

## Moldova Citizenship

# THE MULTI FAMILY OFFICE

### ACQUISITION OF MOLDOVA CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

The Moldova Citizenship-by-Investment (MCBI) program is the latest European citizenship-by-investment opportunity. It provides access to 121 destinations, including the countries in Europe's Schengen Area as well as Turkey and Russia. It is the first program of its kind to offer this unique combination of visa-free travel destinations.

Strategically positioned, with easy access to Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, the Republic of Moldova is a modern European country with a picturesque, varied landscape and a world-renowned wine industry. The country has already spearheaded a number of global technological advances, and it aims to use the foreign direct investment generated by the MCBI program to power its progress across all sectors.

### KEY BENEFITS OF MOLDOVAN CITIZENSHIP

- Visa-free access to 121 destinations around the world, including Russia, Turkey, and the countries in Europe's Schengen Area
- Citizenship in a country that has a continental climate, a world-class wine industry, and picturesque, varied terrain, including forests and rocky hills
- A reasonable contribution amount and a highly efficient application process
- Full citizenship, with passport rights, for the applicant and included family members
- Easy inclusion of dependent children up to 29 years of age and parents (of either the main applicant or the spouse) from 55 years of age in the application
- Citizenship transferable to future generations
- Citizenship in a member state of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the World Trade Organization, and many more
- Citizenship in a state that has entered into an association agreement with the EU and is aiming to become a candidate country for EU membership

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### INVESTMENT

To qualify for citizenship, the main applicant must be over 18 years of age, meet the application requirements, and make the primary qualifying contribution:

A minimum non-refundable contribution to the Public Investment Fund:

- EUR 100,000 for a single applicant
- EUR 115,000 for a couple
- EUR 145,000 for a family of four
- EUR 155,000 for family of five or more
- Post-approval government service provider fees of EUR 35,000 per application.

In addition, applicants are required to pay government fees of EUR 5,000 for the main applicant, EUR 2,500 for a spouse, EUR 1,000 for a child aged 0 to 15 years, EUR 2,500 for a dependent child aged 16 to 29 years, and EUR 5,000 for a dependent parent — of the main applicant or of the spouse — who is 55 years of age or older.

Due diligence fees are EUR 6,000 for the main applicant and EUR 5,000 for a spouse, dependent children older than 16 years, and/or dependent parents. Biometric passport fees amount to EUR 300 per individual.

It is imperative that main applicants and their dependents have a completely clear background, with no criminal record.

The MCBI program regulations further stipulate that a person who has been denied a visa to a country or territory with which Moldova has visa-free or visa-on-arrival travel arrangements and who has not subsequently obtained a visa to that jurisdiction shall not be accepted to the MCBI program.

Moldova has implemented a four-tier due diligence system, which is considered the most thorough in the world.

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### APPLICATION PROCESS

Through the MCBI program, successful candidates can gain Moldovan citizenship within a period of approximately 90 days, provided that the due diligence process can be completed without any hurdles. The key stages of the application process are outlined in detail below.

1. Submission of the specified government forms and the required personal documentation, including passport copies, birth certificates, and police certificates confirming that applicants have no criminal record
2. Initiation of extensive due diligence processes
3. Verification of all the information provided and the sources of all funds
4. Announcement of the application decision
5. Fulfilment of outstanding financial obligations and collection of biometric data at a consulate or embassy
6. Issuance of the passport

### DUE DILIGENCE

The Moldova Citizenship-by-Investment program boasts a highly streamlined application process and applies the world's strictest and most advanced due diligence and vetting system. Below is a detailed mapping of the client's due diligence and approval journey.

1. Once the application pack has been finalized and all the necessary supporting documents furnished — including proof of payment of the initial fees (government fees, due diligence fees, and passport fees) — the application is submitted to the Secretariat of the Commission. The police certificate may be submitted, by agreement, at a later date.
2. The pack is received by the Secretariat and checked for completion.
  - i. If complete, the pack is officially accepted
  - ii. If incomplete, the pack is returned (and possibly payment too, depending on the policies and procedures of the Secretariat)

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3. Once accepted, a reference number is assigned, a letter of acknowledgement is issued, and the application review process commences.
4. The four-tier due diligence process consists of:
  - Tier 1: Public database searches (including sanctions databases)
  - Tier 2: Public searches
  - Tier 3: Background verification checks, conducted by contracted third-party specialist agencies
  - Tier 4: Government checks conducted by the Centrul Național Anticorupție (National Anti-Corruption Centre), the Biroul Migrație și Azil (Bureau for Migration and Asylum), and the Security and Intelligence Service, among others.
5. The culmination of the completion of the due diligence tiers is the presentation of a recommendation from the Secretariat to the Commission.
6. The recommendation is considered by the Commission, and in the case of approval in principle, a letter is issued by the Secretariat, instructing the applicant to fulfill the financial obligations of the program by transferring the final balance (contribution and fees) of the required funds to the designated account.
7. Upon demonstration of the fulfillment of the financial obligations, the application is transferred to the office of the President of the Republic of Moldova for the final granting of citizenship by decree.
8. The applicant is invited to an approved venue (consulate, embassy, or equivalent) to provide the required biometric data and swear an oath of allegiance.
9. The Secretariat coordinates the issuance and release of the citizenship documents, including the passport, and the application is deemed complete.

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#### MULTI FAMILY OFFICE SERVICES

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