



Government of St. Kitts and Nevis
Ministry of Finance

Citizenship-by-Investment



The oldest and most respected program
leading to citizenship

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Citizenship-by-Investment in St. Kitts and Nevis

The Citizenship-by-Investment Program of St. Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis was established in 1984, making it the longest established program of this kind in the world.

The Government of St. Kitts and Nevis utilizes this program to attract investors of good character to make a substantial contribution to the development of the Federation. These investors are then given the opportunity to apply for citizenship and passport within the strict guidelines of the law and the relevant regulations.

To qualify for citizenship of St. Kitts and Nevis under its Citizenship-by-Investment Program, the Government requires either an investment in designated real estate with a value of at least US\$ 350,000 plus payment of various registration and other fees, or a contribution to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (a public charity) to the amount of between US\$ 200,000 and US\$ 400,000, depending on the number of dependants included in the application.

With the **real-estate option**, there are also purchase costs of approximately 10% of the purchase price as well as government fees of US\$ 35,000 for a single applicant plus US\$ 15,000 for each dependent, plus a US\$ 3,500 due diligence fee for each adult included in an application, and processing fees which depend on each case. The real estate cannot be re-sold until 5 years after the purchase, and it will not qualify the next buyer for citizenship.

The **Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF) option** offers four different categories:

- A) Single applicant: a non-refundable contribution of US\$ 200,000 is required
- B) Applicant with up to three dependants (i.e. one spouse and two children below the age of 18): a non-refundable contribution of US\$ 250,000 is required
- C) Applicant with up to five dependants (i.e. one spouse and four children): a non-refundable contribution of US\$ 300,000 is required
- D) Applicant with six and more dependants: a non-refundable contribution of US\$ 400,000 is required

In each of these categories, the above amounts include all government and due diligence fees, but not processing fees which depend on each case.

Further information may be obtained from the official website of the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation at www.sidf.org.

The Legal Basis

The Citizenship-by-Investment Program of St. Kitts and Nevis was established in 1984 and operates on the following constitutional, legislative and regulatory foundations:

- 1) Citizenship of Saint Christopher and Nevis is governed by Chapter VIII (Sections 90-95) of the Constitution of Saint Christopher and Nevis.
- 2) In 1984, pursuant to Section 92 (1) (h) of the Constitution, Parliament prescribed that such other persons who would be entitled, upon making application, to be registered as citizens. Accordingly, Section 3 (5) of the Saint Christopher and Nevis Citizenship Act, 1984 (No. 1 of 1984) makes the following provisions:

"Subject to subsections (8) and (9) of this section, a person is entitled, upon making application under this subsection to the Minister in the prescribed manner and upon payment of any fee that may be prescribed, to be registered as a citizen of St. Christopher and Nevis without any rights of voting save under and in accordance with the provisions of any law governing the qualification of voters, if the Cabinet is satisfied that such person has invested substantially in St. Christopher and Nevis."
- 3) The Government determines, by Cabinet Decisions, which projects and which amounts of investment shall qualify as a "substantial investment" and thus lead to eligibility under the Citizenship-by-Investment Program.

The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis

St. Kitts and Nevis, also known in the country's constitution as Saint Christopher and Nevis, has been independent since 1983 and forms part of the group of islands known as the Lesser Antilles, located some 2,000 km to the southeast of Miami. The Federation comprises two islands: Nevis with an area of some 93.2 km² and St. Kitts with 168.4 km². The official and business language is English. The Federation is a member of the United Nations (UN), of the Organization of American States (OAS), the British Commonwealth and many other international organizations. The Eastern Caribbean Central Bank has its headquarters on St. Kitts. It maintains the stability of the Eastern Caribbean Dollar (EC\$), which is the national currency of most eastern Caribbean countries and is tied to the US Dollar. The head of state is the Queen of England. St. Kitts and Nevis is a well-functioning democracy based on the British parliamentary system.

Further Information

If you are interested in applying for Citizenship-by-Investment in St. Kitts and Nevis, you may contact any office of Henley & Partners, the firm mandated by the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis to represent and promote the Citizenship-by-Investment program internationally, or visit www.sidf.org or www.henleyglobal.com for more information.



www.sidf.org

