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Company formation in Qatar

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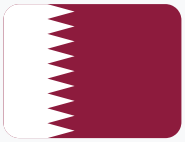

Flag



Emblem

Common form	LLC (mainland) or QFC company [1]
Registry	Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) [1]
Minimum capital	No statutory minimum for most activities [1]
Directors	1 manager [1]
Local director	Not required; 100% foreign ownership is possible with approval or through the QFC [1]
Corporate tax	10% on profit attributable to foreign owners [2]
VAT / sales tax	None [2]
Typical timeline	Usually 2–6 weeks [1]
Tax treaties	Domestic rates and treaty list [7]
Currency	Qatari riyal (QAR)

In short: To set up a company in Qatar, most founders form an LLC, registered with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC). [1] Minimum capital: no statutory minimum for most activities. Corporate tax: 10% on profit attributable to foreign owners. Registration: usually 2–6 weeks (as of November 2026).

In **Qatar**, companies are either formed on the mainland through the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** or in the **Qatar Financial Centre**, which has its own common-law-based rules. Profit attributable to foreign owners is taxed at 10%; Qatar has no VAT.

Business structures

Most founders in Qatar form an LLC, registered with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC). [1] Other forms are listed below.

- **Mainland LLC** – limited liability company
- **QFC LLC** – company in the Qatar Financial Centre
- **Branch of a foreign company** – for specific projects

Requirements

Minimum share capital in Qatar (2026): no statutory minimum for most activities. Directors required: 1 manager. Local resident director: not required; 100% foreign ownership is possible with approval or through the QFC. [1]

- A company name that is available, checked with the registry.
- Share capital: no statutory minimum for most activities.
- Directors: 1 manager.
- Local residency: not required; 100% foreign ownership is possible with approval or through the QFC.
- A registered office address in Qatar.
- Articles of association; standard templates are often available.
- Beneficial owners reported to the beneficial owner register.

Registration process

Typical time to register a company in Qatar (2026): usually 2–6 weeks. [1] The usual steps are:

1. Choose the company form and check that the name is available.

2. Prepare and sign the articles of association.
3. File the registration with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC).
4. Receive the company's registration number, and pay in the share capital where required.
5. Register for corporate tax with the General Tax Authority (GTA).

Taxation

The corporate tax rate in Qatar in 2026 is 10% on profit attributable to foreign owners. [2] **Standard VAT or sales tax: none.** [2]

Tax	Rate and notes
Corporate income tax	10% on profit attributable to foreign owners
VAT / indirect tax	None
Withholding tax on dividends to non-resident companies	0%

Ongoing compliance

Annual compliance in Qatar: Companies file annual tax returns through the GTA's Dhareeba portal, with audited accounts where required, and renew their commercial registration. [1]

Double tax treaties

Qatar has a network of double tax treaties. A double tax treaty decides which country may tax cross-border income and usually caps the withholding tax the paying country can charge.

Domestic withholding tax on payments to non-resident companies

Dividends	Interest	Royalties
0%	5%	5%

The reduced rate for each partner country is set by the treaty concerned; PwC's withholding tax summary for Qatar lists them.

Domestic rates from the PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries withholding tax quick chart (November 2026). Treaty benefits require proof of tax residence and are subject to anti-abuse rules.

Frequently asked questions

How long does it take to register a company in Qatar?

Typical registration time in Qatar: usually 2–6 weeks (as of November 2026), once all documents are ready. Opening a bank account and tax registrations can take longer.

What is the minimum share capital for a company in Qatar?

Minimum share capital in Qatar: no statutory minimum for most activities (as of November 2026).

What is the corporate tax rate in Qatar in 2026?

The corporate tax rate in Qatar in 2026 is 10% on profit attributable to foreign owners. See the Taxation section for reduced rates and other taxes.

Can a foreigner own 100% of a company in Qatar?

Yes, for most activities, though some sectors restrict foreign ownership or require approval. Local director rule in Qatar: not required; 100% foreign ownership is possible with approval or through the QFC.

What withholding tax applies to dividends paid from Qatar?

Qatar charges no withholding tax on dividends paid to non-resident companies under domestic law. See the Double tax treaties section.

Official registries and resources

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC)
- General Tax Authority (GTA)

Figures as of November 2026. Rates, thresholds and procedures change; confirm with the official registry, the tax authority or a local adviser before filing.

See also

- Comparison of company formation by country
- Company formation in Georgia
- Company formation in the United Arab Emirates
- Company formation in Armenia
- Company formation in Saudi Arabia
- All countries

References

Entries marked **Official** are the registry, government and tax authority sources for this country; footnote numbers in the infobox point to them.

1. Official Ministry of Commerce and Industry, or the Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) . Government of Qatar. Accessed November 2026.
2. Official General Tax Authority (GTA) . Government of Qatar. Accessed November 2026.
3. Qatar: Corporate – Taxes on corporate income (reviewed 17 September 2026) . PwC Worldwide Tax Summaries. Accessed November 2026.
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