XIPHIAS Immigration

CYPRUS

Foreign Interest Company

Establish a Cyprus company and recruit skilled third-country employees through the foreign-interest framework.

XIPHIAS Immigration | Residency - Citizenship & Corporate Services

About Cyprus Corporate Immigration

Cyprus allows registered local companies and overseas-company branches to join the Register of Foreign Interest Companies. Registration gives eligible businesses access to a process for recruiting skilled third-country nationals.

The Business Facilitation Unit assesses ownership, investment, premises and activity. Employees apply through the Migration Department for temporary residence and employment permits linked to the approved company.

Program Overview

Program Type

Foreign Interest Company

Minimum investment

From €200,000

Processing Time

10 Business Days / 1 Month*

Physical Presence Required

Employee Biometrics Required

*BFU registration targets ten business days; residence and employment applications are examined within one month when duly completed.

Eligibility

- Cyprus company or registered overseas-company branch
- Qualifying ownership or another approved business category
- Initial investment of at least €200,000
- Separate business premises with valid documentary evidence
- Gross monthly salary of at least €2,500
- Relevant qualifications or two years' experience

Key Benefits

- Simplified recruitment of skilled third-country nationals
- No labour-market test for highly paid employees
- Permits valid up to three years
- No maximum stay for qualifying highly paid staff
- Family reunification for eligible employees
- 15% corporation tax from tax year 2026

Foreign Interest Company Framework

Cyprus combines company registration with a dedicated foreign-interest framework for businesses that meet prescribed ownership, investment, premises and operating requirements and intend to employ third-country professionals in Cyprus.

- Eligible entities: Cyprus companies (HE) and registered overseas-company branches (AE) apply through their identified CY Login profile.
- Ownership: Third-country nationals may hold a majority. For foreign ownership of 50% or less, the minority share needs a €200,000 value.
- Investment: At least €200,000 for Cyprus operations through an eligible company bank deposit, office purchase or business equipment.
- Premises: Submit a title deed, purchase agreement or 12-month rental agreement for separate business premises, located separately from any residence.
- Employees: Highly paid third-country nationals need a gross monthly salary of €2,500, relevant qualifications or two years' experience, and a two-year contract.
- Staffing and tax: Commit to 30% Cypriot or EU staff over five years. Corporation tax is 15% from 2026.

Process

1. **Company Formation**
   Incorporate a Cyprus company or register an overseas branch with the Registrar of Companies.
2. **Business Setup**
   Secure separate premises, complete the investment and prepare ownership and UBO evidence.
3. **BFU Application**
   Submit the application and documents through the company's identified CY Login profile.
4. **Government Review**
   BFU examines eligibility and targets completion within ten business days when complete.
5. **Employment Terms**
   Document €2,500 gross monthly salary, qualifications or experience, and a two-year contract.
6. **Entry and Permit**
   Arrange lawful entry, then apply in Nicosia for residence and employment.
7. **Compliance and Renewal**
   Maintain permits, tax filings, records and the staffing commitment.

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XIPHIAS
Immigration

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