

SAGIA, the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority, is the gateway to investment in Saudi Arabia responsible for the creation of a pro-business environment, provision of comprehensive services to investors and the fostering of investment opportunities.

Before doing any business in Saudi Arabia, an investment license needs to be obtained from SAGIA. This can be done by filling out the Investment License Application and sending it to SAGIA (this can also be done online, through SAGIA's website: <http://www.sagia.gov.sa> , and will receive expedited treatment). The Application will then be decided upon within 30 days of submission of the complete file. In case of denial, decision can be appealed before the Grievance Board. SAGIA provides periodic follow-ups on the status of issued licenses in order to help resolve any implementation problems and ensure projects are either in production or on-stream for production.

Obtaining an investment license is the first step in doing business in Saudi Arabia. Most businesses need to acquire some form of post licensing services from certain government departments.