

UAE Free Zone Cost Index 2026

July 2026 evidence brief - 52 UAE free-zone profiles

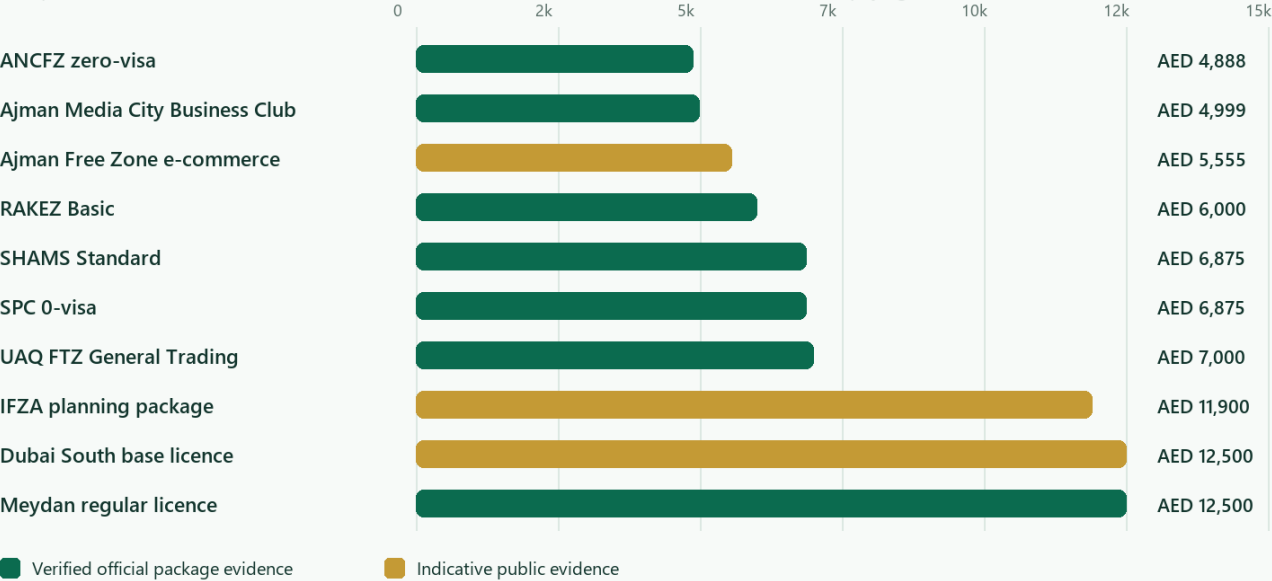
Compare Year 1 package signals, renewal evidence, supported three-year totals, visa and office scope, banking difficulty, hidden-cost exposure, confidence labels and source types. Dataset version: 1.0.15.

Selected UAE Free Zone Entry Packages

July 2026 named Year 1 package signals

Package inclusions differ. These figures are not interchangeable all-in company setup totals.

Compare visa allocation, office or flexi-desk, establishment card, renewal and hidden costs before paying.



Source: UAE Freezone Compare, UAE Free Zone Cost Index 2026

Reviewed July 2026 | Exact package scope and authority pricing can change | Request a current written quote before payment

Executive summary

UAE free-zone advertisements often lead with a licence price, while the practical setup cost may also include registration, establishment card, immigration file, visa processing, medical test, Emirates ID, insurance, flexi desk or office, warehouse, external approvals, amendments, renewal and cancellation. This index keeps those scopes separate.

Evidence measure	Current July 2026 position
Profiles covered	52 UAE free-zone profiles
Source-backed rows	50 of 52 records (96.2%)
Fully quote-based rows	Sharjah ComTech and Dubai Carpet Free Zone
Public evidence controls	Price confidence, source type, conflict status and last-reviewed date
Change monitoring	61 public source URLs and 647 public currency signals

How confidence labels work

Label	Meaning
Verified official price	The exact displayed package or component is supported by an official authority source.
High-confidence public consensus	Three or more independent public sources align on the same package configuration.
Indicative public price	A public starting figure is available, but renewal or full inclusions are not fully supported.
Conflicting public sources	Sources differ by visa count, facility, promotion, validity period or included service; no average is invented.
Quote-based	A current authority or partner quote is required before the value can be published.

Selected lower-cost named packages

These rows are selected package signals, not interchangeable all-in totals. The full 52-record appendix follows later in this report.

Free zone	Named configuration	Year 1	Renewal	3-year planning	Confidence
ANCFZ	Zero Visa official 1- or 3-year package	AED 4,888 official 1-year zero-visa package	AED 4,888 current 1-year list price; renewal follows the approved price list for the selected duration	AED 14,664 official 3-year zero-visa package	Verified official price
Ajman Media City	Business Club annual package	AED 4,999 Business Club 0-visa official package	AED 4,999 annual renewal for Business Club package	AED 14,997 3-year license cost before add-ons	Verified official price
Ajman Free Zone	E-commerce public package	From AED 5,555 e-commerce package	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Indicative public price
RAKEZ	Instant licence Basic / SME package	AED 6,000 Basic or AED 14,000 all-inclusive	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Verified official price
SHAMS	Standard annual package	AED 6,875 official Standard annual package	AED 6,875 fixed renewal for the unchanged Standard package; terms and conditions apply	AED 20,625 calculated across three fixed Standard annual periods; terms and conditions apply	Verified official price
SPC Free Zone	Pay-As-You-Go 1-year license	AED 6,875 1-year license with 0 visa	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Verified official price
UAQ FTZ	Zero-visa General Trading annual package	AED 7,000 official zero-visa General Trading annual package	AED 7,000 official renewal for the same named package	AED 21,000 calculated from the published annual price across three years	Verified official price
IFZA	Dubai service package	From AED 11,900 planning figure	Needs confirmation	Needs confirmation	Indicative public price
Meydan Free Zone	Regular business license	AED 12,500 regular license	AED 12,500 planning renewal before add-ons	AED 37,500 planning 3-year license cost before add-ons	Verified official price
Dubai South	Dubai South Business Hub base licence	From AED 12,500 base licence in current official Business Hub content	Quote-based renewal - official content contains conflicting package references	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal and package	Indicative public price

Cheapest advertised does not always mean cheapest usable. Compare establishment card, visa, medical, Emirates ID, insurance, office, amendment, renewal and cancellation exposure.

Hidden-cost checklist

Cost area	What to verify
Registration and legal form	Confirm whether registration, incorporation, memorandum or shareholder charges are included.
Establishment card and immigration file	These may be separate from the licence and may recur.
Visa processing	Separate entry permit, status change, medical, Emirates ID and insurance from the visa quota.
Office or flexi desk	Visa capacity and banking substance may depend on the selected premises.
External approvals	Healthcare, education, food, regulated finance, crypto, industrial and specialist activities may require additional approvals.
Banking preparation	A licence does not guarantee bank approval. Prepare contracts, invoices, website, source-of-funds and transaction evidence.
Renewal and amendments	Promotional Year 1 prices may not continue. Confirm shareholder, activity, name and visa amendment charges.
Cancellation and liquidation	Budget for licence cancellation, immigration closure, lease closure and liquidation where applicable.

Methodology and correction policy

Official authority evidence is preferred. When official renewal or complete package data is unavailable, independent consultant sources are compared only when package, visa count, validity and inclusions can be aligned. Conflicting figures are not averaged. Unsupported renewal assumptions are not used to calculate three-year totals.

Full methodology: <https://www.uaefreezonecompare.com/methodology/> | Corrections: <https://www.uaefreezonecompare.com/corrections/> | Email: info@uaefreezonecompare.com

Full 52-record planning appendix

Each row reflects the current named package, component or quote status in dataset version 1.0.15. Use the public CSV for source URLs and complete inclusion, exclusion and hidden-cost fields.

Free zone	Emirate	Year 1	Renewal	3-year	Confidence	Source type
ADGM	Abu Dhabi	USD 5,800 official initial Category B fees before office and visas	USD 5,300 official annual renewal before office and visas	USD 16,400 official 3-year fee components before office and visas	Verified official price	Official authority fee schedule
ANCFZ	Ajman	AED 4,888 official 1-year zero-visa package	AED 4,888 current 1-year list price; renewal follows the approved price list for the selected duration	AED 14,664 official 3-year zero-visa package	Verified official price	Official authority 2026 package table
Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone	UAE	AED 11,500 to AED 20,000 public basic licence/setup range; facility and exact inclusions differ	Quote-based annual renewal - public references differ and the authority requires a current quote	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the confirmed licence, facility and renewal terms	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; official authority licensing and facility context; current itemised quote required
Ahmed Bin Rashid Free Zone (ABRFZ)	UAE	AED 7,000 official current UAQ FTZ zero-visa General Trading annual package; not a separate legacy ABRFZ price	AED 7,000 official renewal for the same current UAQ package	AED 21,000 current-UAQ package arithmetic across three annual periods	Verified official price for the current UAQ FTZ successor route	Official UAQ FTZ package article; ABRFZ retained only as a historical-name profile
Ajman Free Zone	Ajman	From AED 5,555 e-commerce package	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Indicative public price	Official authority blog price
Ajman Media City	Ajman	AED 4,999 Business Club 0-visa official package	AED 4,999 annual renewal for Business Club package	AED 14,997 3-year license cost before add-ons	Verified official price	Official authority package page
DAFZA	Dubai	AED 37,200 DAFZ fees before visa/external fees	AED 34,200 annual subscription before external fees	AED 105,600 DAFZ fees before visa/external fees	Verified official price	Official authority package page
DIFC	Dubai	USD 20,000 incorporation plus first annual licence before office and add-ons	USD 12,000 annual licence before office and add-ons	USD 44,000 incorporation plus three annual licence periods before office and add-ons	Verified official price	Official authority March 2026 handbook
DMCC	Dubai	AED 34,185 published application, registration, AoA, annual licence and establishment-card components before office and add-ons	AED 22,090 annual standard licence renewal plus establishment-card components before office and add-ons	AED 78,365 3-year core components before office, visas, VAT/levies and add-ons	Verified official price	Official DMCC Schedule of Charges; core setup and renewal components
Dubai Carpet Free Zone	UAE	Quote-based - no current separate registrar or package has been substantiated	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current legal licensing authority first	Quote-based 3-year total - no supported current package or renewal schedule is available	Quote-based	Official current UAE Ministry registrar list reviewed; no separate current registrar/package substantiated

Free zone	Emirate	Year 1	Renewal	3-year	Confidence	Source type
Dubai Cars & Automotive Zone (DUCAMZ)	Dubai	AED 600 commercial, AED 550 professional or AED 600 industrial licence-issuance component; other fees apply	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current licence, facility and related charges	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the full licence and facility invoices	Verified official price	Official PCFC Trakhees March 2026 service-fee schedule; partial component
Dubai CommerCity	Dubai	AED 21,995 to AED 28,945 public Smart Desk range; inclusions conflict	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current licence, workspace and immigration charges	Quote-based 3-year total - renewal and package inclusions are not consistently published	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; current authority quote required
Dubai Design District	Dubai	AED 7,500-7,520 GoFreelance package; visa separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Indicative public price	Official GoFreelance programme page with conflicting current amounts
Dubai Healthcare City	Dubai	AED 5,050 published one-time application and registration components before licence and facility costs	Quote-based renewal - licence, permits and premises depend on activity	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, permits, premises and renewal	Indicative public price	Official DHCC commercial licensing service page; partial fee components
Dubai Humanitarian (IHC)	Dubai	AED 20,800 official annual Commercial Business Centre Desk package	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current annual package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Verified official price	Official Dubai Humanitarian membership package page
Dubai Industrial City	Dubai	AED 3,500 official FZ-LLC registration component; activity licence and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - activity licence and facility depend on the selected district	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, facility and renewal evidence	Indicative public price	Official DDA FZ-LLC registration service; partial setup component
Dubai International Academic City	Dubai	AED 3,500 official FZ-LLC registration component; activity licence and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - activity licence and facility depend on the selected district	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, facility and renewal evidence	Indicative public price	Official DDA FZ-LLC registration service; partial setup component
Dubai Internet City	Dubai	AED 7,500-7,520 GoFreelance package; visa separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Indicative public price	Official GoFreelance programme page with conflicting current amounts
Dubai Knowledge Park	Dubai	AED 7,500-7,520 GoFreelance package; visa separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Indicative public price	Official GoFreelance programme page with conflicting current amounts
Dubai Media City	Dubai	AED 7,500-7,520 GoFreelance package; visa separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Indicative public price	Official GoFreelance programme page with conflicting current amounts
Dubai Production City	Dubai	AED 3,500 official FZ-LLC registration component; activity licence and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - activity licence and facility depend on the selected district	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, facility and renewal evidence	Indicative public price	Official DDA FZ-LLC registration service; partial setup component

Free zone	Emirate	Year 1	Renewal	3-year	Confidence	Source type
Dubai Science Park	Dubai	AED 3,500 official FZ-LLC registration component; activity licence and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - activity licence and facility depend on the selected district	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, facility and renewal evidence	Indicative public price	Official DDA FZ-LLC registration service; partial setup component
Dubai Silicon Oasis	Dubai	AED 24,675 service or AED 27,675 trade in the official DSO guide	AED 21,375 service or AED 24,375 trade published for each succeeding year	AED 67,425 service or AED 76,425 trade calculated from the published Year 1 and succeeding-year figures	Indicative public price	Official DSO 2024 business setup guide; indicative fee schedule
Dubai South	Dubai	From AED 12,500 base licence in current official Business Hub content	Quote-based renewal - official content contains conflicting package references	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal and package	Indicative public price	Official Dubai South Business Hub content; conflicting entry figures noted
Dubai Studio City	Dubai	AED 3,500 official FZ-LLC registration component; activity licence and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - activity licence and facility depend on the selected district	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on licence, facility and renewal evidence	Indicative public price	Official DDA FZ-LLC registration service; partial setup component
Dubai Textile City	UAE	AED 12,000 to AED 25,000+ public annual licence range; registration, membership and facility separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm licence, lease and service charges	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on facility and renewal terms	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; current Ministry registrar context; itemised JAFZA/TEXMAS quote required
Dubai World Trade Centre Free Zone	Dubai	AED 12,000 official professional or commercial licence component; total to confirm	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current licence and add-ons	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal and add-ons	Verified official price	Official authority On-Demand licensing page
FFZA Free Zone	UAE	AED 205 official security-approval component per application; licence, registration and facility costs separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm licence and facility charges	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the current authority and facility renewal schedule	Indicative public price	Official Fujairah Free Zone registration process; partial setup component
Fujairah Creative City	Fujairah	AED 5,250 to AED 8,500 public zero-visa / freelance entry range; provider terms differ	Quote-based renewal - one consultant proposal shows AED 5,250 annually, but no comparable official renewal schedule is public	Quote-based 3-year total - renewal and provider inclusions require confirmation	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; official package structure available; current authority quote required
Fujairah Free Zone	Fujairah	AED 205 official security-approval component; licence, registration and facility costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal - licence and facility fees depend on the selected configuration	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed licence, facility and renewal invoices	Indicative public price	Official Fujairah Free Zone registration process; partial setup component
Fujairah Oil Industry Zone (FOIZ)	UAE	AED 15,000 to AED 40,000+ public licence/setup references; licence type and infrastructure scope differ	Quote-based renewal - confirm regulatory, licence and facility obligations	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the approved energy-infrastructure configuration	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; official authority investment context; tailored FOIZ quote required

Free zone	Emirate	Year 1	Renewal	3-year	Confidence	Source type
Gold & Diamond Park	UAE	Official annual licence component: AED 5,000 for one activity group or AED 8,500 for two groups; premises and setup costs separate	Official annual licence renewal component: AED 5,000 for one group or AED 8,500 for two groups; premises renewal separate	Licence-only 3-year component: AED 15,000 for one group or AED 25,500 for two groups; premises and other costs excluded	Verified official JAFZA licence components; complete Gold & Diamond Park setup requires confirmation	Official JAFZA company-formation and licence-renewal fee tables; Gold & Diamond Park NOC required
Hamriyah Free Zone	Sharjah	AED 11,000 basic licence component; facility and other setup costs priced separately	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	High-confidence public consensus	Public consultant sources; official FAQ may block automated fetches
IFZA	Dubai	From AED 11,900 planning figure	Needs confirmation	Needs confirmation	Indicative public price	Public consultant package source; official quote required
JAFZA	Dubai	AED 10,000 FZCo registration plus annual service licence components before facility and add-ons	AED 5,000 annual service licence renewal component before facility and add-ons	AED 20,000 3-year registration plus service licence components before facility and add-ons	Verified official price	Official JAFZA Investor Guide fee schedule; partial setup components
KEZAD	Abu Dhabi	AED 9,450 one-year 1-visa package including VAT	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current annual package	AED 22,575 official 3-year 1-visa package including VAT	Verified official price	Official authority package page
Khalifa Port Free Trade Zone	UAE	AED 9,450 official one-year KEZAD 1-visa startup package including VAT; Khalifa Port facility costs separate	Quote-based renewal - confirm current licence and facility charges	AED 22,575 official three-year KEZAD 1-visa startup package including VAT; port-linked facility costs separate	Verified official KEZAD starter price; complete Khalifa Port facility setup requires confirmation	Official KEZAD package page; current starter-package component, not a port-facility total
Masdar City	Abu Dhabi	AED 7,000 Startup or AED 17,500 Business One	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Verified official price	Official authority package page
Meydan Free Zone	Dubai	AED 12,500 regular license	AED 12,500 planning renewal before add-ons	AED 37,500 planning 3-year license cost before add-ons	Verified official price	Official authority cost page/blog
RAK Innovation City	Ras Al Khaimah	AED 6,600 official Idea annual package	Quote-based renewal - confirm the current annual package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Verified official price	Official authority package page
RAK Maritime City Free Zone	UAE	Official 2026 annual operating permits: AED 10,000 to AED 35,000 for listed port activities; company and facility costs separate	Annual operating permit follows the published activity tariff; company licence, land and facility renewal require confirmation	Quote-based 3-year company-and-facility total; the operating permit alone is not a setup total	Verified official 2026 operating-permit components; complete company and facility cost requires confirmation	Official RAK Ports Tariff 2026; activity-specific operating permits only
RAK Media Free Zone (Compass)	UAE	AED 13,500 official current RAKEZ package with business licence, 1 residence visa and Compass coworking lease	Quote-based renewal - confirm with RAKEZ	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the current RAKEZ package and workspace	Verified official price for the current RAKEZ successor route	Official RAKEZ promotion; legacy RAK Media profile mapped to the current authority route
RAKEZ	Ras Al Khaimah	AED 6,000 Basic or AED 14,000 all-inclusive	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Verified official price	Official authority offer page

Free zone	Emirate	Year 1	Renewal	3-year	Confidence	Source type
RAKIA Free Zone	UAE	AED 6,000 official current RAKEZ Basic package; not a separate legacy RAKIA industrial price	Quote-based renewal - confirm with RAKEZ	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on the selected current RAKEZ route	Verified official price for the current RAKEZ successor route	Official RAKEZ package page plus official Ministry integration record
SAIF Zone	Sharjah	AED 48,000 published 125 sqm warehouse support offer; current availability to confirm	Quote-based renewal - confirm facility, licence and current offer terms	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on facility and renewal terms	Indicative public price	Official SAIF Zone warehouse support offer page
SHAMS	Sharjah	AED 6,875 official Standard annual package	AED 6,875 fixed renewal for the unchanged Standard package; terms and conditions apply	AED 20,625 calculated across three fixed Standard annual periods; terms and conditions apply	Verified official price	Official SHAMS package page; three-year total is documented arithmetic
SPC Free Zone	Sharjah	AED 6,875 1-year license with 0 visa	Quote-based renewal	Quote-based 3-year total	Verified official price	Official authority package page
SRTIP	Sharjah	AED 5,500 zero-visa; AED 13,990 one-visa; AED 17,795 two-visa	Quote-based renewal - confirm current package	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on confirmed renewal	Verified official price	Official authority package page
Sharjah ComTech Free Zone	UAE	Quote-based - the official establishment decree does not publish a complete setup package	Quote-based renewal - confirm once the authority publishes the applicable commercial schedule	Quote-based 3-year total - no supported renewal schedule is public	Quote-based	Official Sharjah government establishment decree; current licensing quote required
Sharjah Healthcare City (SHCC)	UAE	AED 10,000 to AED 25,000 public licence-fee range; clinical, facility and inclusion scope differs	Quote-based annual renewal - confirm company, facility and professional licensing fees	Quote-based 3-year total - depends on annual company, premises and healthcare-licensing obligations	Conflicting public sources	Multiple public consultant sources; official licensing context available; current authority quote required
UAQ FTZ	Umm Al Quwain	AED 7,000 official zero-visa General Trading annual package	AED 7,000 official renewal for the same named package	AED 21,000 calculated from the published annual price across three years	Verified official price	Official authority package article; three-year total is documented arithmetic
twofour54	Abu Dhabi	Official Year 1 licence and FZ-LLC registration components are currently waived (AED 0 for these components); workspace, visas and other charges are separate	CMA publishes AED 12,500 business-licence renewal for up to 5 activities and states the first renewal is waived; workspace and other charges remain separate	Quote-based 3-year total - confirm workspace, visa, waiver eligibility and post-waiver licence charges	Verified official price	Official Creative Media Authority fee schedule and cost calculator

Citation and reuse

Suggested citation: UAE Freezone Compare, UAE Free Zone Cost Index 2026, July 2026.

HTML report: <https://www.uaefreezonecompare.com/reports/uae-free-zone-cost-index/> | CSV:

<https://www.uaefreezonecompare.com/wp-content/uploads/ufzc-reports/uae-free-zone-cost-index-2026.csv>

Prices can change based on authority updates, activity selection, visa count, office requirement, shareholder structure, external approval and support services. Request a current written quote before payment.