

Alexander John Hay
Attorney

364 East Main Street, Suite 215
Middletown, DE 19709

US Tel: (281) 968-0764
US Fax: (419) 710-4339
email: ahay@alexander-hay.com

Citizenship in the Republic of Georgia

Whether you are looking to establish a new home outside your native country, or simply want a Second Passport as a "PLAN B", the Republic of Georgia currently offers a unique opportunity. If you qualify you may be able to obtain a Georgian citizenship in under six months without having to make a large investment in the country. This is simply not available in any other country in the absence of ancestry or in some case religious affiliation.

Under normal circumstances it takes five years to qualify for citizenship in the Republic of Georgia, and you must meet the following qualifications:

1. A resident of Georgia for five years,
2. Pass a language proficiency test in Georgian,
3. Pass a test on the history of Georgia, and
4. Is gainfully employed or owns real estate in Georgia.

When approved you lose your prior citizenship(s).



There is an important exception to this. Under Article 17 of the "ORGANIC LAW OF GEORGIA ON GEORGIAN CITIZENSHIP" the President of Georgia has the authority to waive these requirements and allow immediate issuance of citizenship without having to abandon current citizenship if the person has performed outstanding services for Georgia in scientific or social activities or has a profession or qualifications which are of interest to Georgia; or if granting of citizenship is in the interest of Georgia.

The President's office has created a loose set of rules on how such applications will be processed, and there are some unwritten guidelines which encourage application for some, and

discourage applications from others. If you qualify for such citizenship the process takes about six months.

There are many reasons to consider the Republic of Georgia. Georgia offers a streamlined tax system for businesses:

- A flat 15% tax on corporate income (with many exemptions and exceptions available) with the tax deferred until profit is distributed based upon the Estonian Model.
- A flat 20% tax on personal earned income.
- A flat 5% tax on dividends paid to shareholders.
- A VAT tax of 18%.

Even paying the taxes is simple, easy, and efficient. Businesses in Georgia do not spend all their time complying with burdensome regulations, and preparing lengthy tax reports. They run their businesses.

In addition to the appealing tax system, there are numerous programs that allow companies to benefit from tax-free income:

- Numerous Tax Free Zones throughout the country.
- Tourist Promotions Programs that give investors a tax-free period of up to 15 years on investments related to tourism.
- The Virtual IT Free Trade Zone which provides an unlimited tax exemption on any income earned in the IT industry on sales outside of Georgia.
- The International Financial Company which provides an unlimited tax exemption on any income earned in the financial industry with parties primarily outside of Georgia.

Finally, Georgian citizenship provides protection from extradition.

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CLIENT RETAINER AGREEMENT
Citizenship in the Republic of Georgia

CLIENT(S): _____ DATE: _____, 20__

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ BUSINESS PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

I agree to retain Alexander John Hay, Attorney, to provide the following legal services:

1. Establish a Georgian company owned 100% by the client which will establish a bank account with online banking, debit card access, etc. Bank to be determined. We can provide Management services for the company in order to assist in initial bank opening and on an ongoing basis to assist with other business issues. This step is very important for establishing your credibility with the government.
2. Establish a personal bank account to establish your personal financial stability in Georgia. The government will demand that you have a modest amount on deposit in order to prove your financial security.
3. Assist the client in the application to obtain a Georgian Entrepreneurial Visa, and then the application for citizenship in the Republic of Georgia. This will include all legal fees, filing fees, translation costs, and other costs that may be required. Client will be encouraged to come to Georgia and stay for at least a one month period. If client leaves during that one month period, client may be required to come back to finalize the application.
4. Provide relocation services for client including assisting with real property location, contract review, working with movers, assist with family issues such as schools for children, etc. This will not include real estate agent fees, moving company costs, construction and contractor services, etc.

We will require a clean scan copy of your photo ID page of your passport before we can confirm. Send both signed agreement and copy of passport to **ahay@alexander-hay.com**.

Total cost will be \$25,000 US. A \$10,000 non-refundable retainer will be required to begin work. After the a Georgian Entrepreneurial Visa is approved a payment of \$10,000 will be required to proceed with the application for citizenship. When the citizenship is approved the final balance of \$5,000 will be due. Upon accepting your order we will send you an invoice with payment instructions. Parties will only be contractually bound upon receipt of retainer.

I acknowledge and agree to the above fee arrangement: _____
CLIENT SIGNATURE

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Work foreseen in this agreement will include only the preparation of the paperwork, telephone calls, and work within the Republic of Georgia.
2. This case is being accepted subject to review by attorney. Upon review it may be declined. If declined, any fees will be refunded.
3. Hourly Billing Rates unless described otherwise: legal - \$350.00 USD, accounting - \$150.00 USD, paralegal - \$75.00 USD.
4. The retainer is non-refundable and represents the minimum fee for accepting this case. Failure to keep account up to date may result in withdrawal of representation by attorney.
5. There can be no guarantee of success in these matters. The above fees do not include appeal of an adverse ruling.
6. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION** - All disputes arising out of or in connection with the present contract shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with those Rules.
7. Client shall keep consultant informed of any changes of address, phone numbers, and emails.
8. Client must respond within a reasonable time to requests for information, documents, etc.