



Citizenship By Investment (CBI)

—
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Citizenship by Investment (CBI)?

The term 'citizenship by investment' describes the set of requirements inscribed by nations in which foreign persons may gain citizenship through significant capital contributions to another country.

Which countries offer CBI programs?

The options available in Europe offer the highest amount of flexibility – we can assist your clients with citizenship in Austria, Malta and Turkey.

In the Caribbean – we provide our services in all five jurisdictions offering CBI including Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia and St. Kitts & Nevis and offer a tailored, hassle-free service to assist clients to a successful outcome.

What are the typical benefits of obtaining citizenship through investment?

The usual reasons someone applies for alternative citizenship include:

- Security
- Global mobility
- Greater travel freedom
- Access to new markets (business)
- A better future for their families, such as education for their children

Who is eligible to apply for CBI programs?

Each applicant's eligibility to apply to a program has to be separately examined.

What are the minimum investment requirements?

The investment amounts for a Caribbean application range between USD 200,000 – USD 250,000 for a single applicant donation route and excluding fees. An accurate financial estimate will be provided after a consultation with an advisor.

Are there any specific qualifications or conditions that applicants must meet?

Intending applicants must be able to afford the program, be medically fit and have a clean criminal background. Investment must also be settled in full and one single payment once the CBI application is approved.

Can family members be included in the application?

Yes, family members including parents and siblings can be included in applications. However, each program has different rules for the addition of family members.

Is there a residency requirement for CBI applicants?

There is no residency requirement for CBI applications. However, Antigua and Barbuda citizens must pay a 5-day visit within the first 5 years of being granted citizenship.

What types of investments qualify for CBI programs?

Caribbean Investments will be a donation to a government fund or investment in a government approved real estate project. European investments could be a donation, real estate purchase, investment in government bonds, etc. Applicants will be advised of qualifying investments during the initial consultation.

Can the investment be recovered after a certain period?

A government donation cannot be recovered, and real estate can be sold after a period stipulated by the government.

Are there any additional fees or costs associated with the investment?

Applicants will be advised of any associated fees during consultation and once an investment option has been decided.

What is the process for applying for citizenship by investment?

The general process is as follows but may vary slightly depending on the program of choice.

- Prospect has a consultation with a qualified advisor.
- Initial due diligence checks completed.
- Client agreement signed, and retainer paid.
- Application for citizenship
- Submitted to the government.
- Mandatory virtual interview for applicants and dependents aged 16 and older.
- Due diligence checks completed.
- Application approved.
- Requirements fulfilled.
- Full citizenship received.

How long does the application process take?

Government processing time is between 4 – 12 months depending on the program chosen. However, these time frames are estimates and dependent on timely response from clients in relation to the provision of application documents and third-party response time, which are out of our control.

What documents are required for the application?

Documents required will include identity documents (passports, residence cards, birth certificates, etc.), proof of income, bank statements, reference letters, etc.

Is there a background check for applicants?

Yes. Applicants will have to undergo a compulsory due diligence check before onboarding to begin the application. Government due diligence checks + mandatory virtual interviews will be carried out during application processing.

What are the legal implications of obtaining citizenship through investment?

There are no legal implications.

Will I be required to renounce my current citizenship?

If your current citizenship allows dual citizenship, you do not need to renounce citizenship.

What are the tax implications of becoming a citizen through investment?

There are no tax implications when acquiring a second citizenship. There are only tax implications when the applicant intends to spend a significant amount of time in the country. In this case it is advised to consult with a tax advisor.

What rights and privileges do new citizens obtain?

Depending on the jurisdiction applied to, CBI citizens will obtain the right to live and study without restriction in that jurisdiction, free public education for citizens and free or subsidized primary healthcare for citizens.

Are there any obligations or responsibilities for new citizens?

There are no obligations or responsibilities once a CBI passport is obtained.

Can CBI citizenship be revoked? If so, under what circumstances?

It depends on the program country's legislation and applicants should check with their advisor what these circumstances may be.

What is the process for obtaining a passport once citizenship is granted?

Once the application is approved and citizenship granted, the applicant will have a passport issued to them.

Can CBI citizens pass their citizenship to their descendants?

Some of the CBI countries allow for citizenship by descent but not all. Applicants will be advised during the initial consultation.

Are there opportunities for dual citizenship with CBI programs?

Yes, if current citizenship allows dual citizenship, then CBI can be considered.

Are there any language or cultural integration requirements?

No

How can I ensure my investment and application are secure and legitimate?

By partnering with a reputable wealth management firm that has a proven track record and high success rate in citizenship by investment services.

At United Capital Wealth Management, we are well positioned to assist high-net-worth individuals with secure investment options and ensure that applications are processed in full compliance with the legal requirements of each jurisdiction.

Please contact us at wealthmanagement@unitedcapitalplcgroup.com, to book a consultation.