SOUTH AFRICA · BUSINESS VISA

Your path from concept to visa

Four sequential stages, one conditional. Applicants investing R5 million or more, skip the capital waiver and move from the DTIC recommendation straight to the visa application.

1 STAGE

Prepare

APPLICANT · ADVISORY PHASE

Develop a viable **business plan**, confirm **availability of capital**, and obtain a **Chartered Accountant certificate** confirming the source and intended use of funds.

2 STAGE

DTIC Recommendation

DEPT. OF TRADE, INDUSTRY & COMPETITION

Submit the application through the **VRS portal** for a recommendation letter. Processing times **vary by case** and review queue.

BYPASS
R5M+
Investing R5 million or more?
Skip Step 3.

ONLY IF INVESTING LESS THAN R5 MILLION — CONDITIONAL STAGE

3

Capital Waiver (DHA)

Apply to waive the R5 million minimum capital requirement. Decisions take **up to 12 months** — this stage adds significant time to the overall timeline.

4 STAGE

Business Visa Application

VFS OFFICE · OR SA MISSION ABROAD

Submit the full application in South Africa at a VFS office or overseas at the relevant South African diplomatic mission.

Indicative timeline

STEP 1 · PREPARE	STEP 2 · DTIC	STEP 3 · WAIVER (IF APPLICABLE)	STEP 4 · VISA
Varies	45+ business days	Up to 12 months	8–12 weeks

Mandatory stage · Applicant-led, duration depends on readiness · Conditional — only if investing less than R5 million

For end-to-end guidance on South African business visas — including capital structuring, DTIC submissions and waiver strategy — speak to IBN Immigration Solutions.

IBN Immigration Solutions
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