

OCCUPATION PERMIT, INNOVATIVE START-UP ROUTE

Innovator Occupation Permit

The innovative start-up route within the Investor category, for founders whose project is approved by the EDB or registered with an accredited incubator. There is no minimum initial investment; the file is judged on the project.

Minimum investment None	Qualifying route A project approved by the EDB, or registration with an incubator accredited by the Mauritius Research and Innovation Council	Validity Up to 10 years, renewable
Fees USD 50 application, USD 1,000 permit fee on approval in principle	Reporting Annual progress report within three months of the end of Year 1; development report at the end of Year 5 confirming a minimum viable product	Dependents Spouse or common-law partner, unmarried dependent children and parents, each under a Dependent Permit linked to the holder's

☒ Required
 ☐ If applicable
 ☐ After approval in principle

Document	First application	Renewal
FEES		
☐ Application fee, USD 50 Non-refundable, payable at submission.	☒	☒
☐ Permit fee, USD 1,000 Payable only after approval in principle.	☐	☐
PERSONAL DOCUMENTS		
☐ Passport, biodata page Valid for the period of the permit applied for.	☒	☒
☐ Last entry visa pages The entry stamp or visa from the applicant's most recent arrival in Mauritius.	☒	☐
☐ Full birth certificate, original With a certified or sworn translation if not in English or French.	☒	☐
☐ Marriage certificate or divorce certificate, original Where applicable, with translation if not in English or French.	☐	☐

Document	First application	Renewal
☐ Four recent colour passport photographs 3.5 cm × 4.5 cm (413 × 531 px), less than six months old, JPEG.	●	●
☐ Medical certificate and test reports Less than six months old, issued by a doctor in Mauritius. See the notes below.	◐	—
☐ Copy of any current Occupation, Work or Residence Permit If the applicant already holds a permit in Mauritius.	○	●
☐ Cancellation letter and no-objection letter Only when switching from another permit category; the no-objection letter is from the current employer when switching from a Professional permit.	○	—
☐ Curriculum vitae of the founder With the background of the founding team.	●	—
PROJECT DOCUMENTS		
☐ Business plan, clearly labelled as an innovative start-up In the format the EDB assesses against, with a technical description of the product, the development to be undertaken in Mauritius, the founding team, the commercial path and five-year projections.	●	—
☐ Evidence of the qualifying route The EDB's approval of the project, or the letter of acceptance or registration from an incubator accredited by the Mauritius Research and Innovation Council.	●	—
☐ Certificate of Incorporation Issued by the Registrar of Companies once the company is set up.	◐	●
☐ Business Registration Card	◐	●
☐ Register of shareholders and directors Or the trust deed and other constitutive documents where applicable.	◐	●
☐ Licences or approvals for regulated activities Fintech and financial services activities may need Financial Services Commission or Bank of Mauritius approval.	○	○
☐ Form of charter for foreign residents in Mauritius Signed by the applicant.	●	●
AFTER ISSUANCE AND AT RENEWAL		
☐ Annual progress report Filed with the EDB within three months of the end of the first year of registration, and each year after that, against the approved business plan.	—	●
☐ Development report at the end of Year 5 Confirming that the project has reached the minimum viable product stage.	—	●
☐ Copy of the current Occupation Permit	—	●

Before you file

- The passport should be valid for the period of the permit applied for. Any document not in English or French is accompanied by a certified or sworn translation by a competent authority.
- Medical certificate: tests no older than six months at submission. HIV, Hepatitis B surface antigen and the chest X-ray (signed by a radiologist) are done in Mauritius at a clinic registered with the Ministry of Health; the remaining tests may be done abroad. A doctor in Mauritius issues the certificate after examination. Children under 12 need a certificate of clinical examination only.
- Sequence: the application fee is paid at submission. Approval in principle follows. The medical examination is then completed in Mauritius, the permit fee is paid, and the applicant attends the EDB in person with the originals for the permit to be issued.
- The certified bank statement and the undertaking to transfer funds required for a standard Investor application do not apply to the innovative start-up route.
- Where an accredited incubator is involved, the incubator's acceptance carries weight with the EDB. We make the introduction where useful.

We prepare the file, and stay with it after issuance.

Send us the documents you already have and we will tell you what is missing, what needs certifying or translating, and in what order the steps should run. Nothing is filed until the file is complete.

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Eligibility criteria and documentary requirements are set by the Economic Development Board and the Passport and Immigration Office and are revised with each National Budget. This checklist follows the EDB guidelines as revised after the 2026-27 Budget and was last checked in September 2026. It is a working guide, not legal advice, and the authorities may request further documents in any individual case. We confirm the current requirements before any application is prepared. start.mu is a service of Intrasia Corporate Services Limited.