

Golden Visa for educators in private education institutions in Dubai

FAQs



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What is the Golden Visa?

The Golden Visa for educators is a long-term residence visa that allows qualified educators to live and work in Dubai for an extended period. It is designed to recognise and retain exceptional talent in Dubai's education sector as part of the Education 33 strategy goal to make Dubai one of the most sought-after destinations for educators globally.

Who can apply for the Golden Visa for educators?

- Principals and leaders of private schools in Dubai
- Managers of private early childhood centres in Dubai
- Academic heads of higher education institutions in Dubai licenced by KHDA
- Teachers (from private schools and ECCs in Dubai)
- Full-time faculty at higher education institutions in Dubai licenced by KHDA

How long is the Golden Visa valid?

The Golden Visa is valid for 10 years and is renewable if the eligibility criteria continue to be met.

How do I start the application process?

The process begins with a nomination from your institution. Speak with the head of your educational institution about your interest. If they support your application, they will initiate the nomination process through the KHDA system.

What happens once my application is submitted?

Each educational institution must form an internal committee to review all the applications submitted by its educators, ensuring they meet the criteria before submitting the application to KHDA via the e-Services system. KHDA will review the application and issue approvals. KHDA will then coordinate with the relevant entities to propose the final list of educators eligible for the Golden Visa, and

eligible educators will be informed of the successful outcome of their application

Do I need to provide original documents with my application?

You may provide coloured scans of the original documents. Original documents may be requested for verification at later stages.

Are there any fees involved in the application process?

All fees for the Golden Visa applications are outlined on official website of the General Directorate of Residency & Foreigners Affairs ([GDRFA](#)).

My current visa is about to expire. Should I wait for my Golden Visa or renew my current visa?

We recommend that you renew your current visa to avoid any legal or residency issues while your Golden Visa application is being processed. The review process may take time, and it's important to maintain your valid residency status in the UAE.

How long does it take to process the Golden Visa application?

The process typically takes 45 working days from the time all required documentation is submitted and approved.

What happens after my nomination is approved?

Once your nomination is approved, you will receive a message instructing you to approach the General Directorate of Residency & Foreigners Affairs ([GDRFA](#)) to continue the Golden Visa process through their authorised outlets.

If my application is approved, who will cover the cost of the Golden Visa?

KHDA will only nominate the candidate. If the application is approved, the cost of the Golden Visa must be covered by the applicant, unless there is an agreement between you and your educational institution stating they will cover the visa fees.

Can I sponsor my family if I get a Golden Visa?

Yes, after obtaining the Golden Visa, you can apply for residency permits for your family members (spouse and children), allowing them to stay in the country for the duration of your residency. You can find more details on the official website of the General Directorate of Residency & Foreigners Affairs ([GDRFA](#)).

I am an educator working in an educational institute, but my residency is under my spouse's sponsorship. Can the institution still nominate me?

Yes, as long as you hold a licence from KHDA to teach at your institution.

Do I need to meet all the criteria to submit my application?

The more criteria you meet, the better your chance of being successfully nominated for the Golden Visa.

Is there an appeals process to have my application reconsidered in case it is rejected?

No, decisions on applications are made after thorough review and consideration, and there will be no opportunity to reconsider the application.

Is there a specific window to apply?

Yes, ECCs, schools, and higher education institutions will be able to nominate eligible educators from mid-October until mid-December every year.