

Moving to the UAE

Unfortunately, it is very difficult for us to assist candidates who are currently resident overseas. Our clients are usually looking for immediate availability in terms of a face to face interview and prefer to focus on talent already based in the country. There has also been a recent Skype ban within the UAE, which limits options even more so for potential candidates that are residing overseas. The UAE is a regional hub and local knowledge is extremely important for many roles here.

We strongly urge you to do as much research as possible on the region, focusing on the cost of living in particular. Accommodation is expensive and the general cost of living is high. As of January 1st 2018, VAT is now being applied in the UAE to all goods and services. It is also important that you have a clear idea of the salaries on offer and the job market in general in relation to your skillset and experience.

It is recommended that you visit the UAE for a minimum of at least two months in order to maximize on opportunities for yourself, as the job search within the region can be a lengthy process.

There are a few tips we can offer to assist you with your relocation. These are intended as a guide only and are by no means exhaustive, as local regulations and procedures change frequently.

- Ensure all your latest educational certificates are certified and attested by your local and UAE government.
- Contact your embassy for procedures.
- Research the local job market within your sector to understand current local salary levels and benefits.
- Establish the cost of living in terms of accommodation, transportation, socializing, dining out, schooling etc.
- Bring passport photographs – lots of them.
- Ascertain your visa restrictions with regards to your nationality. Contact your UAE or country embassy for costs and procedures.
- Understand local culture, business practice, and general do's and don'ts in the region.