



ONE WORLD
IMMIGRATION

VANUATU

Citizenship



Key points about the Vanuatu citizenship by investment

Legal framework. Vanuatu launched a state citizenship-by-investment program in 2017. Chapter 112 of the Citizenship Act, Government Regulation No 215, and Order No. 8 of 2023 regulate the CBI program terms.

Investment options. Obtaining citizenship implies making a non-refundable contribution to a state fund or investing in coconut oil production.

Citizenship can be granted to investors' family members: spouses, children, and parents.

The Vanuatu passport is obtained within 2+ months.

No language or culture exams or living in Vanuatu is required. However, the investor must visit the country or a responsible representative office to submit biometrics.

\$130,000

Minimum investment

2+ months

Obtaining period



8 facts about the country

83 islands

Vanuatu is in the New Hebrides archipelago in the Pacific Ocean. The closest neighbouring countries are Fiji, New Caledonia, and Australia

Port Vila

The capital, economic centre, and the biggest city in Vanuatu is inhabited by 60,000 people, and it has the Bauerfield International Airport

12,190 km²

Total area of islands in the Republic of Vanuatu

\$3,231

GDP per capita in 2022, according to the World Bank

+27°C

Average yearly temperature. The best time to visit Vanuatu is from July to September

≈ 30%

Of the annual state revenue comes from the CBI program

English

Official language in Vanuatu, alongside Bislama and French

Vatu

Vanuatu's national currency. At the beginning of 2024, \$1 is 119 vatu

Benefits of Vanuatu citizenship by investment

1 Increased global mobility

The Vanuatu passport provides visa-free access to 100+ states and territories, including popular Asian destinations like Hong Kong, Singapore, and Malaysia.

2 Long-term US visa

Vanuatu citizens are eligible to apply for B-1/B-2 Visitor Visas, valid for 5 years. The visa allows the holder to spend up to 180 days a year in the United States to hold business meetings, travel around the country, get medical treatment, and enrol to study in courses that do not lead to a diploma or degree.

3 Tax optimisation for businesses

The investor can open an International Business Company in Vanuatu to benefit from a special tax regime. IBCs and their shareholders don't pay taxes on profits, income, capital gains, inheritance, and gifts. Instead, they pay a yearly fee of \$300 for 20 years.

4 Investment return

If the citizenship applicant invests in cocoa production, they can recover part of the invested funds – \$50,000 over 5 years.

5 **EU residency with the Vanuatu passport**

The foreigner can obtain residency by investment with a second passport. For example, getting a residence permit in Greece for 5 years is possible.

Eligibility for Vanuatu citizenship

Investor

Over 18

No criminal records, prosecutions,
or ongoing proceedings

Bank account balance of \$250,000

Without serious illnesses

Spouse

Children under 18

Children aged 18 to 25

Students

Completely financially dependent
on or living with the investor

Parents over 50

Completely financially dependent
on and living with the investor

Investment options and expenses

Fund contribution – \$130,000+

Investors contribute to a specially designated state fund. The contribution is one-off and non-refundable. The fund money goes to develop the country's economy and recover from crises and natural disasters.

The minimum investment is \$130,000. Applicants also pay Due Diligence and state fees and bank commissions

Fund contribution	\$130,000 + \$20,000 for the spouse + \$15,000 per another family member
Due Diligence fee	\$5,500
ID card and birth certificate fee	\$1,000 per applicant
Biometrics fee	\$1,000 per applicant for biometric submission in Vanuatu \$3,000 per person for biometric submission in Dubai or for a consul visit to the investor
Translation and notarisation of documents	\$2,000+

Cocoa Sustainable Fund – \$165,000+

The money is directed towards the development of cocoa production, one of Vanuatu's main export commodities.

The minimum investment amount is \$165,000 for a family of up to 4 people. For each additional family member starting from the 5th, an extra \$25,000 is required.

After obtaining a passport, the investor receives a \$50,000 unit in the CSF Lionsgate Trust, with the right of redemption after 5 years.

Investments	\$165,000 for a single applicant and families of up to 4 people + \$25,000 per family member, starting from the 5th
Due Diligence and administrative fees	\$5,500
ID card and birth certificate fee	\$1,000 per applicant
Biometrics fee	\$1,000 per applicant for biometric submission in Vanuatu \$3,000 per person for biometric submission in Dubai or for a consul visit to the investor
Translation and notarisation of documents	\$2,000+

Individual cost calculation

Vanuatu citizenship

The calculation includes all related costs and the cost of support services

\$130,000+

Get the calculation by email

The image shows two overlapping documents, likely pages 3 and 4 of a cost calculation sheet. The top document is page 3, and the bottom is page 4. Both documents feature the 'SAMOANT INVEST' logo and a table with columns for 'Description', 'Unit', 'Quantity', 'Rate', and 'Amount'. The table lists various costs such as 'Application Fee', 'Passport Fee', 'Police Clearance', 'Medical Examination', 'Government Fees', and 'Support Services'. The total amount is shown as \$130,000+.

Description	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Amount
Application Fee		1	\$10,000	\$10,000
Passport Fee		1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Police Clearance		1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Medical Examination		1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Government Fees		1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Support Services		1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total				\$130,000+

Step-by-step procedure for obtaining Vanuatu citizenship

1

Preliminary Due Diligence

1 day

A certified Compliance Anti Money Laundering Officer checks the applicant's documents and information against international databases. The check is designed to identify the risk of the applicant's citizenship application being rejected and find a solution in time.

The preliminary Due Diligence is confidential and takes 1 business day.

[Learn more about Due Diligence](#)

2

Preparation of documents

2+ weeks

First, Immigrant Invest lawyers prepare documents for verification by the country's Financial Intelligence Unit, FIU. At this stage, a passport, a police clearance certificate, and a CV containing the investor's biography and career.

Citizenship application requires the investor to provide personal and financial records. The lawyers complete the necessary forms.

3

FIU Due Diligence

Up to 1 week

Immigrant Invest lawyers send the documents to the citizenship program's agent in Vanuatu. The agent submits them to the FIU to check the investor and family members' backgrounds.

4

Applying for citizenship

2–4 weeks

Following approval from the FIU, attorneys forward the finalized application along with scanned documents to Vanuatu authorities. Prior to this, the investor is required to deposit 25% of the investment fee, and the payment confirmation is included with the submission.

The Screening Committee and the Citizenship Commission check the submitted documents. This evaluation process is completed within a maximum of two weeks.

5

Approval and investment

Up to 3 months; on average, 3–6 weeks

The investor is required to send the remaining 75% of the investment amount to the Central Bank of Vanuatu. This payment must be completed within 90 days following the approval of the investor's application by the Citizenship Commission.

6

Biometric submission

1 day

For biometric submission, the investor along with every family member must travel in person to Vanuatu or to one of its designated overseas representations in the UAE, New Caledonia, or Hong Kong, irrespective of their age.

The collected biometric information is utilised to produce a chip that is integrated into the passport.

7

Receiving a passport

2–4 weeks

When the investment is received, the Citizenship Commission issues a naturalisation certificate and submits a request for issuing a passport.