

Programme Summary

Citizenship-by-Investment Programme

Lying in the Eastern Caribbean's Leeward Islands, the English-speaking, two-island state of Antigua and Barbuda is a favoured tourist destination affectionately referred to as the "Land of 365 Beaches".

Antigua and Barbuda enjoy a pleasant year-round climate, with average air temperatures ranging between 25°C and 28°C (77°F to 82°F) and sea temperatures reaching 29°C (84°F). These lush tropical islands are stunningly beautiful locales, and tourism is the dominant source of income generating about 60% of the island's GDP.

Having gained independence from Britain in 1981, Antigua and Barbuda has developed a reputation for judicial and governmental stability. Today, passport holders enjoy visa-free travel to 150 countries, including the European Schengen Area, the UK, South Africa, Hong Kong, and Singapore. They also enjoy the privileges associated with citizenship of a Caricom country.

Requirements

To qualify for citizenship, the main applicant must be over 18 years of age, meet the due diligence requirements, commit at least five days of visit within the first five years of obtaining citizenship and must select one of three main options.

Investment Options

You can select from one of the three main investment options:

- Make a non-refundable donation to the National Development Fund starting from USD 100,000.
- Purchase qualifying real estate of at least USD 200,000 in a government-approved project.
- Carry out a USD 150,000 non-refundable donation to the University of the West Indies (families of six or more only).

Donation

The National Development Fund (NDF) is a non-profit fund that was established under section 42(2) of the Finance Administration Act 2006 for the purpose of funding government-sponsored projects, including public-private partnerships and approved charitable investments.

The NDF contribution for a single applicant or a family of up to four people is USD 100,000 and the processing fee is USD 30,000.

You may include your spouse and children up to 30 years of age who are financially dependent on you. Any of your unmarried siblings also qualify as a dependent. In addition, you can include parents and grandparents who are 55 or older and financially dependent on you.

Real Estate

You may also choose to purchase real estate with a minimum value of USD 200,000 from an approved development project. This route requires you to maintain ownership of the property for at least five years.

If you are considering the real estate option, we suggest you visit the islands, and our local team will provide tours of the available properties. While this is not a requirement of the program, you will certainly gain a better appreciation and knowledge of the property options and overall real estate market. Lastly, your new address will enable you to open a local bank account.

University of West Indies fund option

For families of six or more, a more economical option than the NDF is the University Fund. This starts from USD 150,000 (inclusive of a government-processing fee). For each dependent over six, you are liable for an additional fee of USD 15,000.

Qualifying Dependents

As the main applicant, you can add your spouse as a dependent. Like you, they must be over 18 years of age, not have been diagnosed with any serious illnesses, and not have been prosecuted for any crimes carrying a custodial sentence of more than six months. You can also include children up to 30 years of age and their spouses.

You can also include mentally or physically disadvantaged children of any age. Parents and grandparents over the age of 55 qualify as dependents. As do unmarried siblings. You can add a future spouse, conditional on the payment of \$50,000.

Other Requirements

In addition to fulfilling one of the three economic contributions above, you and your dependents must have clean personal backgrounds. The Citizenship-by-Investment Unit (CIU) is the government authority responsible for processing and examining all applications. They will perform strict due diligence checks.

The CIU will revoke your application if you have been denied a visa to a country that has a visa-free travel arrangement with Antigua and Barbuda. They will also reject you as a citizen if they identify you as a potential national security risk or a reputational risk. Your application will be unsuccessful if you are subject to a criminal investigation.



Process Overview

The process will take between four and six months. That is the time you will have to wait after submitting your application until you receive your passport.

Dual Citizenship

Antigua and Barbuda has no restrictions on dual citizenship.

Taxation

Antigua and Barbuda have no personal income tax, capital gains, inheritance taxes or tax on foreign income. Simply holding Antiguan citizenship will not cause one to be a tax resident.

The corporate tax rate is set at 25%. However, certain companies may qualify for attractive tax reductions on profits up to a 20-year period.

A sales tax is a standard rate of 15% which is calculated on local consumption.

Summary of Key Advantages

- Visa-free travel to 150 countries including the EU, the UK, Singapore, Hong Kong, and South Africa.
- Full citizenship with passport granted to you, spouse, children up to the age of 30, unmarried siblings, and parents or grandparents over 55.
- Financially dependent children up to the age of 30 years old may be included without the need to be enrolled in full-time school. Unmarried siblings may also be included.
- No personal income, capital gains, inheritance tax, or tax on foreign income.
- You only to spend at least five days on the islands within the first five years of obtaining citizenship.
- Antigua & Barbuda is an exceptionally beautiful place to live year-round or to regularly visit as your second home. With over 365 beaches and a temperate climate, the country is a true jewel in the Caribbean.

Application Process

• Month 1

Initial due diligence. Following the successful screening, we will provide you with a Client Agreement (CA) to review and sign. Upon receiving the signed agreement and retainer payment, our legal team will complete all necessary government forms and supporting documents. If you make a property investment, you will need to execute a sales and purchase agreement with the developer. We will liaise with the property developer and the Antigua and Barbuda Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU) on your behalf.

• Months 2-4

Before submitting your documents, we comprehensively review your application to ensure your file complies with the CIU's requirements. Our legal team will complete its final checks before submitting the relevant forms. The CIU will undertake its own due diligence and review all the paperwork. We will continue to work closely with them throughout the process to ensure your application is timely and efficiently processed.

• Months 4-6

The CIU will assess your application, and upon approval, you must make all necessary contributions and pay any applicable government fees. After completion of final relevant payments, the CIU will send out certificates of Naturalization followed by your passports.

