taking the total to 2,919 . A total of 915 financial companies are now active in DIFC, up 24 per cent from 735 in 2019. The number of businesses in the FinTech and Innovation ecosystem more than doubled with 189 joining in 2020, taking the total to 303 . This represents substantial progress on DIFC's 2024 vision and strategy to drive the future of finance. The wide range of new clients further contributes to the breadth and depth of DIFC, underscoring the solid foundations that the Centre has been built on. Business sectors across DIFC achieved exponential growth,

year, broken down by company type.	including banking, capital markets, wealth and asset management, FinTech and professional services.
legal forms of companies	Can be found in below links: https://www.difc.ae/business/starting-business/
describe company types/main activities available and their key features and characteristics	All types along with each type description can be found here: https://www.difc.ae/business/starting-business/
Licensing requirements	Can be found in below links: https://www.difc.ae/business/operating/registrar-companies/
Licensing procedures	Can be found in below links: https://www.difc.ae/business/operating/registrar-companies/
Related Legislation	DIFC's legislations Can be found in the below link: https://www.difc.ae/business/laws-regulations/legal-database/
Links of Related Legislation	https://www.difc.ae/business/laws-regulations/legal-database/
fees and taxes by service	As per DIFC's fixed system prices.
e-Services provision links	DIFC has Portal for registration and forms, however as DIFC is a purpose built free zone, applicants can initially contact Business Development team to provide guidance. DIFC portal can be accessed through the below link: https://portal.difc.ae/signin
Links of Licensing Forms	DIFC has Portal for registration and forms, however as DIFC is a purpose built free zone, applicants can initially contact Business Development team to provide guidance.

	<p>DIFC portal can be accessed through the below link:</p> <p>https://portal.difc.ae/signin</p>
<p>Query link about companies licensed within the licensing authority</p>	<p>https://www.difc.ae/make-enquiry/?id=setting&skipStep=true</p>