



SK&N

St Kitts & Nevis
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

St Kitts and Nevis

Citizenship by Investment
Programme

The First. The Finest.

ciu.gov.kn







Welcome Note

As the pioneer of the global investor immigration industry, St Kitts and Nevis remains the superior choice for the discerning investor that comes with alternative citizenship. Launched in 1984, the St Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment (CBI) Programme is recognised as the first and finest. It consistently ranks as the world's best programme in the CBI Index published by the Financial Times' Professional Wealth Management magazine and possesses an impeccable reputation.

It has been crafted using a sustainable model that ensures its acclaimed demand and longevity. The aim is to achieve this by administrative improvements and maintaining high levels of integrity.

The restructured programme allows for greater transparency and accountability – the hallmarks of good governance. It is this framework that solidifies the foundation of any CBI programme.

A Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) made up of efficient and focused experts will ensure that the CBI Programme increases processing efficiency as well as accuracy. Simultaneously, strong due diligence processes will be maintained to ensure that only investors of the highest calibre are accepted.

The addition of a new Board of Governors solidifies a strong superintendence over the CIU and is run with the utmost transparency. This additional administration of the CBI Programme is underpinned by three fundamental principles, namely: sustainability, good governance and pragmatism.

Investment options are tailored to align with marketing realities while preserving the premium and sought-after brand that St Kitts and Nevis has developed and nurtured for over four decades. These sophisticated investment solutions open a whole new world to distinguished investors looking to join the oldest and most distinguished CBI Programme in the world.

From family to dynasty, investors can choose from four CBI Options: by making a contribution to the Sustainable Island State Contribution (SISC), investing in an Approved Real Estate Development, purchasing an Approved Private Home, or contributing to an Approved Public Benefit Project. Each of these CBI Options is well-devised and backed by regulations to ensure transparency, good governance and pragmatism.

Accomplished applicants can be confident that they are investing in a jurisdiction where their investment is safe and where they can enjoy concrete rewards and benefits.

Backed by strong due diligence, good governance and transparency, discerning investors and citizens of St Kitts and Nevis can rest assured that the integrity of the CBI Programme is maintained and will always remain world-class.

Michael M. Martin

Head of the St Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Unit

St Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Programme

The St Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Programme is one of the main pillars of the economic development of St Kitts and Nevis and it has generated substantial benefit to the people of the nation over the years.

As pioneers of the CBI industry, St Kitts and Nevis remains a top destination for those seeking alternative citizenship from a trusted and reputable country. The islands launched the CBI Programme in 1984 and it has since been consistently ranked as the world's best programme by the CBI Index, published annually by the Financial Times' PWM publication.

The CIU is committed to strengthening the CBI Programme and has prioritised the reform of the CBI Programme which aims to further enhance its integrity and competitiveness.

Management of the CIU

Citizenship by Investment Board of Governors

Since January 2023, the CIU has been managed by the newly appointed Citizenship by Investment Board of Governors, who are in charge of advising the Prime Minister on the operation and activities of the CIU, as well as monitoring and reviewing the development and policies of the CBI Programme.

Technical Committee

The review of all CBI applications is the responsibility of the newly appointed Technical Committee, who are also in charge of ensuring that all due diligence background checks and spot checks are comprehensively completed on all CBI applications.

Sustainable Island State Contribution (SISC)

The Sustainable Island State Contribution (SISC) is used to support the economic and social development of St Kitts and Nevis following seven pillars of prioritisation:

- Increasing local food production
- Transitioning to Green Energy
- Diversifying the economy
- Attracting and supporting sustainable industries
- Evolving the Creative Economy
- Recovering from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Expanding social protections and safety nets to protect the most vulnerable

The SISC provides discerning investors the option to contribute to their new nation. It is a sustainable and secure solution for intelligent investors who want to make a smart move. All contributions are payable to the Federal Consolidated Fund.



The minimum SISC required by law are as follows:

- Main applicant only: **US\$250,000**
- Main applicant and a spouse: **US\$300,000**
- Main applicant and one dependant: **US\$300,000**
- Main applicant, a spouse and one or two dependants: **US\$350,000**
- Main applicant and two or three dependants: **US\$350,000**
- Each additional dependant under 18: **US\$50,000**
- Each additional dependant aged 18 or over: **US\$75,000**

Developer's Real Estate Investment Option

Only Approved Developments are eligible for the Real Estate Investment Option under the new CBI regime.

A trusted and strategic diversification strategy for your portfolio. Discerning investors may apply for citizenship through the purchasing of a designated real estate unit of an Approved Development.

The minimum real estate investment in an Approved Development is **US\$400,000** (resaleable after seven years) for each main applicant.

Upon submission of an application, non-refundable due diligence fees must also be paid. In addition to these fees, real estate buyers should be aware of purchase costs (mainly compulsory insurance fund contributions and conveyance fees).



Private Home Sale Investment Option

A distinctive choice for the unique investor. Applicants may qualify for citizenship through an investment in an Approved Private Home.

The minimum investment in a condominium unit designated as an Approved Private Home is **US\$400,000**.

The minimum investment in a single-family private dwelling home designated as Approved Private Home is **US\$800,000**.

Resale:

A property purchased under the Private Home Sale Investment Option shall not be resold for a period of at least seven (7) years.

The Approved Private Home does not qualify for purchase in a subsequent CBI application, unless the Board of Government is satisfied that substantial further investment was injected into the real estate unit by way of further construction, renovation or otherwise.

Public Benefit Option

The Public Benefit Option provides the Government with the means of achieving its capital investment goals.

Discerning investors who would like to develop a project which brings substantial benefit to the people of St Kitts and Nevis can apply to the CIU to be designated as an Approved Public Benefactor. They can then apply for their projects to be designated as Approved Public Benefit Projects qualified for sale under this option.

Approved Public Benefit Projects designated by the CIU can not only maximise local employment, but also make it possible to embark upon projects including transfer of technology and capacity building.

Under the Public Benefit Option, each main applicant is required to make a minimum contribution of **US\$250,000** in a unit of an Approved Public Benefit Project, to be paid to the relevant Approved Public Benefactor.



The application process is as follows:

Step 1: Choose Your Agent

Select an Authorised Agent from the official Government list. You can not apply directly.

Step 2: Complete Your Application

Complete all forms and supply all documents via your Authorised Agent.

Step 3: Background Checks

Wait for the CIU to process your application and conduct all due diligence checks. All main applicants are required to attend a mandatory interview. Dependants aged 16 years of age may at the discretion of the CIU be required to attend an interview.

Once your application is vetted and you are successful, an approval-in-principle letter will be issued.

Step 4: Make Your Contribution Or Investment

Make your investment after you receive the approval-in-principle letter.

Step 5: Get Citizenship

Receive your citizenship.





Due Diligence Fees

Upon submission of an application, non-refundable due diligence fees must also be paid.

The following due diligence fees apply to all CBI applications:

- Main applicant: **US\$10,000**
- Each dependant aged 16 or over: **US\$7,500**

Post-approval Application Fees

On approval-in-principle of an application made through the Approved Real Estate Investment, Approved Private Home Sale or Public Benefit Options, the following post-approval application fees apply:

- Main applicant: **US\$25,000**
- Spouse of the main applicant: **US\$15,000**
- Any qualified dependant under 18: **US\$10,000**
- Any qualified dependant aged 18 or over: **US\$15,000**

Within 120 days of acknowledgment from the Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) of submission of a CBI application, the CIU will advise whether an application is:

- Approved-in-principle;
- Denied; or
- Delayed for cause and is still being processed.

Each main applicant is required to attend an interview conducted by an independent professional firm commissioned by the CIU or by officials of the Unit either virtually, in person in St Kitts and Nevis or in person at such other location approved by the Board of Governors of the CIU.

Dependants aged 16 or over may if deemed necessary also be required to attend an interview.

Application Processing Fee

A non-refundable application processing fee of **US\$250** is payable to the CIU for each applicant included in a CBI application.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the requirements to become an economic citizen?

The main applicant must be at least 18 years of age, must have made an investment for the prescribed amount, and must meet other application requirements.

Can I contact the Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) directly?

The CIU engages only with Authorised Agents. An Authorised Agent is a person licenced by the Financial Services Regulatory Commission to conduct corporate or trust services in St Kitts and Nevis. Additionally, an Authorised Agent would have paid the Authorised Agent's fees, and who is authorised to act on behalf of the main applicant in relation to a citizenship by investment application.

The main applicant should contact an Authorised Agent from the official list of Authorised Agents on our website. The Authorised Agent will guide the main applicant through the application requirements, and handle and submit the application to the CIU on their behalf. The CIU cannot endorse or recommend any Authorised Agent to applicants.

Are the application forms available online?

No. The application forms for citizenship by investment can only be obtained through, and submitted to the CIU by, an Authorised Agent.

Do interviews form part of the application process?

Yes, mandatory interviews are required for all main applicants. The CIU may at its discretion require any dependants aged 16 or over to attend an interview.



How long does the application process take?

Within 120 days of acknowledgment from the Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) of submission of a CBI application, the CIU will advise whether an application is:

- Approved-in-principle;
- Denied; or
- Delayed for cause and is still being processed.

Applicants will be kept apprised of the status of their applications through their Authorised Agent.

Can I submit my application in a language other than English?

No. Applications that are not in English are not accepted by the CIU. Any supporting documents not in English must be provided both in the original language and concurrently with a certified translation into English.

Can two or more applicants apply for citizenship by investment together?

Yes. Although it is no longer an option under the Real Estate Investment Option for an applicant to purchase one piece of real estate together with another applicant, the option remains for the Private Home Sale Investment Option.

Can my family be included in my application?

Yes. A main applicant may include the following family members as dependants in their application:

- a) The spouse of the main applicant;
- b) Children aged under 18;
- c) Children aged between 18 and 25 who are in full-time attendance at a recognised secondary or tertiary level institution of learning and fully supported by the main applicant;
- d) Children aged 18 or over who are physically or mentally challenged; and
- e) Parents of the main applicant or the spouse of the main applicant aged 65 or over, living with and fully supported by the main applicant.





Does the Programme recognise same sex marriage?

The laws of St Kitts and Nevis define “spouse” as the partner of the opposite sex by marriage.

What is the maximum number of dependants allowed?

There is no limit on the number of permitted dependants.

What are the fees involved?

Processing fees are applicable to all applicants and all applicants aged 16 or over are required to pay due diligence fees. Additional post approval-in-principle CBI application fees apply under the Real Estate Investment Option, the Private Home Sale Investment Option, and the Public Benefit Option.

If I am no longer interested in becoming a citizen will my monies be refunded?

If a Certificate of Registration has not been issued, and dependent on any sale and purchase agreement made with a real estate provider, monies will be refunded, with the exception of due diligence fees and processing fees.

Can an applicant remit fees directly to the CIU?

Processing fees, due diligence fees, and post-approval application fees must be paid through the applicant’s Authorised Agent. Wire transfers to the CIU are only applicable for approved applicants for the remittance of contributions to the SISC.

Do I have to reside in St Kitts and Nevis in order to apply for citizenship?

No. Residing in St Kitts and Nevis is not required when applying for citizenship by investment.

What is a police certificate?

A police certificate refers to a statement from a national law enforcement authority on the status of a person’s criminal record. It is also referred to as “certificate of no criminal record” or “police clearance record”.

Who is required to produce a police certificate?

The main applicant and all dependants 16 years of age or older are required to produce a police certificate. Applicants who will turn 16 within three months of submitting their application must also provide a police certificate.





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THE FEDERATION OF ST KITTS AND NEVIS
CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

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