

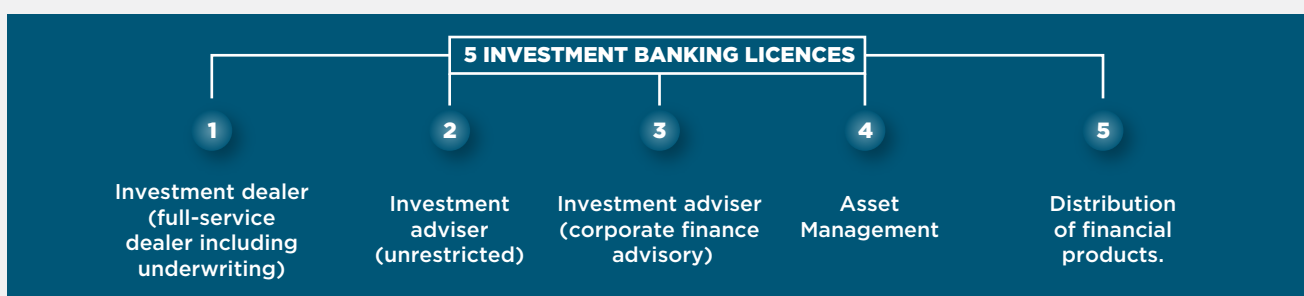


INVESTMENT BANKING LICENCE

INVESTMENT BANKING LICENCE IN MAURITIUS?

Investment Banking Licence in Mauritius regulated by the Financial Services Commission (“FSC”), caters for investment banks to establish in Mauritius and to provide investment banking services in mergers and acquisitions, listings, IPOs, cross-border investments, and other advisory services.

Investment Banking is a licensable activity under Section 79A of the Financial Services Act 2007 and by virtue of the Financial Services (Investment Banking) Rules 2016, a person holding an Investment Banking Licence may by way of business engage in a minimum of two or more of the following activities:



Investment dealer (full-service dealer including underwriting)

- Act as an intermediary in the execution of securities transactions for clients.
- Trade in securities as a principal with the intention of reselling these securities to the public.
- Underwrite or distribute securities on behalf of an issuer or a holder of securities.
- Give investment advice which is ancillary to the normal course of his business activities
- Manage portfolios of clients.

Investment adviser (unrestricted)

Authorised to manage, under a mandate, portfolios of securities and advise, guide, or recommend on securities transactions through printed materials or any other means.

Investment adviser (corporate finance advisory)

- Authorised to provide corporate finance advisory services with respect to securities transactions through printed materials or any other means.

Asset management

- Authorised to manage securities and non-securities assets which can be tangible or non-tangible.

Distribution of financial products.

- The distribution of financial products in the form of shares, bonds, etc which are generally liquid, that is, quoted on a recognised stock exchange.

According to the rule, a holder on an Investment Banking Licence cannot undertake the following:

- ✓ Accepting deposits
- ✓ Financing others' businesses.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE LICENCE?

ONLY:

- A domestic company incorporated under the Mauritius Companies Act 2001 OR
- A Company registered in Mauritius as a branch of a foreign company.

SUBSTANCE REQUIREMENTS

- The board of directors of the entity shall consist of at least 5 natural persons, of which 40% shall be independent directors, or such other number and percentage as may be approved by the Commission.
- A director shall be deemed to be independent where, other than being a board member of the Investment Bank, he/she has no relationship with or interest in the investment bank or its group of companies, which could or could be reasonably perceived to, materially affect the exercise of his judgment in the best interest of the Investment Bank.
- It shall incur a minimum annual expenditure of MUR 5 million in Mauritius (equivalent to approx. USD 126,000).



TAXATION

- Upon fulfillment of the above-mentioned substance requirements, the entity holding an Investment Banking License will be exempted from corporate income tax for 5 years in Mauritius.

MINIMUM STATED UNIMPAIRED CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

- As per the Financial Services (Investment Banking) Rules 2016, a minimum stated unimpaired capital of MUR 50 million (equivalent to approx. USD 1,260,000) is required.

HOW CAN HLB GLOBAL BUSINESS (MAURITIUS) LTD HELP?

- Support in the application of the Investment Banking Licence from the FSC.
- Drafting of Investment Banking Constitutive documents.
- Assistance in the construction of the entity's Business Plan.
- Renewal of the licence annually with the FSC.
- Provision of registered office address and optionally administration office facilities.
- Provision of professional directors and qualified secretary resident in Mauritius.
- Introduction to banks of your choice and handling of opening of bank account/s.
- Preparation of quarterly accounts and filing with the authorities.
- Preparation and filing of tax returns; and
- Advisory and legal services on an on-going basis.

HLB Global Business (Mauritius) Ltd may assist you throughout the process of the application of the licence.

For a quote, please contact our team of experts:



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