

Golden Visa Policy

For exceptional educators in private education institutions in Dubai



Dubai has introduced Golden Visas for outstanding educators who have demonstrated exceptional performance and contributions to the education sector. This policy outlines who can apply and what qualifications they need to meet.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- School principals and leaders
- Early childhood centre managers
- Academic heads of higher education institutions
- Teachers (from schools and ECCs)
- Full-time faculty and senior administrative leaders at higher education institutions

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ECC MANAGERS, PRINCIPALS, AND ACADEMIC HEADS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

QUALIFICATIONS (FOR HEI ONLY)

- Must have an advanced degree (e.g. PhD, professional doctorate, master's) or relevant professional qualifications (e.g. CPA, professional fellowships).

DSIB RATING (FOR PRINCIPALS ONLY)

- Must have improved the school's rating to Good or better in the Dubai Schools Inspections Bureau annual inspections.
- Must have maintained or further improved this rating.

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS (FOR HEI ONLY)

- Must provide evidence of contributions to research, including published research in reputable journals, research grants and collaborations, consultative reports, or creative work/exhibitions

STUDENT SUCCESS

- Must provide clear evidence of improved student outcomes, including academic progress, and graduation outcomes.

LEADERSHIP IMPACT AND FEEDBACK

- Positive feedback from students, parents, staff, and other stakeholders about the principal's leadership and the overall school environment.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Must have received a prestigious education award, either:

- Must have improved the school's rating to Good or better in the Dubai Schools Inspections Bureau annual inspections.
- Must have maintained or further improved this rating
- Recognition through grants, competitions, or fellowships

SUPPORT FOR KEY STUDENT GROUPS

Demonstrate clear, measurable improvements in:

- Must receive a formal nomination from the school's board of governors, citing exceptional leadership and specific reasons for the nomination.

NOMINATION FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

- Must receive a formal nomination from the school's board of governors, citing exceptional leadership and specific reasons for the nomination.

COMMUNITY WORK

- Demonstrate positive contribution to the wider community through educational projects, partnerships, or social initiatives.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR TEACHERS AND FACULTY

Teachers from schools and nurseries, and faculty of higher education institutions are eligible for the Golden Visa based on the following criteria:

QUALIFICATIONS (FOR HEI ONLY)

- Must have an advanced degree (e.g. PhD, professional doctorate, master's) or relevant professional qualifications (e.g. CPA, professional fellowships).

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

The teacher must provide the following:

- Nomination by principal with board of governors' approval and endorsement
- Evidence of student success in internal and external examinations and assessments
- Positive feedback from students, parents and school leadership indicating satisfaction with their teaching performance

Faculty of higher education institutions must provide:

- Evidence of contributions to research, including published research in reputable journals, research grants and collaborations, consultative reports, or creative work/exhibitions

SUPPORT FOR KEY STUDENT GROUPS

The teacher must provide evidence of the following:

- Demonstrated success in improving the academic performance of Emirati students
- Demonstrated success in supporting the academic and social development of students of determination

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

Must have received a prestigious education award, either:

- A national education award
(e.g. the Hamdan Award or similar) OR
- An international education award
(e.g. the Global Teacher Prize or similar)
- Recognition through grants, competitions, or fellowships

COMMUNITY WORK

- Must have contributed to the school community or the wider community through educational or social initiatives.

APPLICATION PROCESS

NOMINATION

Schools, ECCs, and HEIs can nominate eligible staff members who meet the above criteria.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Candidates must submit:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV) and a recent professional photograph
- KHDA school rating reports (for principals)
- Award certificates
- Survey results and testimonials from students and parents
- Staff testimonials (for principals, ECC managers, and academic heads)
- Evidence of community involvement
- Documentation showing improved student outcomes
- Recommendation and nomination letters from the board of governors
- Submission format requirements:
 - Use clear titles for each file and photos
 - All documents must be submitted in PDF format
 - Photographs must be submitted in high-resolution PNG, JPEG or PDF

REVIEW PROCESS

- Applications will be evaluated by a dedicated committee
- Committee recommendations will be forwarded to KHDA
- KHDA will review and coordinate with relevant authorities
- Eligible educators will be informed of the successful outcome of their application