



Licensing the Social Sector



Community Development Authority Social Regulatory & Licensing sector

In 2007, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, issued a decree for the establishment of the Community Development Authority (CDA), the social arm of Dubai Government mandated to achieve the social goals of the Dubai Strategic Plan 2015.

The Social Regulatory and Licensing Sector at CDA is the executive administration sector responsible for the implementation and management of a progressive regulatory and licensing system for all social sector providers in the emirate of Dubai.

Its objective is to elevate the social sector standards by implementing an integrated system of legislative regulations and quality improvement initiatives and to enhance the standards of safety for those using the social services. Its services include devising a regulatory framework, setting rules and standards as well as overseeing the licensing of social service providers in the emirate of Dubai.

Regulating and Licensing the Social Clubs:

In 2011, the Government of Dubai issued the executive resolution no. (4) to regulate and license social clubs in Dubai.

What do we mean by Social Clubs?

Social Clubs are nonprofit organizations, groups and associations that demonstrate sustainability and are formed around a common interest to carry out activities such as social, athletic, cultural, artistic, entertainment and all other activities of similar nature that target the public benefit.

How long is the license valid?

The club license shall remain effective for two (2) consecutive years

from the date of issuance.

How much does it cost a club to get licensed?

A fee of AED. 2000 is applicable towards the new license or renewal of an expired one.

What are the documents required?

- The following forms should be duly filled and signed by the applicant
 - a-Social club license application
 - b-Social category service list
- List of board members responsible for managing the social club along with their passport copies with visa page and resumes.
- Detailed plan of the activities and objectives intended to be provided by the social club.
- Financial plan of the club for the next 2 years.
- Attested version of the by-laws governing the social club (Arabic and English versions).
- Proposed location for the social club with proof of availability.
- Recommendation letter from any supporting organization.
- Copy of board resolution authorizing the applicant to represent the club in the application process.

Regulating and Licensing the Professionals working in the social sector:

In 2011, the Government of Dubai issued the executive resolution no (20) to regulate and license social professionals in Dubai.

What do we mean by Professionals working in the social sector?

Professionals working in the social sector are individuals who are trained to work with persons, families, groups, and communities applying a wide range of social strategies that aim at helping, enabling, supporting or empowering the people or groups with whom

they work with. The professionals working in the social sector include social counselor, social worker, social therapist, and special education teacher.

How long is the license valid?

The license for the professionals working the social sector shall remain effective for two (2) consecutive years from the date of issuance.

How much does it cost me to get licensed?

To demonstrate our commitment towards social development, the licensing fee for the professionals working in the social sector shall be waived.

What are the documents required ?

- Professional license application form duly completed and signed.
- Signed “Letter of Authorization” form.
- Evidence of successful completion of an approved education program including transcripts.
- Experience letter or certificate signed by the Human Resources Department where employed.
- Valid good standing certificate.
- Passport copy and resume of the applicant.
- One colored passport size photograph.

For further information, please contact us at:

Social Regulatory & Licensing Sector

Tel: +971 4 4299888

Call Center: 800 2121

Fax: +971 4 4299842

E-mail: srl@cda.gov.ae

Working hours: 7:30 am - 2:30 pm

Sunday to Thursday