



**COMMONWEALTH OF
DOMINICA**

ECONOMIC CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME

GENERAL INFORMATION

Advantages of the programme:

- Dual citizenship is allowed
- Lifetime citizenship
- Fast application process, within 120-150 days
- Working right is provided in Dominica
- Visa free travel to 120 countries of the world
- Family programme with high flexibility

Disadvantages of the programme:

- Not very prestigious country or citizenship
- Not very well known country

Legal basis for citizenship:

Chapter VII of the Constitution sets out the conditions under which citizenship may be obtained or granted. Sections 97 to 100 make provisions for entitlement to citizenship by birth, parentage and marriage respectively. Section 101 allows Parliament to pass laws to grant citizenship to other persons who are not entitled under the preceding sections. Section 101 provides as follows:

There shall be such provision as may be made by Parliament for :

- The acquisition of citizenship of Dominica by persons who are not eligible or who are no longer eligible to become citizens of Dominica under the provisions of this Chapter;
- Depriving of his citizenship of Dominica any person who is a citizen of Dominica otherwise than by virtue of section 97, 98 or 99 of this Constitution;
- the renunciation by any person of his citizenship of Dominica.

Citizenship provided for by section 101 of the Constitution could only be granted under the Naturalization and Citizenship Act which stipulated that persons who had been continuously resident in Dominica for five (5) years could apply for naturalization and may be eligible for citizenship on payment of prescribed fees.

In 1993 the concept of Economic Citizenship was introduced whereby the residency requirement was waived. This amendment to the Citizenship Act meant that for a stipulated investment, persons could apply for Dominican citizenship.

Voting rights:

Not provided with citizenship

Year of commencement of the programme: 1993

Year of closing of the programme:

Not planned

Country name:	Commonwealth of Dominica
Capital:	Roseau
Time zone:	GMT – 5
Area:	751 km2
Population:	73 449 (July 2014 est.)
Nationality:	Dominicans
Languages:	English, French
Ethnic groups:	Black 86.9%, mixed 8.9%, Carib Ameriindians 2.9%, white 0.8%, other 0.7%
Currency:	East Caribbean Dollar (XCD). 1 USD = 2.7 XCD
Climate:	Tropical
Location:	Caribbean, island between the Caribbean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean, about half way between Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago



PROGRAMME OPTIONS

Under current regulations, to qualify for citizenship of the Commonwealth of Dominica under its Citizenship by Investment Program, the Government requires either a contribution made into the Government Fund amounting to US\$ 100 000 depending on the number of dependents included in the application or an investment in designated Real Estate with a value of at least US\$ 200 000. Additional payments for any dependents included in an application, due diligence fees, government fees and other fees are also payable.

Government Fund

Package A: Single Applicant	A non-refundable investment of US\$ 100 000
Package B: Family Application One (Applicant and spouse)	A non-refundable investment of US\$ 175 000
Package C: Family Application Two (Applicant plus spouse and two children below the age of 18)	A non-refundable investment of US\$ 200 000
Package D: Family Application Three (Applicant plus spouse and more than two children below the age of 18)	A non-refundable investment of US\$ 200 000 plus US\$ 50 000 for every additional person below the age of 18 (2 included)

Real Estate

To qualify for citizenship of Dominica under the Real Estate Option under the Citizenship by Investment Program, an applicant must purchase authorized real estate to the minimum value of US\$ 200,000.

Following approval of a real estate investment application, the following Government Fees are payable:

- US\$ 50 000 for the Main Applicant
- US\$ 25 000 for the Spouse
- US\$ 20 000 for each dependent of the main applicant under the age of 18
- US\$ 50 000 for each dependent of the main applicant aged 18-25 years.

Given that the application procedure under this option entails the purchase of real estate, this can prolong the processing time, which is subject to the chosen property.

The real estate must be held for 3 years and may be eligible for re-sale under the Citizenship by Investment Programme after 5 years from the original purchase date.

Other Applicable Fees

- Processing Fee – US\$ 3 000 per application (Non-refundable)
- Naturalization Fee – US\$ 750 per applicant
- Stamp Fee – US\$ 15 per applicant

Due Diligence Fees (required for both the Real Estate and the Government Fund options)

- Main Applicant – US\$ 7 500*
- Spouse – US\$ 7 500
- Dependant aged 16 years and above – US\$ 4 000

*In some cases, an enhanced due diligence may be required depending on the citizenship the applicant holds.

Other Applicable Fees

- Application fee – US\$ 1 000 per investor (Non-refundable)
- Processing Fee – US\$ 200 per applicant (Non-refundable)
- Naturalization Fee – US\$ 550 per applicant
- Stamp Fee – US\$ 15 per applicant

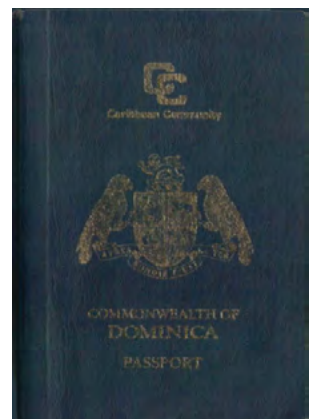


Image courtesy of PassportIndex.org

THE PROCESS

1. Preparation of applications

Promoters/Agents/Applicants should familiarize themselves with the required document. All the documents must be included in the application package in order for applications to be processed.

DOCUMENTS SHOULD NOT PRE-DATE THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION TO THE FSU BY MORE THAN THREE (3) MONTHS

2. Submission of application

The complete application package should be submitted to The Manager Financial Services Unit of Ministry of Finance.

3. Comfort Letters and Investment Deposits

After careful consideration of the application by the Financial Services Unit, the promoter/agent/applicant will be issued a comfort letter from the Minister of Finance and Social Security. Upon receipt of the comfort letter, the stipulated investment should be deposited into the Citizenship account at the:

National Bank of Dominica
For credit to Ministry of Finance & Planning
Government of Dominica – Economic Citizenship
Account No. 115003026
64 Hillsborough Street
Roseau
Commonwealth of Dominica
Swift code: NCDMDMDM at BANK OF AMERICA,
NEW YORK

The name of the investor should be indicated clearly on the Wire Transfer/Deposit Slip.

Simultaneously, notification of the payment/deposit should be faxed to the Manager of the Financial Services Unit. All investments should be net of bank and transfer charges.

INVESTMENTS WILL NOT BE TRANSFERRED FROM THIS ACCOUNT EITHER FOR PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS' USE UNTIL NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED.



4. Interviews, Taking Of Oaths & Naturalization

(a) Interviews

It is mandatory that all investors be interviewed by a government appointed committee or committee members. Interviews are to be conducted in Dominica. The interview will be conducted in English and therefore applicants are expected at a minimum to be able to communicate verbally in English. Also if an investor is unable to travel to Dominica and wishes to have his interview conducted overseas then he would be required to pay US\$ 3 000 plus the full travel costs (hotel, airfare and Per Diem) for three members of the interview panel. It should be noted that under no circumstances will an interview be waived. Government has an approved list of translators who are able to assist in the case where an applicant is not fluent in the English language. A fee of US\$ 100 will be charged for the use of a translator. Interviews will only be conducted where all documents are in order one (1) week prior to the date of the interview and the agent/promoter confirms that the investor will be attending the interview. The questions posed at the interview will fall within the following categories:

- Personal information and eligibility for Dominican citizenship
- Social, political and economic life in Dominica
- Reason for seeking Dominican Citizenship and proposed contribution to Dominica's socio-economic growth
- Allegiance to Dominica

It is the responsibility of the promoter/agent/applicant to make the appropriate arrangements and appointments through the Financial Services Unit with regard to the interview.

The agent will be notified about the results of the interview one month (1) after the interview date. If the application is recommended by the interviewing committee for further processing, it will be forwarded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Labour, that is the ministry responsible for granting economic citizenship. It should be noted that submission of an application to this ministry does not guarantee economic citizenship.

(b) Taking of Oath, Naturalization

Upon final approval of application by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Labour each applicant is required to sign an Oath of Allegiance before a Notary Public, Justice of Peace or Commissioner of Oaths. Parents or legally appointed guardians of minors, aged zero to sixteen (0 – 16) must sign the Oath of Allegiance on behalf of the minor. At this point, each applicant is to pay a registration fee of US\$ 1 000. A Certificate of Naturalization is then prepared and forwarded to the promoter/agent/applicant.



5. Procurement of Passports

Passports can only be issued after the applicant has been granted citizenship of the Commonwealth of Dominica, that is, after he/she is issued a Certificate of Naturalization under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Labour. The applicant/agent/promoter is entirely responsible for the securing of passports. No government officer or department is responsible for applying for passports for any individual. Passports can be procured by submitting the following to the Immigration Office, Police Headquarters, Roseau:

- Certificate of Naturalization
- Certified copy of birth certificate
- Completed passport application forms for each applicant along with Government Treasury receipt of EC\$ 100 on Form "A" for adults or Form "B" for children (0-16 years). These forms must be submitted as issued by the Immigration Department. Reproduction or duplicates will not be accepted.
- Two passport-size photographs – 2.5" x 2"

Fees for:

- Renewal of Passports – EC\$ 100
- Replacement of Lost Passports – EC\$ 500

Procedures For The Conduct Of Due Diligence Investigations

1. The Disclosure Form is to be completed in duplicate for all applicants aged sixteen (16) and over.
2. The agent/promoter/investor should forward the original Disclosure Form together with the necessary payment to the due diligence agency. The duplicate form together with the other required application documents will be submitted to the FSU.
3. After the background investigation has been completed, the due diligence company will forward the results directly to the FSU.

REQUIREMENTS

- Investors must be over 21 years of age.
- Applicants for Economic Citizenship must be of outstanding character.
- Application must be on the prescribed form and all necessary supporting documentation must be provided. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL PHOTOCOPIED DOCUMENTS MUST BE CERTIFIED AS A TRUE COPY BY A NOTARY PUBLIC. FAX COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ALSO ALL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED MUST BE IN ENGLISH. DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN ISSUED IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE MUST BE TRANSLATED BY AN OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR WHO SHOULD NOT BE THE AGENT/PROMOTER OF THE INVESTOR.
- A letter of application for economic citizenship addressed to the Minister responsible for Citizenship stating the reason(s) for applying for economic citizenship must also be included in the package.
- Application forms must be signed by the applicant or by the parent or lawful guardian of children under the age of eighteen (18).
- Applicants must have a basic knowledge of the English language.
- Each investor/applicant under the programme shall deposit into the appropriate account at the National Commercial Bank of Dominica the amount of their investment. This amount shall not be withdrawn from the account unless the application is withdrawn, rejected or approved. In either of the first two cases the applicant will be refunded. However, if the application is rejected because of false information or declarations, forged or fraudulent documents submitted by the applicant then the investment will be forfeited to the Commonwealth of Dominica and shall not be refunded.
- If the application is refused, all sums (net of bank charges and exchange rate differential) paid into the designated account

RESTRICTIONS

All applicants undergo the same due diligence process. If any issues from their background which would be grounds for rejection emerge, they will not be approved for citizenship.

shall be refunded to the applicant within one (1) month of the rejection of the application. However, no sums paid as fees to Government on applications for economic citizenship shall be refunded. A request for refund shall be addressed to the Minister for Finance.

- Processing of applications for economic citizenship can take at least eight (8) weeks.
- All applicants for Economic Citizenship must have a promoter/agent.

Residency requirement:

Not required during or after the application process

Required documents:

- Application Form must be completed in duplicate for all persons desirous of Dominican citizenship, children included. A parent or legal guardian of applicants under eighteen (18) years of age must sign the application Form 12 on behalf of the minor. All Form 12s must be notarized to be complete. Reproductions of the Form 12 are accepted. The section of Form 12 labelled "REFERENCE" can be left blank.
- Two (2) original personal references (Not Professional References) for the investor, spouse and any child over 18 years old. Testimonials should include a paragraph about the referee, who must have been acquainted with the applicant for at least five (5) years. Identical testimonials will not be accepted. Also testimonials should not be from family members. An original letter of recommendation from the Principal/Dean of the school or university for children between 12 and 18 years old.
- One (1) original Professional reference for the investor. References should be from a person who has been acquainted with the investor's work for at least three (3) years.
- One (1) original recommendation from the investor's banker (Not a certificate of Deposit/Bank Statement). The investor must have been a client of the bank for at least two (2) years. The recommendation should contain the contact information for the bank. Unsigned bank recommendations will not be accepted.
- Original Letter of Employment for the investor. If self-employed most recent audited financial statement of the business.
- Original affidavit by investor stating source of funds.
- Marriage certificate where applicable. If an applicant is divorced and has remarried then a notarized copy of the Dissolution of the Marriage is required.
- A letter of application addressed to the Honourable Minister responsible for Citizenship requesting citizenship is required of the investor or the head of the family applying for citizenship stating the reason(s) for applying for economic citizenship.
- Original Police clearance certificate or a similar document provided by a law enforcement agency confirming the absence of a criminal record is required of all applicants aged sixteen (16) and over. Police records are required from country of birth, citizenship and residence (where the applicant has lived for six (6) months or more) if different. Police records are required from a County/State and at Federal Level. All police records must be accompanied by a set of fingerprints. For children aged twelve to fifteen (12-15), sworn affidavit by parent that child does not have criminal record is required.
- Four certified passport size photos. On the reverse side of each photo a notary public should endorse the following statement:
 - I certify that this is a true likeness of the applicant Mr./Miss/Mrs./Ms _____".
- Birth certificate for all applicants.
- Notarized copies of University/College diplomas.
- Completed medical tests for all applicants. Applicants between the ages of 0-5 years will not be required to take an HIV test.
- Non-refundable Processing Fee of US\$ 200.
- The non-refundable application fee of US\$ 200 and stamp cost of US\$ 15 as stated in the list of fees apply to each applicant. These fees and stamp costs must accompany the rest of the application package. Payments can be made in EC dollars and must be net of all bank and transfer charges. The exchange rate is US\$ 1.00 = EC\$ 2.70.
- A detailed resume/business background report is required of all applicants who are working adults. The occupation of all working adults must be clearly indicated.
- Completed Disclosure Form for all applicants over 16 years of age.
- Statutory declaration attesting that the information submitted in the application package is correct. If the applicant is experiencing difficulties in obtaining a statutory declaration, the document may be processed in Dominica.
 - Any other document deemed necessary by the Minister.

Please contact us to receive a price offer for the citizenship programme of Dominica.



VISA FREE TRAVEL

This is the full list of countries allowing visa free travel to Dominica passport holders. As this is general information, which may change any time before you travel, please contact the embassy of the targeted country.

Anguilla	Haiti	Tuvalu
Antigua & Barbuda	Hong Kong	Togo*
Aruba	Jamaica	Tonga
The Bahamas	Jordan*	Samoa (Western)
Barbados	Korea (South)	Sao Tome and Principe*
Belarus*	Laos*	St. Kitts & Nevis
Belize	Leeward Islands	St. Lucia
Bhutan*	Lesotho	St. Vincent & The Grenadines
British Virgin Islands	Tanzania	Seychelles
Brunei	Timor-Leste*	Singapore
Burundi*	Liechtenstein	Solomon Islands
Cape Verde Islands	Maldives*	Trinidad & Tobago
Cayman Islands	Marshall Islands*	United Kingdom
Columbia	Mauritius	Vanuatu
Comoros*	Mauritania *	Venezuela
Cook Islands	Montserrat	Zambia
Costa Rica	Namibia	Zimbabwe
Dominican Republic	Netherland Antilles	
East Timor*	Northern Mariana Islands*	
El Salvador	Panama	
Egypt**	Peru	*Visa on arrival
Fiji	Philippines	
Gibraltar	Turkey*	
Grenada & The Grenadines	Turks & Caicos	
Guyana		

