

PROGRAMME FAQs

SETTING UP YOUR BUSINESS IN DUBAI

1. Why should I set up my business in Dubai?

- Connectivity: centrally located within an 8 hour flight from over 2/3 of the world's population
- Global business hub: an ideal gateway to the Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia region – offering businesses of all sizes access to a consumer base of over 2.4 billion
- Innovation based economy: Dubai has shifted towards an innovation driven economy, led by government programs and initiatives that support knowledge and innovation growth in the UAE
- Cosmopolitan lifestyle: a vibrant city home to over 200 nationalities, with dynamic cultural, lifestyle and hospitality offerings

2. What is District 2020?

District 2020 is the master development that will host the Expo event from October 2021-March 2022. It is an integrated mixed-use development and innovation ecosystem that offers commercial, residential, hospitality, F&B and retail in a human-centric smart city that has been designed to encourage innovation, collaboration and a balanced lifestyle among various ecosystem players – such as startups, enterprises, accelerators, academia and more.

3. What is Scale2Dubai?

Scale2Dubai is a global entrepreneur program that offers startups and small businesses, with a proven track record in their countries, an opportunity to scale to Dubai. Applicants should also align to District 2020's focus industries and all technologies that support these industries. The programme provides those businesses with a soft landing to Dubai by setting up in District 2020's innovation ecosystem alongside many benefits listed in the next question.

4. What are the benefits of setting up at District 2020?

We are aware that there are substantial expenses for small businesses that want to expand. As part of the programme, startups and small businesses will be provided with free space at District 2020 for 2 years as well as very attractive residential rates right next door to where they work. In addition to the financial benefits, startups and small businesses have the opportunity to be part of a unique space that brings together industry and technology in

close physical proximity. Businesses will benefit from being surrounded by like-minded individuals, and will have access to key enablers such as academia, accelerators, incubators, funding and co-working spaces. The lifestyle at District 2020 encourages health and well-being through its facilities, F&B offerings and urban design.

5. Is District 2020 accessible from a transport perspective?

District 2020 is easily accessible through a dedicated Dubai Metro stop. It is also accessible by car with links to 4 major highways. Within District 2020, an autonomous vehicle route is available to transport people across various points across the site.

6. Will I pay taxes if I set up my business at District 2020?

No taxes are currently payable in the UAE except for VAT which is applied at the rate of 5% on the supply of goods and services.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & BENEFITS

7. When will the programme start?

The first batch of participants will be onboarded as soon as the transition from Expo 2020 to District 2020 is complete, in October 2022.

8. What are the benefits of the programme?

- 2 years of free working space
- 2 years visa
- 2 years of subsidized urban living - walking distance from the working spaces
- Business set up
- Equity free programme
- Calendar of networking & social events
- Community lifestyle
- Access to special rates for service providers
- Access to third party funding channels and accelerators
- Access to potential dealflow from Government/Corporates

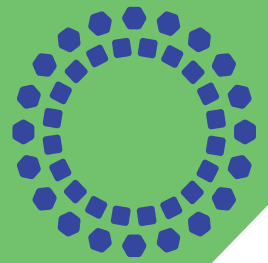
9. Do I need to pay to participate in the programme?

There are no fees, participants will be selected based on predetermined criteria.



Scan the QR Code
to learn more!

District 2020
**Scale2
Dubai**
Your Gateway to the World



@District2020



10. How long is the programme and do I need to participate for the full duration?

Each business can participate in the programme for a maximum of 2 years, after which the subsidies will not be applicable. Participants can withdraw from the programme before the end of the 2 years with no penalty.

11. What happens to my business after the 2-year period?

If a business wishes to stay in District 2020 after the 2 year period, they will be transitioned into a permanent commercial space - which will be offered at highly competitive rates.

12. Does Scale2Dubai offer funding?

District 2020 will facilitate connections between participants of the programme and funding channels if the business requires it.

13. How many visas does each company get as part of the Scale2Dubai?

The number of visas depends on the company size - a maximum of 2 visas will be granted for startups and 4 for small businesses.

ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

14. What type of companies are eligible for the Scale2Dubai?

Participants of the programme must be global startups and small businesses – as per the Dubai definition of SMEs.

Since Scale2Dubai is a program enabling businesses to scale, we are primarily looking for startups and small businesses with a proven track record that align to District 2020's key industries & technologies. Priority will be given to businesses that are in 'Series A' stage.

15. Do applicants need to be in a certain industry or sector?

District 2020 is looking for innovative businesses that have impact across growth industries such as smart logistics and smart mobility, industry 4.0 and smart cities – as well as future technologies that support these industries such as, but not limited to: artificial intelligence, internet of things, big data and blockchain. Applicants will be prioritized based on these sectors.

16. How many people from each business can participate in the programme?

Startups can have up to 2 people participating, while small businesses can have up to 4.

17. Do all members of the business need to relocate to District 2020?

At least one member of the business should be permanently based in Dubai, operating from District 2020 for the duration of the programme to ensure businesses maximize value from their participation.

APPLICATIONS

18. How can I apply for the programme?

Applicants will be screened to ensure they align to District 2020's focus industries or any technology that supports these industries. Startups and small business can register their interest on this link:
www.district2020.ae/scale2dubai

19. What documents do I need to apply for the programme?

Shortlisted businesses will be requested to submit a business plan and further details which will be communicated at a later date.

20. When can I apply?

If you are interested to partner with us to benefit your country's or accelerators' startups and small businesses, please contact us at:
Scale2DubaiPartner@district2020.ae

If you are a startup or a small business which meets the eligibility criteria, please apply now on:
www.district2020.ae/scale2dubai

