GUIDE FOR CYPRUS DIASPORA AND REPATRIATES | 2019
INTRODUCTION

The present Guide for Cyprus Diaspora and Repatriates aims to offer basic information to those expatriate Cypriots who would decide to repatriate. Ultimate objective of the Guide is to help repatriates in their first repatriation stages, as well as to inform them regarding the basic state services that could help them settle in and adapt to living in Cyprus.

Furthermore, repatriates are now able to find general information on Cyprus, maintaining in this manner contact with their home country.

We wish to inform you that the data presented in this Guide were updated in May 2019, therefore all data presented are contingent.
IN LIEU OF PROLOGUE

By Mr. Photis Photiou, Presidential Commissioner
For the Guide for Cyprus Diaspora and Repatriates

My fellow Cypriots,

It gives me great satisfaction to greet the preparation and publication of the Guide for Cyprus Diaspora and Repatriates. It is one of the most important actions included in our National Strategy for our Diaspora.

The aim of the Guide is to provide all necessary data, information, legislation and regulations that should be made known, not only to our compatriots living abroad, but also to those intending to repatriate or have already repatriated to Cyprus. In essence, we are offering an important tool of knowledge that provides answers and solves crucial questions to matters that involve procedures and directions plaguing all of our repatriates.

Apart from its printed form provided in both Greek and English, the Guide will also be available in an electronic form at the website of the Presidential Commissioner.

The Guide, thanks to the information it provides, aids significantly in further strengthening our ties with the whole of the Diaspora, which has long been an enduring objective of our Strategy. Furthermore, it informs on actions and projects implemented, as a result of which Greek Cypriots abroad remain close to their roots, their history, their language, their culture and their traditions. All the above reinforce our ability to promote and encourage our national aims and aspirations.

given the capabilities of the expatriate Greek Cypriots and the excellent level of cooperation with the organized bodies and their leadership, the present guide is an important step in the correct path. Within this framework, our main priority is to inform in the best possible manner our younger expats that are the target group for many of our projects. Our priority is to make our young expatriates the spearhead of our plans, the strength and the soul of our Strategy.

In conclusion, I would like to express my warmest thanks to the University of Nicosia and all the state Departments for their cooperation and help in creating and successfully concluding this Guide.

Photis Photiou
Presidential Commissioner
**Geography**
Cyprus is an island state, independent since 1960. Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean, with an area of 9,251 sq. km. It has a maximum length of 240 km from east to westernmost end thereof and a maximum width of 100 km from north to south end.

**Climate**
Cyprus has a Mediterranean climate: hot, dry summers from June to September and mild, wet winters from November to March, which are separated by short autumn and spring seasons of rapid change in weather patterns in October, April and May.

**Did you know that...**
Sunshine is abundant during the whole year, especially at summer the daily average exceeds 11.5 hours.
Did you know that...

The population of Cyprus is estimated at 921,100, of whom 688,000 (71.8%) belong to the Greek Cypriot community, 90,100 (9.5%) to the Turkish Cypriot community and 178,000 (18.7%) are foreign nationals residing in Cyprus.

Towns

Nicosia
The capital of Cyprus is Nicosia, with a population of around 245,900. Situated roughly in the middle of the island, it has the unwelcome distinction of being the only divided capital city in the world. Since the Turkish invasion of 1974, its northern part is under occupation and separated from the south by a UN-patrolled buffer zone.

Limassol
The second largest town is Limassol, the main commercial port of Cyprus. With a population of around 184,600, it is also a popular tourist resort and a major business center.

Larnaca
The coastal town of Larnaca, in the southeast, has a population of 86,400 and is the island’s second commercial port and also a popular tourist resort. The Larnaka International Airport is situated to the south of the city.

Pafos
Pafos in the southwest with a population of 63,900 is a fast-developing tourist resort and home to the island’s second international airport. The whole town of Pafos is included on the official UNESCO world heritage list of cultural and national treasures.

Occupied cities
The cities of Famagusta, Kyrenia and Morphou as well as a part of Nicosia are under military occupation following the Turkish invasion in 1974. The Greek Cypriot residents of these cities were forcibly forced to flee to the south side of the island, which is under the control of the government.

Population

G/C community and T/C community
The language of the Greek Cypriot (G/C) community is Greek and the community adheres predominantly to the Autocephalous Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus.

The language of the Turkish Cypriot (T/C) community is Turkish and the community adheres predominantly to Islam.

Religious groups
Armenians, Maronites and Latins are recognized by the Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus (Article 2§3) as “religious groups.” Following a referendum held on 13 November 1960, all three chose to belong to the Greek Cypriot community, and thus vote as part of this community. The Law on Religious Groups Act provides that every religious group is represented in the House of Representatives by an elected Delegate.

Historical Brief
The history of Cyprus is one of the oldest recorded in the world and its historical significance is disproportionate to its small size. Considerable resources of copper and timber found in the island combined to make it a highly desirable territorial acquisition.

Chalcolithic Age (3900 – 2500 B.C.)
A transitional period between the Stone Age and the Bronze Age. Most Chalcolithic settlements were found in western Cyprus where a fertility cult developed. Copper was discovered and was being exploited on a small scale.

Bronze Age (2500 – 1050 B.C.)
Copper was more extensively exploited bringing wealth to Cyprus. Trade developed with the Near East, Egypt and the Aegean where Cyprus was known under the name of Alasia. After 1400 B.C., Mycenaeans from Greece began to come to the island as merchants. Around 1200 B.C., of Achaean Greeks came massively to settle on the island and established the first city-kingsdoms of Pafos, Salamis, Kition and Kourion. The Hellenization of the island was in process.

Geometric Period (1050 – 750 B.C.)
Cyprus had ten Greek city-kingsdoms. The cult of Aphrodite flourished, and Phoenicians settled at Kition in the ninth century B.C. The eighth century B.C. was a period of great prosperity.

Archaic and Classical Period (750 – 310 B.C.)
Despite being conquered by many invaders Cyprus continued to prosper. Cypriot kingdoms were ruled by a succession of foreign invaders after the Assyrians came the Egyptians and then the Persians. King Evagoras of Salamis (who ruled from 411-374 B.C.) unified Cyprus and made the island one of the leading political and cultural centres of the Greek world. The city-kingsdoms of Cyprus welcomed Alexander the Great, King of Macedonia, and Cyprus became part of his empire.

*The information provided in this chapter has been collected from the Cyprus Aspects Website (http://www.aspectsofcyprus.com/en), managed by the Press and Information Office.
Under the 1878 Cyprus Convention, part of the Treaty and laid siege to Famagusta for a year. Thus, Cyprus was Ottoman Occupation (1571 – 1878) Famagusta which were considered at the time to be state of fortified walls. They also built impressive walls around Venetians fortified the island, tearing down lovely buildings as well as pirates until 965, when Emperor Nicephoros feudal system. The Catholic Church officially replaced the Greek Orthodox. Phocas expelled the Arabs from Asia Minor and Cyprus. After an initial invasion by the Arabs in 647, the island was for three centuries under constant attacks by Arab invaders. After the division of the Roman Empire in two parts, Cyprus came under the Eastern Roman Empire, subsequently known as Byzantium. Christianity became the official religion. Once again, new cities arose. Constantinople, built near the site of ancient Salamis, became the capital. In 488 Emperor Zeno granted the Church of Cyprus full autonomy and gave the archbishops the privileges of holding a scepter instead of a pastoral staff, wearing a purple mantle and signing in red ink. During the missionary journey of Apostles Paul and Christianity became the official religion. Once Byzantium. During the missionary journey of Apostles Paul and came under the dominion of the Roman Empire. Byzantine Period (330 – 1191 A.D.) of the Ptolemies of Egypt and from then on was part of the Greek and Turkish Cypriots, leading to Cyprus’ independence. The Turkish-Cypriots, accounting for 18% of the population, under the provisions of the Constitution held 30% of the public service positions and accounted for 40% of the police force and the army. The Turkish Cypriots were represented in the Government by members of their community who occupied positions defined by the Constitution. These were the positions of the Vice-President and the positions of three Ministers out of the ten who constituted the Government as a whole. In addition, 15 of the 50 seats of the House of Representatives belonged to Turkish Cypriots.

Some provisions of the Constitution, such as the right of veto, have created difficulties in the functioning of democratic processes. For this reason, in November 1963, the President of the Republic, Archbishop Makarios, recommended to the leaders of the Turkish Cypriot community to amend the Constitution. First, Turkey and then the Turkish Cypriot leadership rejected the proposal. The Turkish Cypriots withdrew from the Cypriot Government and the House of Representatives and created Turkish Cypriot military enclaves, in Nicosia and other parts of the island, with the help of Turkish military. This was the beginning of intercommunal turmoil and threats by Turkey for invasion.

Coup / Turkish invasion / Consequences * The Turkish invasion of Cyprus, with the code name "Attila," began at the dawn of July 20, 1974, with dock and air operations. A total of around 40,000 men participated. Turkey argued that it was not an invasion, but a “peaceful intervention” aimed at restoring the constitutional order in Cyprus which had been destroyed by the coup against Archbishop Makarios on 15 July 1974. The Turkish dock boats began to dismantle forces in the Pente Mili area shortly after 5 on the morning of July 20th. The inhabitants were at the mercy of the invaders. Unarmed citizens were murdered, women raped, and captive soldiers executed.

By occupying the northern part of Cyprus, Turkey gradually and forcibly expelled 170,000 Greek Cypriots, over a third population of the total population, from their properties, where they constituted about 70% of the population of the occupied areas. They were forced to become refugees in their own country and seek refuge in the government-controlled areas. The Cyprus Government provided temporary housing in settlements set up as a matter of emergency for this purpose.

Missing Persons

In human terms, the worst consequence of the Turkish invasion in Cyprus in the summer of 1974 is the tragic humanitarian problem of the missing persons and their families. During and after the Turkish invasion, thousands of Greek Cypriots were arrested and detained in concentration camps in Cyprus by the Turkish army and by Turkish Cypriot paramilitary organizations acting under the instructions and responsibility of the Turkish army. Furthermore, over 2000 prisoners of war were illegally transferred to Turkey and detained in Turkish prisons.

Illegal Demographic Changes

Since the Turkish invasion of 1974, Turkey has implemented a systematic policy of colonizing the occupied part of Cyprus. The Turkish invasion of 1974, by which the policy of colonization in the occupied part of Cyprus appear to be the following, Turkey aims to change the demographic and population balance on the island so as to create new facts that will prevent a just solution.

Today, Turkish settlers (estimated at upwards of 160,000) far outnumber Turkish Cypriots (estimated at 88,000), who also have lower rates of reproduction compared to the mainland settlers. In addition, Turkish troops stationed in the occupied area are accounted upwards of 43,000

* Information about the consequences of the Turkish invasion

Refugees / Displaced Persons / Missing Persons / Destruction of Cultural Heritage / Illegal Demographic Changes can be found on the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: www.mfa.gov.cy
Political system

Did you know that...

- Cyprus is an independent democracy with a presidential system of government in which the President of Cyprus is both the head of state and the head of the government.
- Executive power is exercised by the government (President and Council of Ministers).
- Legislative power is exercised by the House of Representatives.
- The judiciary is independent of executive and legislative power and is exercised by the courts.

Executive Power

The Constitution provides that executive power is exercised jointly by the President and the Vice-President. The main body for the exercise of executive power is the Council of Ministers appointed by the President and the Vice-President.

Legislative Power

Legislative authority is exercised by a unicameral House of Representatives. Its members are elected for a five-year term. In 1985 the number of seats was increased to 80, 56 of Representatives. Its members are elected for a five-year term. In 1985 the number of seats was increased to 80, 56 of

The Flag

The flag of the Republic of Cyprus was defined in 1960, when Cyprus became an independent sovereign state. The background is white with a copper-coloured silhouette of the map of Cyprus in the centre of the flag above two crossed olive-green-coloured olive branches. The copper colour has a dual symbolism: first, the name of the island is said to derive from an ancient word for copper and second, copper is closely associated with Cyprus since antiquity when the island became a major producer and supplier of this mineral resource. The olive branches are symbols of peace.

Money


The Emblem

The emblem of the Republic of Cyprus depicts a white dove carrying an olive branch in its beak and placed inside a shield in the colour of copper, a metal directly related to Cyprus since ancient times.

The year of the independence of Cyprus, 1960, also in white, appears underneath the dove; the shield is braced by two olive-green-coloured olive branches, which along with the white dove constitute symbols of peace.

Did you know that...

- Did you know that the flag of the Republic of Cyprus was chosen following the withdrawal of the Turkish Cypriot members in 1964 and was officially adopted on 16th August 1960.
- The design of the Cyprus Flag was chosen from a competition which stipulated that the design should not include the colours blue or red or depictions of the crescent or cross. The winning design, by the Turkish Cypriot Ismet Gumey, was officially adopted on 16th August 1960.

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Shop Opening Hours

Shop opening hours vary depending on their type and location and whether they are located in urban, tourist or rural areas.

Generally, shops will open between 07:00 - 21:00 on Monday - Saturday, but this can vary an hour or two either way, depending on the type of shop and the area it is located in. On Sunday, opening times are later, typically around 11:00, and closing times vary from 14:00 - 22:00, again depending on the type of outlet and its area.

Road network and transport *

Cyprus has developed a modern road network, which serves the transportation needs of the public, industry, agriculture, trade and tourism. The residences / tourist can also use taxis or buses. Cyprus does not have a train or underground transport system.

There are four types of bus service in Cyprus:
1. Airport Transfer Buses: linking all the towns to the island's two airports of Larnaka and Pafos.
2. Interurban buses: linking all major towns on a daily basis, and with frequent routes.
3. Urban buses: linking different areas within the towns and operating frequently during daytime. In certain tourist areas, during the summer period, their routes are extended till late in the evening.
4. Rural buses: linking almost all villages with the nearest town, but with limited frequency.

Driving with safety in the Island

Please note the following for driving on the island:
- Traffic moves on the left hand-side of the road, not on the right
- International road traffic signs are in use, and placed along the roads and highways, on the left hand-side
- Distances and road speed limits are posted in kilometres and kilometres - per hour (km/h) respectively
- The use of seat-belts is compulsory (front and back)

- Children must use the child restraint appropriate for their weight
- Driving, or being in charge of a motor vehicle or pedal cycle with alcohol concentration in breath or blood above the prescribed limit, is an offence
- Hands free during driving is mandatory. During driving, the driver should take all necessary measures to ensure that his/her hands are free at all times in order to have full control of the vehicle. Therefore the use of a mobile phone is strictly prohibited

Pedestrians

Pedestrians must remember that traffic moves on the LEFT side of the road. Therefore you must always:

- Walk on the pavement. If there is no pavement, walk on the right side of the road. (ie. towards the oncoming traffic)
- Look both to your right and left before crossing any road
- Pedestrians are not allowed to enter motorways, nor are they allowed to walk on the edge of the motorway.

Further Information:

Public Transport Service by Bus in Cyprus (Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works): motionbuscard.org.cy

* The information provided about Time / Working Hours / Public Service Hours / Private Sector Hours / Shop Opening Hours / Road network and transport / Driving with safety in the Island / Pedestrians has been collected from the official website of the Deputy Ministry of Tourism www.visitcyprus.com/index.php/en/
At the Office of the Presidential Commissioner, the missing persons the trail of which was lost during the period of the Turkish Invasion in 1974 and the intracommunal conflict of the 1963-1964 period. In total, 6199 missing persons are listed as a consequence of the 1974 Turkish Invasion and 42 due to the intercommunal conflict of the 1963-1964 period. However, it is not necessary to point out that in case any remains are identified because of the exhumation and identification projects, are listed thereafter in the fallen persons catalogs.

The Office of the Presidential Commissioner forms an inalienable part of the Presidency of the Republic of Cyprus. Among its responsibilities belong the provision of support and resolution of matters that touch upon the missing persons, the enforced disappearances, and humanitarian issues, expatriate Cypriots, religious groups and the destruction of the religious and cultural heritage in the occupied areas.

In order to implement all the above responsibilities, part of the Office of the Presidential Commissioner are the Missing Persons’ Department, the Department of Enclaved Persons and Humanitarian Affairs and Overseas Affairs.

### Did you know that…?

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### Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots

The Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots based on a decision by the Council of Ministers (decision no. 8143/1, dated the 18th of October 2016) has been restructured from the Ministry of the Exterior to the Presidency under the supervision of the Presidential Commissioner.

The Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots, as of October 2016, forms part of the Presidential Commissioner’s Office.

The Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots ensures the continuous and close contact with the expatriate Cypriots contributing to the preservation of our identity, traditions and culture in the countries where they live and work. The Department is also helping expatriate Cypriots maintain their connection to Cyprus and offers to help in problems and/or needs that arise from time to time.

More concretely, the Service for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots engages in the following:

1. Contact and communication with expatriate Cypriots worldwide and help for educational and other matters.
2. Organization of local, regional and international conferences in order to discuss matters concerning the expatriates and their connection to and with Cyprus.
3. Support to the electronic publication of the newsletter «Η Κύπρος μας, κοντά στους Απόδημους» [Our Cyprus, by the expatriates’ side], that appears every two months by the expatriates’ side, that appears every two months.
4. Organization of exhibitions for Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots.
5. Provision of help to Cypriot communities overseas in the efforts of the expatriate Cypriots to maintain their language, culture and identity in their countries of residence.
6. Organization of regular visits / journeys for Cypriot expatriates to Cyprus and support of youth programs.
7. Encouragement to Cypriot entrepreneurs abroad for investments in Cyprus and promotion of Cyprus as an entrepreneurial and financial center.
8. Provision of help in order to solve problems that concern Cypriot expatriates and repatriates, in cooperation with relevant Ministries and Government Agencies.
9. Support to events and activities relating with the Cypriot tradition.
10. Encouragement to research in the history of the Cypriot diaspora.
11. Dispatch of informative and other material on the Cypriot history and culture to organizations, unions, local authorities, Cypriot schools and Cypriot Greek Communities.
12. Support granted to our Federations worldwide for an Inventory of Diaspora Cypriots.

Vision – strategy

Throughout the years, the role and involvement of our expatriates in the welfare of our communities overseas, in upholding the rights of the Cypriot Greeks and promoting Cyprus, is a central and constant denominator of our common efforts.

Our expatriate Cypriots’ contribution, role, organizational structure and active participation have been upgraded since the Turkish invasion and its collective work is recognized by all in the country. The actions and activities undertaken by the organized bodies and leaders in order to put an end to the on-going occupation and reach a fair solution to the Cyprus problem are intensified and formulated in a common action plan.

The aspirations, as well as the goal, that have been set within the framework of the new state multi-dimensional policy for the exterior, and the role of Cyprus within the geopolitical framework of the area, offer new possibilities to the leadership of the overseas communities to approach international influence centers.

In this context, the cooperation we are developing with the Greek government aiming to coordinate the collaboration of the Cypriot and Greek expatriates by pursuing common actions, by making the most of all possibilities, the strength and the relations of all Hellenism, is very valuable.

Such actions intend, aside from anything else, to maintain our common national identity, our customs and traditions, our religion, as well as to promote knowledge of the Greek language and our culture in the countries of residency and work.

In this context, we have sought and secured bilateral and trilateral co-operations that will help in making our goal reality meaningfully. Already, we have in place cooperation...
with Israel, Egypt and Lebanon, as well as other countries, such as Armenia, Romania and Serbia at the highest level. It is exactly through this especially important pillar of our strategy that we can capitalize on the cooperation among diasporas from several countries as a necessary diplomatic tool for promoting common goals and collective interests in important decision-making centers abroad.

Among the foremost priorities of the strategy that we have created, is the utilization of the diaspora organized bodies, so that they might promote matters of mutual priority for our countries, as well as common interest matters, such as youth, entrepreneurship and education among the diaspora communities.

Nevertheless, top priority in our strategy is the encouragement and active participation of our expatriate youth. There can no diaspora in the future without the youth generation, because it is this generation that will be called upon to take the reins in continuing the multifaceted work that our diaspora is accomplishing.

Expatriate Youth
The chapter on expatriate youth is a major priority policy. This includes support to the existing organizational structures and schemes, aiming to create and enrich projects – actions centering on attracting, encouraging and promoting our expatriate youth. It intends to encourage young people to involve themselves in the community life (structures), to come in contact and acquaint themselves with Cyprus, in learning the language, the history and the culture as well as in promoting fairness for Cyprus. A holistic approach and a coordination of policy and actions among the competent operators, in synergy with the actions and efforts undertaken by the expatriates’ community worldwide are needed, while at the same time the matter of assimilation is taken into account. Finding that “golden lining” that will bring about the desired benefits for the new generation and the generations to come, is a major challenge that should be dealt with immediately.

This strategic planning ultimately aims in the contact between the new generations of repatriate Cypriots with their home country, Cyprus, with hospitality programs, visit exchanges, internship programs and many more. Recently, Memoranda of Understanding have been signed with several Universities in Cyprus that were called upon to provide scholarships to repatriated Cypriots, in an effort to keep them close to their mother tongue, close to their roots.

Scholarships by Educational Institutions in Cyprus to Cypriot Expatriates
The Office of the Presidential Commissioner through its Cooperation with Educational Institutions in Cyprus has been granted a number of Scholarships to young Cypriot expatriates and also to older overseas Cypriots.

The scholarships offered regard not only Bachelor but also Master’s degrees and can be undertaken either on a physical presence mode at the chosen University, or by long-distance studying (when that is possible).

The aim of the Office of the Presidential Commissioner is to offer educational possibilities to all overseas Cypriots in prominent Universities of our country, contact to their home country, their roots, their mother tongue and making the most of the offered scholarships for their personal and professional evolution, wherever they may be.

Further information on the Scholarships, those interested may receive:

• Via the Office of the Presidential Commissioner website www.presidentialcommissioner.gov.cy
• Via the NEPOMAK website nepomak.org/scholarships/
or via an email to the NEPOMAK President, Mr. Christos Tuton at the email address: christostuton@gmail.com or christostuton@christos.tuton@gmail.com

For further information regarding the University programs, you may contact each University directly:

University of Cyprus
For more information: www.mba.ucy.ac.cy | +357 22893532 | mba@ucy.ac.cy
applications.ucy.ac.cy/postgraduate_app/MNG_USER_en/login_frm

Cyprus University of Technology
For more information: www.cut.ac.cy/studies/masters/admissions@cut.ac.cy | +357 25 002710 | +357 25 002711

Open University of Cyprus
For more information: www.uoc.ac.cy/web/guest/university/ps +357 22 411740 | +357 22 411741

University of Nicosia
For more information: www.unic.ac.cy/admission-requirements/+357 22 841 500 | admissions@unic.ac.cy

European University of Cyprus

Frederick University
For more information: adm.kg@frederick.ac.cy | +357 22 394394

University Of Central Lancashire Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus)
For more information: www.uclancyprus.ac.cy

The Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics – The Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine
For more information: www.cing.ac.cy/csmm

Note that...

- All of our interested Expatriates should acquire a certificate by the pertinent expatriates’ organization of their place of residence or the Embassy of their country of residence or by NEPOMAK (for its members. Young persons who are not members of NEPOMAK can register – see relevant link above).

- Every interested person who submits an application, will give power of attorney through the relevant form that NEPOMAK has, to the University in order to inform the Presidential Commissioner’s Office or NEPOMAK regarding the application, acceptance and progress for the duration of the scholarship. NEPOMAK in turn will transfer the relevant information to the Presidential Commissioner’s Office.

- It should be made clear that the application procedure and the grant of a scholarship is an internal matter of each University and the criteria set by them. The Office of the Presidential Commissioner does not have any involvement or participation in the process.
REPATRIATION AND ADAPTATION*

Preparing for Repatriation

Often referred to as reverse culture shock, the transition from one country – your birth country for second and third generation Cypriots – to another can be quite challenging. You will find many of your new experiences disorienting, and you will come up against many emotional challenges which need time to be worked through. Everyone is different and the readjustment period will be unique to each individual. There are four main stages that repatriates go through when returning. It is part of what is known as reverse culture shock and can include a rollercoaster of emotions.

1. The first stage, often called disengagement, is the time when you start to pack, say goodbye to friends and familiar surroundings and prepare for your new home.

2. The second stage is usually exciting and euphoric. This is when you are experiencing your culture as a resident and not a holiday maker.

3. The third, and often the most challenging stage, is the withdrawal stage, where feelings of anxiety, confusion and animosity begin to seep in. This is the stage where repatriates miss the routine and the way of life they learnt in their host countries and begin to feel alienated and sometimes hostile to their surroundings. Many choose to abandon their efforts to repatriate at this stage.

4. The final stage is generally called the readjustment and adaption phase. Often feelings of enthusiasm and enjoyment start to come back. At this stage, repatriates celebrate their bi-cultural identity; they embrace the positive traits they have brought with them and the culture in which they now live and work.

Note that...

It is natural to feel emotionally and physically exhausted during the course of repatriation.

• It is normal to feel emotionally and physically drained during repatriation.
• Give yourself and your family time to adjust. Be fair to yourself.
• Get involved in local activities.
• Celebrate your bi-cultural identity.
• Stay open-minded.

* The information provided in the chapter Repatriation and Adaptation has been collected from publications of the Press and Information Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
CONSULAR SERVICES TO THE OVERSEAS

Consular services provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Republic’s Diplomatic Missions and Consulates play a vital role in securing the safety of Cypriot nationals travelling or living abroad and ensuring the suitable conditions for the conduct of their activities. At the same time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperates closely with the Republic’s competent Authorities, in order to further enhance the efficiency of the consular services provided to Cypriot nationals abroad and to foreigners residing or visiting Cyprus.

Certification of public and private documents through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Diplomatic Missions

The Embassies and Consulates of the Republic may certify the signature and seal of the officer of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus or of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country in which they are accredited. They can also attest/certify the authenticity of a copy with the submission of the original document. Finally, the Diplomatic Missions and Consulates of the Republic certify documents and transmit requests and other documents to the competent Cypriot authorities (eg passport applications).

Note that...

The Consular officer certifies only the signature of the person and therefore, has no responsibility for the content of the document.

Further Information:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus,
Presidential Palace Avenue, 1447, Nicosia,
Phone Number: 22651000, 22651113
Fax Number: 22661881, 22665313, 22665778
Email: consular@mfa.gov.cy
ASSOCIATIONS / FEDERATIONS OF REPATRIATED AND OVERSEAS CYPIRETS IN CYPRUS AND ABROAD

Did you know that...
There are organized associations / federations of expatriates and repatriates in Cyprus and abroad, who can help you on various issues.

Below are listed the contact details of Associations and Federations Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots.

**ASSOCIATIONS OF REPATRIATED AND OVERSEAS CYPIRETS**

**President of the Cyprus Cypriot Association**

President of the Association of Repatriated Democratic Republic of Congo

Eleftheria Philippidou

Telephone: +357 96 472812
Fax: +357 22 438012

**President of the Pan-Cyprian Association of Repatriated Cypriot England**

Andreas Tsouloufas

Telephone: +357 99 687228
Fax: +357 25 711746

**President of Repatriated Cypriot Australia**

Andreas Frangou

Telephone: +357 99 660491
Fax: +357 22 623811
E-mail: andreas_frangou@yahoo.com

**President of the Federation of Repatriated Cypriots and Honorary President of Repatriated Cyprus Australia**

Kyriakos Tsolakis

Telephone: +357 99 693567
Fax: +357 22 753406
E-mail: tsolakis.k@gmail.com

**President of the Federation of Repatriated Cypriots and**

Honorary President of Repatriated Cypriot Australia

Kyrakos Tsalakis

Telephone: +357 99 693567
Fax: +357 22 753406
E-mail: tsolakis.k@gmail.com

**President of the Federation of Repatriated Cypriots and**

Honorary President of Repatriated Cyprus Australia

Kyrakos Tsalakis

Telephone: +357 99 693567
Fax: +357 22 753406
E-mail: tsolakis.k@gmail.com

**FEDERATIONS**

**POMAK**

World Federation of Overseas Cypriots

Address: POMAK Cyprus, Britannia Road, London UK, N12 9RU

Telephone: 0044 20 8445 9999

E-mail: info@pomakcyprus.com
Website: http://pomakcyprus.com/
Members of POMAK: http://pomakcyprus.com/
organisation/the-central-council-members/

**NEPOMAK**

World Organization of Young Overseas Cypriots

Telephone: 0044 20 8445 9999

E-mail: info@nepomak.org
Website: https://nepomak.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NEPOMAK/
NEPOMAK Team: https://nepomak.org/about/

**PSEKA**

International Coordination Committee – “Justice for Cyprus”

Website: www.pseka.net
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/International-Coordinating-Committee-Justice-for-Cyprus-
(PSEKA)
Twitter: https://twitter.com/pseka

**MEMBERS OF POMAK**

United Kingdom

The National Federation of Cypriots in the United Kingdom

Address: Britannia Road, London, N12 9RU, United Kingdom

Telephone +44 20 8445 9999
Fax: +44 20 8445 9997

E-mail: enquiries@cyriotfed.org.uk
Website: www.cyriotfed.org.uk
Facebook: https://cyriotfed.org.uk/the-team
NEPOMAK UK: https://nepomak.org/uk/

**U.S.A.**

Federation of Cypriot American Organizations

4-05 26 Avenue, Astoria, New York 11102
Tel: (718) 440-8797
Fax: (718) 440-8719

E-mail: info@fcausa.org
Website: www.fcausa.org
Board of Directors: http://www.fcausa.org/about-us/

FOMAK USA: http://www.fcausa.org/about-us/cyca-youth/

**Australia and New Zealand**

Federation of Cyprus Communities of Australia and New Zealand

Telephone: 02 9557 1256
Fax: 02 9565 1679
E-mail: president@cyriofederation.org.au / secretary@cyriofederation.org.au
Website: www.cyriofederation.org.au
NEPOMAK Australia & New Zealand: https://nepomak.org/
au-nz/

**South Africa**

Address: Cyprus Federation of South Africa, 10 Concorde Road, Bedfordview Gauteng, South Africa

Telephone: +27 118179925
E-mail: cypriussa@speedweb.xo.za
NEPOMAK South Africa: https://nepomak.org/ycya/
E-mail: nahyossca@cyza/

The rest of Africa

Cyprus Federation of Rest of Africa, Lamagundi Road Avondale, P.O. Box MP 1243 Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe

E-mail: nestorosn@gmail.com
NEPOMAK Rest of Africa: https://nepomak.org/rest-of-africa/

**Greece**

Address: Federation of Cypriot Organizations of Greece, PO Box 16376, Ampelokipi, Athens 1102
Telephone: +30 2103247760
E-mail: okoe@cyprusnet.gr
Website: www.cyprusnet.gr
NEPOMAK OKOE: http://okeoyouth.cyprusnet.gr/
Central Council OKOE: http://cyprusnet.gr/central-council

**Rest of Europe**

Federation of Overseas Cypriots Rest of Europe

E-mail: evagoras@mavrommatis.fr
Telephone: +33 143361308
NEPOMAK Rest of Europe: https://nepomak.org/rest-of-europe/

**Canada**

Address: Federation of Cypriot Federation of Canada, 6 Thorncliffe Park Drive Toronto, Ontario M4H 1H1.
E-mail: cypriotfederation@rogers.com
Website: http://www.fcausa.org
Board of Directors: http://www.cyprussa@speedweb.xo.za
NEPOMAK Canada: https://nepomak.org/ca/
ENTRY AND STAY IN CYPRUS

Acquisition Of Citizenship Due To Cypriot Origins

Minors (Under the Age of 18)
Application for Consular Birth Certificate (type M121)

It can be submitted by either minors or adults (above the age of 18), who were born abroad after the 16th of August 1960 and whose at least one parent at the time of birth was a Cypriot citizen.

Accompanying documents:
- Birth certificate of the applicant
- Marriage certificate of the applicant’s parents
- Photocopy of the applicant’s and the applicant’s parents’ passports
- Certificate of registration of the Cypriot parent (where applicable)
- Copy of proof of fees paid 20 euros
- stamp worth 8.54 euros attached to the application

Application for the Registration of Minors (type M126)

It can be submitted for minors, whose father or mother has acquired the Cypriot citizenship due to registration or naturalization, after their birth.

Accompanying documents:
- Birth certificate of applicant
- Marriage certificate of applicant’s parents
- Photocopy of the applicant’s and the applicant’s parents’ passports
- Certificate of acquisition of the Cypriot citizenship of the Cypriot parent (where applicable)
- Declaration of the foreign parent signed before an officer of the District Administration Office of the diplomatic authority consenting to the granting of the Cypriot citizenship to minor child. The statement is not required if the Cypriot parent had obtained a court decision for sole parental care of the minor. A copy of the relevant court decision should be attached.
- Photocopy of receipt for the amount of 80 euros paid as fees
- A stamp of 1.71 euro placed on the application

Adults (Above the Age 18) / M 71, M72

1. It can be submitted by persons born prior to the 16th of August 1960, who are citizens of the United Kingdom and its former colonies, who originate from Cyprus form the male side and reside permanently abroad (M71).
2. It can be submitted by persons born prior to the 16th of August 1960, who are not citizens of the United Kingdom and its former colonies and who originate from Cyprus form the male side (M72).

Accompanying documents:
- Birth certificate of applicant
- Birth certificate of applicant’s father
- Photocopy of applicant’s parents passports
- Photocopy of receipt for the amount of 20 euros paid as fees
- A stamp of 1.71 euro placed on the application

Application Type M123

It can be submitted by adults of Cypriot origin who were born on the 16th of August 1960 or after and none of their parents at the date of their birth was a Cypriot citizen.

Additionally it can be submitted by adults who were born after the 16th of August 1960 and originate from a person, who became a British citizen based on the Annexation of Cyprus Orders in Council 1914 to 1943 or a person born in Cyprus after the 5th of November 1914 and prior to the 16th of August 1960.

Accompanying documents:
- Birth certificate of the applicant
- Marriage certificate of the applicant’s parents
- Photocopy of the applicant’s and the applicant’s parents passports

Application Type M124

It can be submitted by adults of Cypriot origin, who were born before the 16th of August 1960 and are British citizens or citizens of any State of the Commonwealth and have completed one year of legal residence in the Republic.

Accompanying documents:
- Birth certificate of applicant
- Marriage certificate of the applicant’s parents
- Certificate of clean criminal record of the applicant
- Photocopy of applicant’s passport

Further Information:
www.moi.gov.cy/mo/CRM/CRM.nsf/ All/5326565838530CC22560F70024832B7OpenDocument

Issue of Birth Certificate

Birth certificates are issued at all the District Administration Offices. In order to register the new-born child in the Birth Register, the application form should be completed and signed by the Doctor who delivered the child and a copy is kept at the hospital's clinic, another copy is sent to the competent District Administration Office by the hospital/clinic and a third copy is given to the child's parents, in order for them to submit it to the Competent District Administration Office. The registration of the child can take place in any District Administration Office, independently from the child's birth place.

Birth certificates can be issued if the citizen’s relevant details are registered in the Civil Registration System.

The payable fee for each certificate is 5 EUR, provided that the birth has been recorded within the time period determined by the Law (within 15 days).

In the case of records of births after the expiry

In the case of records of births after the expiry of three months from birth, as defined by law, require the following:
- Affidavit in the prescribed form
- Birth registration form filled
- Fee €30 up to six months delayed registration and €60 over six months

Applications for reissue of the birth certificate can be submitted electronically via the e-Services system.
The following persons are regarded as displaced:

- Those who before and until the invasion had their usual residence in any Turkish-occupied area

Those who before and until the invasion had their permanent residence in the free areas because of their profession but their house and/or their property in general was in the occupied areas

- Those who before and until the invasion had their temporary residence abroad due to an obligation which emanated from a permanent appointment or an appointment on contract offered them while they resided in Cyprus and provided they were not emigrants.

Documents required:
In the case of applications for issue of a Refugee Identity Card for the first time (NEW) the applicant should submit the following:

- A completed relevant application form
- Marriage/Engagement to Marry Certificate/a newspaper notice about a promise to marry
- Birth Certificate
- Parents’ Refugee Identity Cards
- Parents’ Number of Identity Cards

For the issue/replacement of a Refugee Identity Card which has a check seal with the date 1/1/1983 and afterwards, the applicant should submit the following:

- The original naturalization certificate or registration
- The original birth certificate
- The original naturalization certificate or registration

Note that...
The issue and replacement of a Refugee Identity Card is free of charge.

Application for issuance of passport for children aged 12 or more

For the issue or renewal of a passport to a minor, the relevant application:

- Has to be submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizens Services Centers and Service Centers (Post Offices).
- A fee of €45 must be paid upon the submission of the application.
- The application must be signed by both parents, father and mother of the minor, before the authorized officer. In case one of the two parents is overseas, the application has to be duly notarized and signed by the parent who is present accompanied with a written consent of the parent who is absent, which explicitly mentions that the consent is provided for the purpose of the issue of a passport to his minor child.

For the replacement of passport due to loss or theft or war,

- In case where you lost your passport or it has been stolen, you should report it immediately at any Police station and then make a Affidavit at the Court therefore.

Note that...
In case of a loss of passport for second or more times, the fees payable are double the fees in place for the issuance or renewal of a passport. Hence the fees for the first-time replacement are €140 for adults and €90 for minors.
In any case, at the time of the application submission, Cypriot citizens living abroad will receive their passport with the accelerated procedure if the application was submitted, within 2 – 3 months from the day of the application.

1. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
2. United Kingdom: Embassy of the Republic in London
3. France: Embassy of the Republic in Paris
4. Germany: Embassy of the Republic in Berlin
5. The Netherlands: Embassy of the Republic in The Hague
8. Australia: High Commission of the Republic in Canberra
10. Israel: Embassy of the Republic in Tel Aviv
11. Egypt: Embassy of the Republic in Cairo
12. Lebanon: Embassy of the Republic in Beirut
13. Russian Federation: Embassy of the Republic in Moscow
14. Canada: High Commission of the Republic in Ottawa
15. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
16. Serbia: Embassy of the Republic in Belgrade
17. Spain: Embassy of the Republic in Madrid
18. India: High Commission of the Republic in New Delhi
19. Qatar: Embassy of the Republic in Doha

Issuance and receipt of passports
All passports are issued at the central offices of the Civil Registry and Migration Department in Nicosia. However, you can only receive your passport at the place where you submitted your application.

• It is advised that you receive your passports not earlier than ten (10) working days from your application.

Passports with the accelerated procedure are issued within forty-eight (48) hours from the submission of the application, and can be received only at the Civil Registry and Migration Department.

Cypriot citizens living abroad will receive their passport from the Consular Authority at which the application was submitted, within 2 – 3 months from the day of the application.

• In any case, at the time of the application submission, you will be informed from the authorized officer for the time you will receive your passport.

Application for issuance or renewal of identity card for adults

For the issuance or renewal of identity card for adult, the citizen has to submit the relevant application. Applications are submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizen’s Services Centers and Service Centers (Post Offices).

• During the application procedure, a duly trained and authorized officer captures the biometrics (photograph and fingerprints) as well as the signature of the citizen.

Based on the provisions of the Civil Registry Law, the Civil Registry and Migration Department (CRMD) is responsible for the issuance of Identity Cards to Cypriot citizens.

CRMD issues identity cards with biometric data (photograph and fingerprints) as well as the signature of the citizen. To ensure compliance with relevant data protection regulations, the fingerprints of the holder are erased from the system within 48 hours from the issuance of the identity card.

The acquisition and possession of Civil Identity Card is compulsory for any person who has completed twelve years of age and provision for minors below that age.

For the issuance or renewal of identity card for adult, the citizen has to submit the relevant application. Applications are submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizen’s Services Centers and Service Centers (Post Offices).

• During the application procedure, a duly trained and authorized officer captures the biometrics (photograph and fingerprints) as well as the signature of the citizen in addition, for submitting the application the citizen must pay a fee of €30, as foreseen by the relevant law.

• In case the application has been submitted from a person who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship through naturalization or by registration, she/he must submit the following documents, together with the application:
  • The original birth certificate
  • The original naturalization certificate or registration certificate

Application for issuance or renewal of identity card to a minor

For the issuance or renewal of identity card to a minor, the relevant application:

• Has to be submitted at the District Administrations, the Citizen’s Services Centers and Service Centers (Post Offices).

The application must be signed by both parents, father and mother of the minor, before the authorized officer in charge.

If the parents are divorced, then the application has to be submitted from the parent that has the guardianship of the child. The application has to be certified from the Consular Authority of the Republic.

If the minors are divorced, then the application has to be submitted from the parent that has the guardianship and the parental responsibility of the minor, with the submission of the competent Court Order that confirms guardianship and parental responsibility.

During the application procedure, a duly trained and authorized officer captures only the photograph of the minor.

The following documents, together with the application:
  • The original birth certificate
  • The original naturalization certificate or registration certificate

Application for issuance or renewal of identity card to a minor who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship by naturalization or by registration

The application must be signed by one of the two parents of the minor.

• During the application procedure, a duly trained and authorized officer captures the biometrics (photograph and fingerprints) as well as the signature of the minor.

In case the application has been submitted from a minor who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship by registration, she/he has to submit the following documents, together with the application:
  • The original registration certificate
  • The original birth certificate

Application for issuance or renewal of identity card to a minor who acquired the Cypriot Citizenship through naturalization or by registration

The following documents, together with the application:
  • The original birth certificate
  • The original naturalization certificate or registration certificate

Further Information:
You can contact the Administration Authorities, the Citizen’s Services Centers and the Service Centers (Post Offices).

For Cypriot citizens living abroad, the procedure to obtain, renew or replace identity card is the same as described above, except the place of submission of the application.

For the following Consular Authorities of the Republic receive the relevant applications:

1. Greece: Embassy of the Republic in Athens and General Consulate of the Republic in Thessaloniki
2. United Kingdom: Embassy of the Republic in London
3. France: Embassy of the Republic in Paris
4. Germany: Embassy of the Republic in Berlin
5. The Netherlands: Embassy of the Republic in The Hague
8. Australia: High Commission of the Republic in Canberra
10. Israel: Embassy of the Republic in Tel Aviv
11. Egypt: Embassy of the Republic in Cairo
12. Lebanon: Embassy of the Republic in Beirut
13. Russian Federation: Embassy of the Republic in Moscow
14. Canada: High Commission of the Republic in Ottawa
15. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
16. Serbia: Embassy of the Republic in Belgrade
17. Spain: Embassy of the Republic in Madrid
18. India: High Commission of the Republic in New Delhi
19. Qatar: Embassy of the Republic in Doha

Issuance and receipt of Identity Cards

All identity cards are issued at the central offices of the Civil Registry and Migration Department in Nicosia. However, you can only receive your identity card at the place where you submitted your application.

Note that...
The Passports issued are valid for ten (10) and five (5) years to adults and minors, respectively.

Application for issue/renewal/replacement of ID for citizens residing overseas

For Cypriot citizens living abroad, the procedure to obtain, renew or replace identity card is the same as described above, except the place of submission of the application.

The following Consular Authorities of the Republic receive the relevant applications:

1. Greece: Embassy of the Republic in Athens and General Consulate of the Republic in Thessaloniki
2. United Kingdom: Embassy of the Republic in London
3. France: Embassy of the Republic in Paris
4. Germany: Embassy of the Republic in Berlin
5. The Netherlands: Embassy of the Republic in The Hague
8. Australia: High Commission of the Republic in Canberra
10. Israel: Embassy of the Republic in Tel Aviv
11. Egypt: Embassy of the Republic in Cairo
12. Lebanon: Embassy of the Republic in Beirut
13. Russian Federation: Embassy of the Republic in Moscow
14. Canada: High Commission of the Republic in Ottawa
15. Austria: Embassy of the Republic in Vienna
16. Serbia: Embassy of the Republic in Belgrade
17. Spain: Embassy of the Republic in Madrid
18. India: High Commission of the Republic in New Delhi
19. Qatar: Embassy of the Republic in Doha

Issuance and receipt of Identity Cards

All identity cards are issued at the central offices of the Civil Registry and Migration Department in Nicosia. However, you can only receive your identity card at the place where you submitted your application.

• It is advised that you receive your identity card not earlier than ten (10) working days from the day of your application.

Cypriot citizens living abroad will receive their identity cards from the Consular Authority at which the application was submitted, within 2 – 3 months from the day of the application.

• In any case, at the time of the application submission, you will be informed from the authorized officer for the time you will receive your card.
Identity Card validity

Identity cards issued are valid for ten (10) and five (5) years to adults and minors, respectively.

Further Information:
You can contact the Administration Authorities, the Citizens Service Centers and the Service Centres (Post Offices).

Issue of Voting Booklet

For registration in the Electoral List and issue of a Voting Card the applicant has to be a Cypriot citizen who has attained the age of 18 and a permanent resident of Cyprus in the last six months before the submission of the application. Regarding Cypriots by origin who acquire the citizenship of Cyprus in the last six months before the submission of the application. In case of loss or wear and tear, Voting Cards are issued immediately either by the Civil Registry and Migration Department or by the local Offices of the District Administrations.

Issue of Voting Cards

Voting Cards are issued both by the Civil Registry and Migration Department and by the local Offices of the District Administrations. The Voting Cards of new voters, whose names are included in the supplementary Electoral List from time to time which is drawn up every three months, are issued directly by the Offices of the District Administrations and at the Civil Registry and Migration Department after the Voting Cards have been displayed and inspected for possible objections by the Administration Authorities, the Citizens Service Centers and the Service Centres (Post Offices). In cases of death records after the expiration of their period of one year as specified by law, require the following:

- An application for the change of name and/ or surname can be submitted by individuals, who are Cypriot citizens. An application for the change of name and/ or surname can be submitted by individuals, who are Cypriot citizens. In order to apply the following documents need to be submitted:
  - Letter requesting the change and explaining the reasons for the requested change
  - Affidavit before a Registrar of a Cypriot Court on a designated form

For issue of Voting Card due to loss:
- A completed relevant application form
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card
- A completed application form for registration in the Electoral List and issue of Voting Card:
  - A completed application form for registration in the Electoral List
  - A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card

For registration in the Electoral List and issue of a Voting Card:
- A completed relevant application form
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card

For change of voter’s name and other particulars:
- A completed relevant application form
- Voting Card
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card

For change of voter’s residence address:
- A completed application form for change of address.
- Voting Card
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card

For any change of particulars the necessary corresponding certificates should be produced such as:
- For change of religious group, a certificate from the Church.
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Certification from the President of the Community of the place of displacement, a copy of the Refugee Identity Card

For replacement of Voting Card due to wear and tear:
- A completed application form for issue of voting card due to wear and tear
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Issue fee: €8.54

For replacement of Voting Card due to loss:
- A completed relevant application form
- A photograph (if the applicant presents himself personally, he may be photographed free of charge without having to produce a photograph)
- Issue fee: €8.54

Applications for re-new Voting Card can be submitted electronically via the e-Services system.

Note that...
Elections can also vote with their identity card.

Further Information:
Further Information:
You can contact the Administration Authorities, the Citizens Service Centers and the Service Centres (Post Offices).

Issue of Death Certificate

The death certificates issued by all the District Administration Offices, regardless of the county in which the death occurred after filing the necessary form of death and produced a medical certificate of death.

In cases of death records after the expiration of their period of one year as specified by law, require the following:

- Sworn Statement
- Registration Form completed death
- Death Certificate from a doctor or priest
- Paid a fee for late registration of death over 12 months: 30 EUR

Fee paid 5 EUR for each certificate.
Civil Marriages

Office which issues the non-marriage certificate: The non-marriage certificate is issued by the Civil Registry and Migration Department by submitting the following documents and payment of the relevant fee:

- For the submission of the application and the issuance of the above mentioned certificate it is necessary that applicants appear personally in Civil Registry and Migration Department
- Cypriots who live abroad should apply through the Embassies/Consulates of the Republic of Cyprus

Documents required for application for non-marriage certificate:

Cypriots:
- Completed application form signed by the applicant
- Passport or civil identity card
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single/divorced/widow). In case of divorce or widowhood must be stated that the applicant has not been married since the divorce/death of his spouse. The Affidavit should also state the name of the person with whom he intends to get married. Also in case of divorce:
  - A final divorce from the Family Court, after spending 42 days from the issue or
  - Religious divorce from the Holy Archbishopric of Cyprus if it was before 1990
- Also in the event of widowhood, death certificate of his spouse by District Administration
- € 34,17 fee for examination of the above mentioned application and issue the relevant certificate.

Europeans:
- Completed application form signed by the applicant
- Valid Registration Certificate (Yellow Slip)
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single/divorced/widow). In case of divorce or widowhood must be stated that the applicant has not been married since the divorce/death of his spouse. The Affidavit should also state the name of the person with whom he intends to get married.
- Valid passport
- Non-marriage certificate from the competent authority in the country with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- In case of divorce, a divorce certificate (final) with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- In the event of widowhood, death certificate of his spouse translated into Greek/English and duly certified.
- € 34,17 fee for examination of the said application and issue the relevant certificate.

Third Countries:
- Completed application form signed by the applicant
- Temporary residence permit the validity of which should not be less than one month the day of the application for a non-marriage certificate. If the validity of Temporary residence permit is less than a month (even one day) the applicant must submit receipt of payment of a new application for a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Cyprus.
- Affidavit that clearly describes his marital status (single/divorced/widow). In case of divorce or widowhood must be stated that the applicant has not been married since the divorce/death of his spouse. The Affidavit should also state the name of the person with whom he intends to get married.
- Non-marriage certificate from the competent authority of the country of origin of the applicant with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- In case of divorce, a divorce certificate (final) with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- In the event of widowhood, death certificate of his spouse with an official translation into Greek/English and duly certified.
- Valid passport
- € 34,17 fee for examination of the above mentioned application and issue the relevant certificate.

For England:
- British nationals, who reside in Cyprus for a period of less than three (3) years and wish to celebrate a civil marriage in the Republic of Cyprus, should submit a Marriage non-impediment Certificate, which is issued either by the General Register Office of the local authority of the area they reside. This Certificate should be sealed with an APOSTILLE. Moreover, they should submit one Registration Certificate (yellow slip) and an Affidavit stating that they are not married. Finally a copy of their passport should be submitted.
- British nationals, who come to Cyprus with a Marriage Tour Package to celebrate a Marriage and live or reside legally and continuously in the Republic of Cyprus for at least three years, are not required to submit the Marriage non-impediment Certificate.
- In all other cases applicants should submit the Marriage non-impediment Certificate.

For the case of Ukraine:
- Slovak nationals, who come to Cyprus with a Marriage Tour Package to celebrate a Marriage and live or reside legally and continuously in the Republic of Cyprus for at least three years, are not required to submit the Marriage non-impediment Certificate.
- In all other cases applicants should submit the Marriage non-impediment Certificate.

For the case of Cyprus:
- He/she should obtain a non-Marriage Certificate or confirmation, issued by the local authority of his/her residence
- This document must be faxed to the Embassy of Ukraine in Cyprus
- The Consular Affairs Office of the Ukrainian Embassy will issue, sign and stamp a Certificate of Marriage non-impediment Certificate, which should be presented together with the above mentioned document when the applicant decides to submit his/her application to the CRMD

Information of The Procedures Established To Contract A Civil Union

A Civil Union can be contracted before the Registrar of the district of residence of one of the persons concerned and in the presence of two witnesses.

A duly completed and signed “Form of Civil Union” should be submitted accompanied by an ID or passport, an affidavit and a Non-impediment Certificate. The fee is 90 EURO.
Web Portal of the Republic of Cyprus / Registration - Authentication for Cypriot citizens who lived abroad

For Cypriot citizens who live abroad authentication is done by visiting the Cyprus Embassy/Consulate at the country where they live.

The steps to be followed are the following:
1. Register online as an Individual to ARIADNE System at www.ariadni.gov.cy.
2. The ARIADNE sends a confirmation E-mail to which the 16-digit unique number of the profile is shown.
3. The citizen activates the Profile by clicking the link in the E-mail.
4. The citizen goes to the Embassy along with the printed E-mail showing the 16-digit unique number of the profile, the Cyprus Identity Card and if available the number of the Cyprus Social Insurance Services.
5. The officer at the Embassy authenticates the citizen.

System of Electronic Services of the Civil Registry and Migration Department (eCivil)

The following applications can be submitted online through the Electronic Services of the Civil Registry and Migration Department (eCivil):
- Validate/Change of Personal Data
- Change of Postal Address
- Issue Permanent Residency Certificate
- Re-issue Birth Certificate or Consular Birth Certificate
- Renew Elector Booklet Due To Loss

Access to eCivil

Access to the eCivil is rendered through the Government Gateway Portal ARIADNE.

Registration to eCivil

Registration is needed in order to submit applications through the eCivil. The registration is completed via the Government Gateway Portal ARIADNE and a validation of the personal data should follow at the Citizens Service Centers by show of identity. On registration you shall be given access codes via email.

The same registration can be used to access also the services provided by the Government Gateway Portal ARIADNE. If you are already registered in ARIADNE, you do not need to register again in order to use the eCivil.

When you are submitting your application, you may choose the manner in which you wish to receive your form:
- By post in the interior and abroad without further charge
- Personally from the office that you will choose.

USEFUL GOVERNMENTAL WEBSITES

Government Gateway Portal (Ariadni)

Note that...
Before using certain important e-Services, enrollment to these e-Services is required so that the user can be identified in the information System where the e-Service is processed. Once your profile has been authenticated, enrollment to e-Services is done from the "Enrol in e-Services" link at the top of the "e-Services Catalogue" or from the "Manage My Profile" link at the top right of the screen and in then from the "Manage e-Services" and then "Enrol in e-Services"

Further Information:
Visit www.ariadni.gov.cy. From the home page select the link "Learn more"

The Government Gateway Portal (Ariadni) enables you to use electronic services (e-Services) that are made available by the Government of Cyprus over the internet. Individuals and Organisations need to register in order to login to Ariadni. Upon successful registration, you will have access to online government e-Services without the need to personally visit the government departments.

Further Information:

Note that...
When you submit your application electronically, you will have to pay the fees by using a bank card
SERVICES FOR CITIZENS

Citizen Service Centres (CSCs)

The establishment of the Citizen Service Centres is a step towards a modernized public administration in Cyprus, which would be able to meet the expectations of citizens regarding the quality and accessibility of public services.

The CSCs, as a single point of contact, can provide information, transactions and support for a variety of public services.

The CSCs are overseen by the Public Administration and Personnel Department of the Ministry of Finance. To date, there are ten CSCs in operation, as follows: Nicosia 1 - Egkomi, Nicosia 2 - Arch. Makarios III Ave., Nicosia 3 - Latsia, Limassol, Larnaca, Ammochostos, Pafos, Kolossi, Polis Chrysochous and Pelendri.

All CSCs currently provide more than 70 services, which fall under the competences of the following Ministries/Departments/Services: the Civil Registry and Migration Department and the Lands and Surveys Department of the Ministry of Interior; the Ministry of Health; the Road Transport Department of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works; the Social Insurance Services and the Welfare Benefits Administration Service of the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance; the Grants and Benefits Service and the Department of Information Technology Services of the Ministry of Finance; the Ministry of Education and Culture; the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Justice and Public Order.

The services provided by the CSCs are divided into two categories.

• Services that can be provided on the spot, e.g. issue of Birth and Death Certificates, issue of Medical Card and European Health Insurance Card.

• Services for which citizens can submit applications, which are then sent to the competent Departments/Services for processing, such as, application for the issue of Cyprus Identity Card and Cyprus Passport, Driving License, applications of allowances and benefits of the Social Insurance Services, application for Minimum Guaranteed Income, and others.

Note that...

The CSCs' working hours are continuous, from 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday.

Further Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSCs</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicosia 1</td>
<td>Georgiou Seferi Str. 2415 Egkomi</td>
<td>+357 22 446686</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kep@papd.mof.gov.cy">kep@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicosia 2</td>
<td>56 Archbishop Makarios III Ave. 1065 Nicosia</td>
<td>+357 22 419191</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kepnicosia2@papd.mof.gov.cy">kepnicosia2@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicosia 3</td>
<td>Old Nicosia - Limassol Road, near GH Nicosia 2031 Strovolos</td>
<td>+357 22 552400</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kepnicosia3@papd.mof.gov.cy">kepnicosia3@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limassol</td>
<td>21 Spyrou Araouzou Str. 3036 Limassol</td>
<td>+357 25 829129</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keplimassol@papd.mof.gov.cy">keplimassol@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larnaca</td>
<td>42 Spyrou Kyrianoou Ave. 6057 Larnaca</td>
<td>+357 24 815555</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kep.larnaca@papd.mof.gov.cy">kep.larnaca@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammochostos</td>
<td>63 Eleftherias Str. 5380 Derynia</td>
<td>+357 23 300300</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kepammochostos@papd.mof.gov.cy">kepammochostos@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pafos</td>
<td>62 Eleftheriou Venizelou Ave. 8021 Pafos</td>
<td>+357 26 822400</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keppafos@papd.mof.gov.cy">keppafos@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolossi</td>
<td>67 Ammochostos Str. 4436 Kolossi</td>
<td>+357 25 824300</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kep.kolossi@papd.mof.gov.cy">kep.kolossi@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polis Chrysochous</td>
<td>1 Evagora Pallikari Str. 8820 Polis Chrysochous</td>
<td>+357 26 821888</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keppolis@papd.mof.gov.cy">keppolis@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelendri</td>
<td>70 Archbishop Makarios III Str. 4878 Pelendri</td>
<td>+357 25 813400</td>
<td><a href="mailto:keppelendri@papd.mof.gov.cy">keppelendri@papd.mof.gov.cy</a></td>
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The Central Agency for Equal Distribution of Burdens

The Scheme

The Central Agency for Equal Distribution of Burdens operates the Scheme for the restoration of the pre-war solvency of the owners whose immovable property is in the areas occupied by Turkish occupiers and in the areas that are accessible due to the Turkish military forces and in the areas that are inaccessible due to the Turkish occupation forces. Through this Scheme, loans are granted to entitled persons for specific purposes.

Overseas Cypriots are not covered by this Scheme unless they have been repatriated to Cyprus and have become permanent residents and reside permanently in Cyprus. Repatriated applicants to the Scheme must provide proof/evidence that they reside permanently in Cyprus.

Purposes of the Scheme

- Student loans for full time studies at recognised or registered higher or highest educational institutions in Cyprus or abroad and post-secondary educational institutions providing technical and vocational education and training in Cyprus or abroad
- Business loans for young university graduates up to the age of 40 years old in order to purchase the necessary equipment for the purpose of establishing their business activity
- Business loans to individual persons to establish or expand their business activity and to acquire or expand their business premises in Cyprus or/and purchase of office equipment or machinery or/and shares capital in a limited liability company (suspended)
- Medical treatment loans for serious or permanent illness, treatments and operations
- Loans to new married couples who submit their loan application to the Central Agency within 30 months from the date of their wedding (suspended)
- Subsidisation of the cost of housing loans that individual persons secure through specified financial credit institutions for acquisition in Cyprus of an appropriate privately-owned residential unit for owner occupancy and permanent residence or for necessary/sufficient improvements or additions to an existing residential unit in Cyprus to make it suitable for permanent residence
- Subsidisation of the interest rate of business loans that individual persons, secure through specified financial credit institutions, to establish or expand their business activity and to acquire or expand their business premises in Cyprus or/and purchase of office equipment or machinery and share capital in a limited liability company
- Student loans for full time studies at recognised or registered higher or highest educational institutions in Cyprus or abroad and post-secondary educational institutions providing technical and vocational education and training in Cyprus or abroad
- Business loans for young university graduates up to the age of 40 years old in order to purchase the necessary equipment for the purpose of establishing their business activity
- Business loans to individual persons to establish or expand their business activity and to acquire or expand their business premises in Cyprus or/and purchase of office equipment or machinery or/and share capital in a limited liability company

Entitled Persons

Entitled persons are (a) citizens of the Republic of Cyprus who are permanent residents in Cyprus and reside permanently in Cyprus or (b) cypriot legal entities, as follows: A citizen who after the Turkish invasion was and still continues to be the owner of the same occupied or inaccessible immovable property. A citizen who after the Turkish invasion has become and still continues to be the present owner of occupied or inaccessible immovable property by inheritance or endowment (gift) that provided the current owner and all previous owners after the invasion owned the immovable property. A citizen who has been repatriated to Cyprus and has become a permanent resident and resides permanently in Cyprus. Direct blood line relatives means father – son/daughter – grandchildren, indirec...
Subsidisation of the interest rate of loans:
- Housing loans: up to €130,000 (for non-refugees up to €85,000 with a deduction between the range of 20% to 40%)
- Business loans: up to €100,000 (for non-refugees up to €85,000 with a deduction between the range of 20% to 40%)

Terms for subsidisation of the interest rate of Housing and Business Loans:
The interest rate of the Housing and Business loans will be subsidised up to a maximum of 3.5% provided that the applicants will bear a 1% minimum interest rate. The maximum period of subsidisation is 20 years.

Income based criteria:
For net income between the range of €80,000 to €100,000 per annum, there is a decrease by 10% from the entitled amount. If the net income exceeds the sum of €100,000 per annum there is a decrease by 20%.

Resources available for the Scheme:
The provision of loans and guarantees through the Scheme always depend on the available resources of the Central Agency for the Scheme.

Revisory Authority of the Central Agency:
Applicants who disagree with the decision of the Board of Management regarding their application, may file an appeal to the Revisory Authority of the Board's decision. The appeal must be made within the period of 30 days from the date of notification of the decision of the Board to the applicant.

Service for the Displaced Persons:
Strategic Goal in the framework of the Service for the Displaced Persons Strategic Planning has been named the implementation of the state’s refugee policy, with regard to the housing of displaced persons. This will be carried out in this manner that every beneficiary displaced person / victim shall receive housing.

A. Housing plans that include:
- Financial aid for apartment / detached house purchase.
- Financial aid for building a house on a self-owned plot of land.

• The provision of a loan, according to the case, will be
• A period of grace of up to 2 years may be granted

Loan Terms:

a. The mortgage of occupied or inaccessible immovable property of the owner to the Central Agency.
b. The provision of personal guarantees.
c. Loans to Newlywed Couples up to €25,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
d. Business loans for young university graduates up to €25,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
e. Business loans: up to €170,000 for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%.

In determining the amount of the loan to be advanced, the following, among other things, will also be taken into consideration:
- The present general financial state of the applicant.
- The potential of the applicant to pay off the loan.
- The need, justification and evidence of the purpose and the level of expenditure for which the loan is sought.

Within the above general framework of the provision of loans, the top limit of a loan or guarantee which can be advanced for a particular purpose is as follows:

a. Educational loans: up to €105,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
b. Medical Treatment up to €85,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
c. Loans to Newlywed Couples up to €17,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
d. Business loans for young university graduates up to €25,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
e. Business loans: up to €70,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).
f. Business loans for young university graduates up to €105,000 (for non-refugees deduction from 20% up to 40%).

For the period of grace, the interest will be paid by equal monthly instalments.

Note that...
According to the legislative regulation in place since the 27th of December 2013, matrilineal displaced persons have the same rights as the patrilineal displaced persons with regard to all housing projects offered by the Service for the Displaced Persons.

Further Information:
Officials in all Offices are available to help the public every day from 8.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m.
Service for the Displaced Persons Central Offices in Nicosia: 34 Ilia Papagiakou Str., 2415 Engomi, Nicosia or P.O. Box YMATE, 1667 Nicosia.
Telephone switchboard for information and also for housing projects: +357 22 456276.
Telephone number for rent allowance: +357 22 871836.
Fax switchboard for rent allowance and housing projects: +357 22 878150.
Management fax: +357 22 661011.
Management email address: director@ypame.moi.gov.cy.

Limassol District Branch that provides administrative services to the Limassol and Lemesos Districts:
Address: 31 Aykyras str. 3042, Medieval Castle Square in Limassol, 3300 Limassol or P.O. Box 31014.
Telephone switchboard for information and also for housing projects: +357 25 871150 and +357 23 820629.
Telephone number for rent allowance: +357 22 871791.
Fax for housing projects: +357 25 827978/79.
Fax: +357 25 300595.

Larnaka District Branch that provides administrative services to the Larnaca and Ammochostos Districts:
Address: Rivier Oasis str. 4, Ayios Ioannos Government Housing Project, P.O. Box 9150 – 6388, Larnaka.
Telephone switchboard for information and also for housing projects: +357 25 827911.
Telephone number for rent allowance: +357 24 812373/56.
Fax: +357 24 633058.
Website: all relevant to the allowance information, as well as the application forms can be found in the Ministry of Interior’s website at www.moi.gov.cy (Departments, Service for the Displaced Persons).

• Financial aid for repairs to self-owned house.
• Rent allowance.
• Rent allowance to displaced organic families.
• Rent allowance to displaced students.

Consumer Protection Service:
The Consumer Protection Service constitutes one of the divisions of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry. Its mission is to pursue a high level of protection for consumers in today’s highly competitive and fast paced market.

The Consumer Protection Service aims at the most effective protection of consumers’ safety and economic interests, as well as the development of a legal framework that will ensure conditions of fair competition in the market.

In addition, the Consumer Protection Service pursues to improve consumers’ welfare in terms of price, choice, quality, diversity, affordability and safety, to empower consumers through better access to accurate information and to enhance consumers’ confidence, arising from better market transparency and effective protection of their rights.

The achievement of the above objectives is typically facilitated through the following the existence of a sound legal framework for the protection of the consumers, the effective carrying out of inspections and market surveillance and law enforcement, the provision of education and information to consumers and the business community, the integration of consumer protection issues into other policy areas, such as education, the increased collaboration and contact with the civil society and especially the Cyprus consumers’ organisations, the establishment of close collaboration with respective institutions and the participation in EU programs that promote innovative measures regarding consumers’ protection and information.
European Consumer Centre of Cyprus has been a member of the ECC Net since 2005 and is hosted in the Consumer Protection Service. ECC Cyprus provides information and advice to consumers on issues related to their economic interests. Also, ECC Cyprus acts as a mediator towards the amicable settlement of a cross border complaint between a consumer and a trader.

Further Information:

Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry
Consumer Protection Service, 2 Agapinoros street, Iris Tower, Nicosia
Fax: +357 22 304916
Website: www.mcit.gov.cy

European Consumer Centre Cyprus (ECC Cyprus)
2 Agapinoros street, Iris Tower, Nicosia
Telephone: +357 22 867177
Fax: +357 22 200975
E-mail: ecccyprus@mcit.gov.cy
Website: www.ecccyprus.gov.cy
If you have decided to move to Cyprus, there are some practical issues you need to know, such as the transfer of your personal property and your motor vehicle.

**Normal residence**

Normal residence means the place where a person usually lives, that is for at least 183 days in each calendar year, because of personal and occupational ties. In the case of a person with no occupational ties, normal residence means the place of personal ties which show close links between that person and the place where he is living.

The normal residence of a person whose occupational ties are in a different place from his personal ties and who consequently lives in turn in different places situated in two or more member-states shall be regarded as being the place of his personal ties, provided that such person returns there regularly. This last term is not a prerequisite, when the person resides in a member-state for the execution of a task of a defined duration.

**Personal Property**

Personal property means property for the personal use of the persons concerned or the needs of their household. Such property must not, by reason of its nature or quantity, reflect any commercial interest. The following, in particular, shall constitute personal property:

- personal effects, household linen, furnishings and equipment intended for the personal use of the persons concerned or for meeting their household needs;
- bicycles and motorcycles, private motor vehicles and their trailers, camping caravans, pleasure craft and private aeroplanes;
- household provisions appropriate to normal family requirements, household pets and saddle animals;
- portable instruments of the applied or liberal arts, required by the person concerned for the pursuit of his trade or profession.

**Transfer of Normal Residence from another Member State of the European Union**

Goods in free circulation in the European Union (EU) are transported from one member-state to another without payment of any import duties. In such a case, it is necessary that a proof of the union status of the goods be submitted to customs.

Persons transferring their normal residence from another member-state of the EU should settle customs-wise their personal effects and their motor vehicle as follows:

- **Union status of household effects**
  
  Proof of union status by producing:
  - T2L or T2LF document; or
  - Commercial Documents (invoice, bill of lading, cargo manifest).

- **Union status of motor vehicles**
  
  Persons transporting a motor vehicle to the Republic of Cyprus from another EU member-state, for private use, may prove its union status by producing:
  - T2L or T2LF document; or
  - the number plates and the original vehicle registration document issued by the previous member-state.

The T2L or T2LF document can be obtained from the previous EU member-state Customs Service or through your vehicle supplier or shipper.

**Vehicle’s Customs clearing Procedure**

For the clearance of the vehicle it is necessary to prove its union status by one of the above ways. It is noted that in order to receive Office certificate form under title APPLICATION FOR THE VERIFICATION OF THE CUSTOMS STATUS OF UNION GOODS’ must be submitted to Customs accompanied by the invoice (if recently purchased), the original vehicle registration certificate, the delivery order, passport or identity card.

Additionally, for used passenger cars (not including double cabin cars) the Document TOM119A issued by the Department of Road Transport must also be presented to Customs (please note that this document is issued upon presenting to the Department of Road Transport the original registration certificate from the previous member-state).

After receipt of the vehicle from the port of entry, the customs clearing procedure must be completed at any District Customs Office within 10 working days after the verification of the vehicle’s union status.

**Value Added Tax (VAT)**

A motor vehicle is considered as “used” when transported to the Republic of Cyprus from another EU member-state if both of the following two conditions are met:

1. The period from the date of its first entry into service (date of first registration) up to the date of delivery for the purposes of its acquisition in the Republic of Cyprus is more than six months;
2. The vehicle has travelled more than 6,000 kilometers.

If either (or both) of the above conditions are not met, then, the vehicle will be considered as new upon entry into the Republic of Cyprus and will be liable for payment of VAT, regardless if VAT has previously been paid in the previous member-state.

Currently VAT for ‘new’ motor vehicles is calculated at the rate of 19%. However, in the case of transfer of normal residence of a person from another member-state, the transfer of a motor vehicle which does not satisfy the condition of the six months’ possession and use does not create any VAT liability provided that such VAT has already been paid in the member-state of the vehicle’s origin. The reason is to avoid double taxation.

A requirement for non-paying VAT in the Republic is that it has to be proven that such VAT has been paid in the member-state of origin. The submission of the purchase invoice indicating the amount of VAT or an indication that VAT has been paid, is necessary.

**Transfer of Normal Residence from a country outside the European Union (Third Country)**

Persons who transfer their normal residence from a third country to the European Union are allowed to import without payment of import duties and Value Added Tax (VAT) their personal property.

In the case of motor vehicles, relief may be granted only to one private use motor vehicle per person concerned who must be in possession of a regular driving license.

**Terms and Conditions**

Relief may be granted provided that personal property:

- has been in the possession and use of the persons concerned, at their former normal place of residence, for a minimum of six months before the date on which they cease to have their normal place of residence in the third country of departure;
- is intended to be used for the same purpose at the new normal place of residence;
- is brought into the Republic within 12 months from the date of transfer of residence.

Please note that relief may be granted only to persons whose normal place of residence has been outside the customs territory of the Community for a continuous period of at least 12 months.

Relief may be granted in respect of personal property entered for free circulation before the person concerned establishes his normal place of residence in the customs territory of the Community, provided that he undertakes actually to establish his normal place of residence there.
within a period of six months. Such undertaking shall be accompanied by a security, the form and amount of which shall be determined by the Director of Customs Department.

Exceptions

No relief from import duties and VAT shall be granted for:

- alcoholic products;
- tobacco or tobacco products;
- commercial means of transport;
- articles for use in the exercise of a trade or profession, other than portable instruments of the applied or liberal arts.

Proof of normal residence

The person concerned must prove that he had his normal place of residence outside the European Union for a continuous period of 12 months from the date of transfer of his normal residence. He must also give proof of his intention to settle permanently in Cyprus.

Such proof may be:

- contracts of sale or rent of their residence abroad;
- particulars of employment abroad (tax returns, social insurance records, payroll slips etc.);
- certificates of children’s attendance at schools abroad;
- utility bills, e.g. electricity/water supply bills/bank accounts etc;
- particulars of acquisition of residence in the Republic (contract of sale or rent);
- particulars of employment in Cyprus;
- attendance of his children at a school in the Republic;
- other documents, deemed necessary.

Proof for the motor vehicle

- motor vehicle registration document;
- certificate of insurance for a period of at least six months;
- sales invoice/receipt of purchase;
- particulars of the vehicle’s arrival (Bill of lading/Delivery order/Freight receipt/Sailing ticket);
- other evidence, deemed necessary.

Documents to be completed and procedure

Form Ap. 2 for the transfer of normal residence from a third country.

You may find the form in the link: http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/customs/customs

Registration of Motor Vehicles in the Republic of Cyprus

After a vehicle is cleared from Customs it must be registered before it can be licensed for road tax purposes. The competent authority for matters of motor vehicle registration and circulation fees is the Department of Road Transport of the Republic of Cyprus. Contact links for the Department are provided below:

Email: roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy

Further Information:

Address: Customs Headquarters (Ministry of Finance), Corner M. Karaoli and Gr. Afxentiou, 1096 Nicosia
Postal address: Customs Headquarters – Relief Section, 1440, Nicosia
Telephone numbers: +357 22 407530 | +357 22 407510
headquarters@customs.mof.gov.cy
www.mof.gov.cy/mof/customs/customs.nsf/All/5859B6527DA18295C05257283002E8A30?
OpenDocument

Note that...

Until 12 months have elapsed from the date on which its entry for free circulation was accepted, personal property which has been admitted duty-free may not be lent, given as security, hired out or transferred, whether for a consideration or free of charge, without prior notification to the Director of Customs Department.
TRAVELING WITH A PET

Movement of a pet animal
Any movement of a pet animal between Member States or its entry or re-entry into the territory of the European Union (EU) from a third country.

Non-commercial movement of a pet animal
Any movement of a pet animal which is accompanying its owner or a natural person responsible for the animal on behalf of the owner during its movement and is not intended to be sold or transferred to another owner.

On duly justified and documented grounds, the pet animal is considered as accompanying its owner or the authorised person even if the non-commercial movement of the pet animal takes place up to five days earlier or later than the movement of the owner or of the authorised person, or takes place in a different physical location than that occupied by the owner or by the authorised person.

The owner or the person responsible for a pet animal originating from a third country must communicate its arrival to the District Veterinary Office of the relevant point of entry, as well as all the necessary information about the date and time of arrival and the flight number or the ship name.

The information must be communicated at least 48 hours prior to the arrival.

Note that...
Pet animals may enter Cyprus only from designated points of entry. The entry of a pet animal from any other point is prohibited.

Dogs-Cats-Ferrets

Identification
Every animal must be individually identified.

Age
Taking into account the abovementioned requirements, any pet animal entering the territory of the Republic of Cyprus must be at least 105 days old. The entry of pet animals aged less than 105 days old is prohibited regardless of the country of origin.

Breed
The entry of dogs of the following breeds is prohibited regardless of the country of origin.

1. Pit Bull Terrier or American Pit Bull
2. Japanese Tosa or Tosa Inu
3. Dogo Argentino or Argentinean Mastiff
4. Fila Brasileiro or Brazilian Mastiff

Transport
In the case of transport by air, the animals should be placed in containers which fulfil the requirements of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) specifications. For more information you may visit IATA website: http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/live-animals/Pages/index.aspx

In the case of transport by sea, the animals must be transported under conditions fulfilling the health and welfare provisions as foreseen by the legislation in force.

Maximum number of animals allowed
The maximum number of pet animals which may accompany the owner or an authorised person during a single non-commercial movement shall not exceed five.

Further Information:
Telephones:
Nicosia District Veterinary Office:
+357 22 805241

Lemesos District Veterinary Office:
+35725 819512

Larnaka District Veterinary Office:
+357 24 821275

Ammochostos District Veterinary Office:
+357 24 824555

Pafos District Veterinary Office:
+357 26 821260

Animal Health and Welfare Division:
+357 22 805255 / +357 22 805236 / +357 22 805250

E-mail: director@vs.moa.gov.cy
Vehicles

Visitors that bring their car for personal use during their stay, may drive it on the roads of Cyprus, provided that the vehicle is accompanied by a registration certificate and a valid circulation license of the country of origin. If the latter expires during their stay in Cyprus, the corresponding fee must be paid, so that a Cyprus circulation is issued. The vehicle must be covered by insurance, which is valid in Cyprus. The driver must also be covered by insurance, which is valid in Cyprus. The driver must be a holder of a valid driving license for the category of driving vehicle.

In the event of the transfer of permanent residence to the Republic of Cyprus, the driver may carry a vehicle of any age, which may be registered in the Registrar of the Motor Vehicle Inspector.

If the vehicle is already in Cyprus, there must be a valid circulation license for the period of use, as well as a valid Certificate of Inspection.

Drivers Licenses

In order to drive, you must be a holder of a driving license. A driving license is valid until the holder reaches the age of 70. After that age, the license is renewed every three years, with the submission of a medical certificate.

Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots

If a driver is a holder of a driving license of a Member State of the European Union, he may drive for as long as the driving license is in force, for the categories that are recognized.

Before the driving license expires and after a period of 185 days permanent stay in the Republic, the driver can apply to the Road Transport Department for the renewal/exchange of the driving license, in cases where the driving license was issued in a Member State of the European Union or one of the countries listed below. If the issuing country is none of the countries below, then the citizen can apply for a new license following the legislative procedure.

Note that...

Holders of third-country driving licenses can only drive for one month. Exceptions include holders of driving licenses from the following countries: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Australia, Switzerland, Zimbabwe, United States of America, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, South America, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, South Korea, Serbia and the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, the People’s Republic of China and the Kingdom of Morocco, which they can drive for six months.

Further Information:

Address: Department of Road Transport, 27 Vasileos Pavlou, 2412 Engomi, Nicosia
Telephone: +357 22 807000.
Fax: +357 22 354030
E-mail: roadtransport@rtd.mcw.gov.cy
Website: http://www.mcw.gov.cy/rtd
In order to apply for maternity benefit from Cyprus, either you or your husband should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured husband is entitled to receive maternity allowance if he has been insured for at least six months either you or your husband should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured husband is entitled to receive maternity allowance if he has been insured for at least six months

Maternity benefit / Maternity grant

Could I apply to receive maternity benefit from Cyprus?

In order to apply for maternity allowance from Cyprus, either you or your husband should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured husband is entitled to receive maternity allowance if he has been insured for at least six months.

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to maternity benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to maternity benefit.

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Could I apply to receive sickness benefit when I come to Cyprus?

If you are receiving unemployment benefit from another EU, EEA country or from Switzerland, you may continue receiving that unemployment benefit for a period of three (3) to six (6) months while seeking employment in Cyprus. Therefore, before you leave the country that pays for your unemployment benefit, you should notify the competent authority of that country.

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to sickness benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to sickness benefit.

Could I apply to receive paternity allowance from Cyprus?

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to paternity allowance according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to paternity allowance.

Could I apply to receive sickness benefit when I come to Cyprus?

In order to apply for sickness benefit when you come to Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees are entitled to unemployment benefit. The unemployment benefit is paid for 156 working days during each employment inactivity period.

May I get paid the maternity grant while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?

You may get paid the maternity grant while in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland.

Maternity allowance

How can I apply for a maternity allowance from Cyprus?

In order to apply for maternity allowance from Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured husband is entitled to receive maternity allowance if he has been insured for at least six months.

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to maternity benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to maternity benefit.

Could I apply to receive paternity allowance from Cyprus?

In order to apply for paternity allowance from Cyprus, you must be the father of the child and have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, an insured husband is entitled to receive paternity allowance if he has been insured for at least six months.

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How will my application be settled?

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to unemployment benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to unemployment benefit.

May I seek employment in Cyprus and continue being paid unemployment benefit from another EU, EEA country or from Switzerland?

- If you are receiving unemployment benefit from another EU, EEA country or from Switzerland, you may continue receiving that unemployment benefit for a period of three (3) to six (6) months while seeking employment in Cyprus. Therefore, before you leave the country that pays for your unemployment benefit, you should notify the competent authority of that country.

Within seven days since your departure, you should be registered as an unemployed person both in the Cyprus Public Employment Service, and in the Unemployed Register at the Social Insurance District Offices.

Health care in Cyprus

Before you apply to Cyprus for the services of the Social Insurance Service, you should wait for six months because of the legal requirements. If you are not insured within this period, you cannot apply to the Social Insurance Service.

We will examine your insurance account whether you are entitled to sickness benefit according to the legislation of Cyprus. Any other contributions you may have been paid in another EU, EEA country or Switzerland may be taken into account in order to establish a right to sickness benefit.

Could I apply to receive sickness benefit when I come to Cyprus?

In order to apply for sickness benefit when you come to Cyprus, you should have been insured during the last insurance period in Cyprus. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees are entitled to sickness benefit. The sickness benefit is paid for 156 working days.

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Could I apply to receive invalidity pension from Cyprus?

In order to apply for invalidity pension from Cyprus, you must have paid contributions to the Social Insurance Fund. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees and self-employed persons that are under the age of 65 years old, are entitled to invalidity pension.

The pension starts after a period of 166 days of invalidity for employment and when the insured person is considered permanently invalid for employment for his / her occupation. At the age of 65 years the invalidity pension automatically becomes a statutory pension, with no need of submitting a statutory pension claim form.

How will my application be settled?

Based on your contributions to Cyprus, we will check whether you are entitled to a statutory pension in accordance with the legislation of Cyprus. If you are not entitled to a separate statutory pension, the contributions you have paid in every EU, EEA country or Switzerland will be aggregated in order to establish a right to a statutory pension. Every country you were insured will do the same in accordance with its national legislation.

May I get paid the invalidity pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland?

You may get paid the invalidity pension while being in another EU, EEA country or in Switzerland. In order to apply for a statutory pension from Cyprus, you must have paid contributions to the Social Insurance Fund. EU or EEA countries, or Switzerland in which you were previously insured, will send to the Social Insurance Services of Cyprus your insurance account, if it is necessary. According to the legislation, insured employees and self-employed persons that are under the age of 65 years old, are entitled to invalidity pension.

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provisions of these Agreements are similar to the provisions of EU Regulations 883/2004 and 987/2009.

Repatriated Cypriots from Egypt

- Cyprus has signed a bilateral agreement with Egypt. If you are repatriating from Egypt you should submit an application form to the Social Insurance Services in order to arrange the transfer of your contributions from Egypt to Cyprus.

Other Benefits

Social Pension

To whom is social pension granted?

- Social pension is granted to all inhabitants of the Republic of Cyprus who are over 65 years of age, satisfy residency conditions and are not entitled to a pension or any other similar payment from any other source. Social pension is paid out of the Republic’s Consolidated Fund.

What are the conditions of residency for granting a social pension?

- The conditions of residency for granting social pension are the following:
  (a) to have legally resided in Cyprus or in countries which are members of the European Union or the European Economic Area or in Switzerland for a total period of at least 20 years since the day that the applicant reached the age of 40.
  (b) to have legally resided in Cyprus or in countries which are members of the European Union or the European Economic Area or in Switzerland for a total period of at least 35 years since the day that the applicant reached the age of 18.

Am I entitled to social pension if I am receiving a pension from other source?

- In case you are receiving from Cyprus or overseas a pension or any other similar payment, the monthly amount of which is lower than the monthly amount of the statutory pension, then you are entitled to a social pension equal to the difference between the two pensions.

How could I apply for a social pension and what certificates do I need to submit?

- In order to claim for a social pension, you must submit an application form, obtained from any social insurance district office or citizens’ service center or citizens’ center or via the internet and the Social Insurance Services website (www.mlsi.gov.cy/sid).
  - The application form must be certified by the community leader of the applicant’s community or parish and it should be delivered along with all the required original documentation within 3 months of the date of becoming eligible for receiving a pension to any social insurance office or citizens’ service center or citizens’ center.

The application form must be submitted along with the following certificates:

  - The applicant’s birth certificate, if the birth was abroad,
  - A certificate by the community leader of the applicant’s community or parish that the applicant resides permanently in Cyprus.
  - In case the applicant receives a pension from the country he or she has been repatriated from, a certificate regarding the monthly sum of the pension granted.
  - In case the applicant does not receive a pension from the country he or she has been repatriated from, a certificate regarding the fact that such a pension is not granted.

Social Card

Who can be a social card holder?

- Social card holders can be:
  (a) Persons from the age of 63 years old who reside permanently in Cyprus, regardless of their citizenship or whether they receive a pension from the Social Insurance Fund or the insurance authority of any other country.
  (b) Persons regardless of their age who reside permanently in Cyprus and are beneficiaries of incapacity or invalidity pension or orphans’ benefit due to permanent incapacity to maintain themselves from the Social Insurance Fund or the insurance authority of any other country.

What are the benefits of the social card?

- The social card provides its holders with the opportunity to participate in cultural and other events as well as providing for other benefits, including a 50% discount to the bus tickets in urban and rural areas. The social card benefits’ catalogue is sent to all the beneficiaries and is updated on the Social Insurance Services’ website.
Law 109(I)/2014 introduced a far-reaching reform of the social security system in the Republic that replaced the public benefit with the minimum guaranteed income. The Minimum Guaranteed Income and Social Benefits Law of 2014 was introduced on the 1st of July. This reform included beneficiaries and population groups that were previously excluded from receiving a public allowance, such as low income pensioners.

Persons included in one of the following categories may apply for MGI:

1. One of two spouses regardless of age.
2. Any person over twenty eight (28) years of age.
3. A single parent.
4. Any person under the age of twenty (28) who at the time of emancipation (18 years of age) was under the care of the Social Welfare Services’ Director, in the manner that is recognized as such a case according to the decision of the Social Welfare Services’ Director.
5. An orphan, one (1) of the siblings.
6. Any category of person that is not included in the cases of paragraphs (1) to (5), but are determined by a Council of Ministers’ Decree.
7. Any person facing special personal circumstances, if they should be verified by a competent official and are not included in the cases of paragraphs (1) to (5).

Section 5 of the Legislation determines the condition of residency on the Republic for the purposes of receiving the Minimum Guaranteed Income. It specifically states that the applicant, in the immediately preceding period of five (5) years before the application is submitted, must have legal and continuous residency in the areas of the Republic of Cyprus that are under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

Apart from the above-mentioned obligation, there are other conditions, such as those regarding income, immovable property, financial assets or alienation of immovable assets or other financial assets.

A support scheme for pensioners on low incomes:
This benefit is directed to pensioners’ households the yearly income of which is lower than the threshold of poverty. A condition attached is residency in the Republic for one (1) year before applying.

Child Benefit and Single Parent Benefit:
Child benefit is granted to families that resided legally and continuously in areas under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus the past five years at least before applying for the benefit. Single-parent families that receive child benefit as also entitled to single parent benefit for every dependent minor child, if the parent and the dependent child resided legally and continuously in areas under the control of the Republic of Cyprus the past five years at least before applying for the benefit. In the case of EU citizens, section 68 of Regulation 883/2004 applies.
HOUSING SCHEMES

Housing Scheme to revive Highland and Remote Areas

The Scheme provides financial aid for acquiring a home ownership for owner-occupied housing in the areas that the scheme aims to revive.

The Scheme provides financial aid for acquiring housing in specific geographic areas / communities within Residential Areas and Residential Zones, as follows:

Implementation Geographic Area A: Remote Areas

- Specific areas along the Green Line in the Municipalities of Nicosia and Agios Dometios.
- Specific Communities and areas in Municipalities in close proximity to the Buffer Zone (Pano Pyrgos, Kato Pyrgos, Pigenia, Pachyammos, Mosfilii, Denia, Mammar, Lyba, Potamia, Athienou, Troulli, Pyla – specified area, Strovilia, Deryneia, Achna, Frenaros, Acheritou, Avgorou).

Implementation Geographic Area B: Highland Areas

- Specific Communities (110) in highland areas of an altitude above 600 meters.

The Scheme remains open to applications until the last day that has been determined as the 31st of December 2020.

Further Information:

Ministry of the Interior - 1453, Nicosia.

Citizens Service Center
phone number: +357 22 867800

Website: http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/moi.nsf/All/ADF4A4C11D4F4AF3C225C225782853B4AF0
TAX MATTTERS

Tax System in Cyprus

For tax purposes as “Cyprus resident” is defined:

- Any person (natural person) who remains in Cyprus for one or more periods that exceed in total 183 tax year, or a person (natural person) that complies with all of the following conditions in every tax year:
  - He or she resides in Cyprus for a period or more that can be accumulated in at least 60 days.
  - He or she does not reside in any other single state for a period or more exceeding 183 days in aggregate.
  - He or she is not considered tax resident by any other state.
  - He or she carries out any business in Cyprus and/or is employed in Cyprus and/or holds an office in a company tax resident in Cyprus on the 31st of December of every tax year, in the sense that the business or employment or the office held are not terminated before the end of the tax year.
  - He or she must maintain a permanent residential property in Cyprus which is either owned or rented by him or her.

A company (legal person) managed and controlled in Cyprus

All Cyprus tax residents (natural or legal) are taxed every tax year on their income accrued or derived from all chargeable sources in Cyprus and abroad.

- A non-Cyprus tax resident (natural or legal) is taxed every tax year on income accrued or derived only from sources in Cyprus.
- A legal person – company non-Cyprus tax resident that resides permanently in the Republic Cyprus may choose to be considered a tax resident of Cyprus for tax purposes.
- On a voluntary basis registration to the Tax Department (for V.A.T. purposes) may be completed under specific conditions, e.g. a person non-permanent Cyprus resident but performs taxable activities in the Republic of Cyprus.

Corporate tax

Cyprus offers a variety of tax benefits to the companies that conduct their business in Cyprus. These benefits are derived from the beneficial taxation of Cyprus that complies with the demands of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Union, as well as the extensive network of Double Tax Agreements with over 60 countries.

Briefly, the main provisions of corporate taxation are:

- Uniform corporate tax rate of 12.5%, the lowest tax rate in the EU;
- No tax on dividends or interest payments to non-residents, as well as residents not Domiciled in Cyprus;
- No withholding taxes on royalty payments relating to the use of rights outside Cyprus;
- No tax on profits from permanent establishment outside Cyprus, subject to certain terms and conditions;
- No tax on capital gains from disposal of securities listed on a recognised Stock Exchange Market;
- No tax on profits from reorganisations, profits derived from the transfer of ownership or shares and the payment of stamp fees;
- Tax free repatriation of profits and capital;

Personal Income Tax

Individuals are subject to a scaled assessment rate on their annual income, starting with 20%, 25%, 30%, and ending at 35%, with the first €19500 of income being non-taxable. One of the lowest statutory personal income tax rates in the EU.

Value Added Tax (V.A.T.) is imposed at the rate of 19% (normal), 9% / 5% (reduced), as well as 0% (zero rate) on specific goods and services, on all goods and services delivered in the Republic, in acquisition of goods from other member states and the importation of goods from third countries.

International trusts

Cyprus International Trusts enjoy significant tax privileges that offer important possibilities to tax planning:

- Income and gains of a Cyprus International Trust that derive from sources outside Cyprus are exempt from any tax imposed in Cyprus.
- Dividends and interest from a trust for a company non-Cyprus resident are exempt from tax and withholding of tax.
- Exempt from tax is any foreigner who creates an international trust in Cyprus and retires in the country, on condition that all his or her immovable property and income earned is abroad, even if the natural person is a beneficiary.

Note that...

Income from the following income sources under specific conditions are not taxed:

- Income from dividends and interest.
- Income from permanent residency abroad.
- Income from paid employment abroad.
- Income from the sale of securities.
- Damages to a business in the current year and/or in the previous years is deductible from taxable income under certain conditions.
- Tax free is income that derives as: bonus because of retirement, death or injury allowance, welfare fund, pension fund, or other approved funds.

Further Information:

Address: Ministry of Finance, Michael Karali & Gregori Afxentiou, 1439 Nicosia
Telephone: +357 22 601722
Website: www.mof.gov.cy
The General Healthcare System (GHS)

The General Healthcare System (GHS) is modern, patient-centric healthcare system with the aim of delivering quality healthcare services to beneficiaries.

The main features of the system are:
- Universal coverage of the population
- Equal and equitable treatment of all beneficiaries
- Provision of a comprehensive package of healthcare services
- Freedom of choice of provider by the beneficiaries
- Social reciprocity

For the implementation of the GHS, a special fund was established for purposes of gathering the relevant contributions, and from which all payments to providers of healthcare services will be made. The GHS fund will be administered by the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO).

Beneficiaries

Citizens Of The Republic Of Cyprus (RC)

This category includes persons who are:
- Citizens of the Republic of Cyprus
- Ordinary residents of the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus
- Family members of a beneficiary, and in case of family members of a beneficiary from a Non-EU country who is a holder of a permanent residence permit, the members must also have a permanent residence permit in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus in accordance with the Aliens and Immigration Law
- Dependants of EU Citizens beneficiaries
- Dependants of Non-EU Citizens beneficiaries
- Dependants of Refugees and Persons with a Status Of Supplementary Protection

European Union (EU) Citizens

This category includes persons who are:
- EU citizens
- Ordinary residents of the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus
- In case of family members of a beneficiary from a Non-EU country who is a holder of a permanent residence permit, the members must also have a permanent residence permit in the areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus in accordance with the Aliens and Immigration Law
- Dependants of EU citizens beneficiaries

Other Categories

Persons, who are specified by the HIO Board as special cases can also be included in accordance with the Regulations.

The HIO may, at its discretion, include, on a voluntary basis and under terms and conditions set by regulations / decisions, persons who are excluded from the GHS.

Provider categories

1. Personal Doctors for Adults - Personal doctors for children
2. Outpatient Specialists
3. Dentists
4. Inpatient Healthcare Services
5. Accident and Emergency Department (A&Es)
6. Ambulances
7. Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Services
8. Pharmacies
9. Labs
10. More Services (Relief Care, Medical Rehabilitation, Residential Care)

Beneficiary enrolment process

In order to have access to GHS Healthcare Services, all interested individuals must be registered in the GHS Beneficiary Registry and a personal doctor List.

Enrolment in the Beneficiary Registry

In order to enrol in the GHS Beneficiary Registry, the interested party must be registered in the Civil Registry, or an application for enrolment in the Beneficiary Registry is submitted online via the Beneficiary Portal. Beneficiaries will be able to search for personal doctors who are contracted with the Health Insurance Organization for the provision of healthcare services by a personal doctor List.

Benefits

Online enrolment

The application for enrolment in the GHS Beneficiary Registry is submitted online via the Beneficiary Portal. The first step to access the said portal is to create an account via the HIO website and activate it.

The interested party is then connected to the Beneficiary Portal and proceeds with the enrolment following instructions on the screen. The enrolment process requires that the interested party fills in specific fields in order to be identified in the abovementioned Registries as well as some additional information (e.g. address, telephone number for communication etc.)

In case that a person cannot be identified with the Registry he/she will be asked to submit an online beneficiary registration request that he/she must then print and send by post to the Health Insurance Organisation attaching specific certificates and/or evidence.

Persons who do not have access to the Internet can enrol with the help of third parties that have an account in the Beneficiary Portal given that the said procedure will be done with the consent of the interested party.

Enrolment by visiting a personal doctor

- Beneficiaries who do not have access to the internet will be able to enrol as beneficiaries by visiting a personal doctor of their choice. During their visit the personal doctor will fill in the application for enrolment in the beneficiary record on behalf of the interested party. It is noted that during the specific visit the interested party may complete his/her registration in the personal doctor List.

Registration in a personal doctor list

The following apply for registration in a personal doctor list:

- Beneficiaries under the age of 15 are registered in the list of a personal doctor for children.
- Beneficiaries who have completed the age of 15 until the completion of the age of 18, are registered either in the list of a personal doctor for children or a personal doctor for adults.
- Beneficiaries over the age of 18 are registered in the list of a personal doctor for adults.
- Beneficiaries over the age of 65 are registered in the list of a personal doctor for adults or a personal doctor specialized in geriatrics.

Beneficiaries will be able to search for personal doctors who are contracted with the Health Insurance Organization for the provision of healthcare services by a personal doctor List. Beneficiaries who are excluded from the GHS Beneficiary Registry and have access to the Beneficiary Portal can enrol on printed directories that will be made available by the HIO in various places that will be announced to the beneficiaries.

Enrolment process

There are two ways to register in a personal doctor list:

Online via the Beneficiary Portal
- Beneficiaries who are already enrolled in the Beneficiary Registry request that he/she must then print and send by post to the Health Insurance Organisation attaching specific certificates and/or evidence.

The interested party must be registered in the Civil Registry, or an application for enrolment in the Beneficiary Registry is submitted online via the Beneficiary Portal. Beneficiaries will be able to search for personal doctors who are contracted with the Health Insurance Organization for the provision of healthcare services by a personal doctor List. Beneficiaries who are excluded from the GHS Beneficiary Registry and have access to the Beneficiary Portal can enrol on printed directories that will be made available by the HIO in various places that will be announced to the beneficiaries.

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Για την ισχύση της συμβουλής, η βεβαιωμένη θα αποστείλει τη διαδικασία εγγραφής στον ιδιαίτερο για την εγγραφή του(ή) σε ένα προτιμούμενο ιατρό του(ή) που θα βρεί επανάληψη στο Δίκτυο Ιατρών Ανακαταλήψεως. Αν και ο ιατρός αποδοθεί την εγγραφή στο κοινωνικό υγειονομικό σύστημα, ο οποίος θα αναλάβει την επανάληψη της διεύθυνσης, η βεβαιωμένη θα διακρίνει και θα λάβει επανάληψη της επανάληψης του(ή) σε ευκαιρίας.

Επιπεδείς Τουλάχιστον το ένας επίσημος ιατρός αποδιαθέτει την επανάληψη της διεύθυνσης. Αν και ο ιατρός αποδιαθέτει την επανάληψη της διεύθυνσης, η βεβαιωμένη θα διακρίνει και θα λάβει επανάληψη της επανάληψης του(ή) σε ευκαιρίας.

Διευθυντής Κέντρων Αιτήσεων

Οι διευθυντές των Κέντρων Αιτήσεων επιτρέπουν την επανάληψη της διεύθυνσης. Αν και ο ιατρός αποδιαθέτει την επανάληψη της διεύθυνσης, η βεβαιωμένη θα διακρίνει και θα λάβει επανάληψη της επανάληψης του(ή) σε ευκαιρίας.

European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

Ο Ευρωπαϊκός Υγειονομικός Παικτικός Καρτών (EHIC) είναι παρόν σε όλους τους Κοινωνικούς Υπηρετήδες. Ο EHIC παρέχει επαρκή κοινωνική πρόνοια σε περίπτωση νάρκης ή αποχώρησης, και σε περίπτωση έλεγχου της διαφημιστικής ικανότητας.

Είναι παρόν σε όλους τους Κοινωνικούς Υπηρετήδες. Ο EHIC παρέχει επαρκή κοινωνική πρόνοια σε περίπτωση νάρκης ή αποχώρησης, και σε περίπτωση έλεγχου της διαφημιστικής ικανότητας.

Further Information:

https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=459&langId=el
Public education in Cyprus is compulsory and free of charge from the age of 4 years and 8 months, until the age of 15. Education is provided both by the state and private schools for all education levels, from pre-primary education until higher education and vocational education and training. The language of instruction in public schools is Greek and the schools conform to the Curriculum set out by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth. The academic year is divided for primary schools into three trimesters, while for secondary education schools into two 4-month terms. All schools remain closed during the Christmas and Easter vacation, as well as the summer vacation. Children must attend the public school closest to their place of residence, given that they enroll timely during the appropriate registration period. Alternatively, they may enroll at the closest school with availability of place. Primary, as well as secondary education students with a mother tongue other than Greek, are provided with extra linguistic support. These courses are free. English starts being taught at the 1st grade of primary school. Children may also attend a private school – the decision on whether to attend a public or a private school resides solely with the parents. There are no free tuition English school private schools in Cyprus. All private schools have tuition fees. Other than the English-speaking private schools, there are private schools in Cyprus that teach their curriculum in other languages as well (French, Russian, Arabic, etc.).

In its effort to provide education help to Cypriots living abroad, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth provides books and other educational material to schools of expatriate Cypriots and other Cypriot organisations abroad. The ministry also gives children from Cypriot communities overseas the chance to visit Cyprus and develops programs on the Greek language and Greek culture.

Secondary Education
Public secondary education comprises of two three-year cycles, Gymnasium (lower secondary) and Lyceum (higher secondary). Both cycles include courses that are offered in distinct subjects (Modern Greek, Mathematics, History, etc.), as well as secondary education students with a mother tongue other than Greek, are provided with extra linguistic support. These courses are free. English starts being taught at the 1st grade of primary school. Children may also attend a private school – the decision on whether to attend a public or a private school resides solely with the parents. There are no free tuition English school private schools in Cyprus. All private schools have tuition fees. Other than the English-speaking private schools, there are private schools in Cyprus that teach their curriculum in other languages as well (French, Russian, Arabic, etc.).

Lessons start every year on the fifth working day after the beginning of the school year, with the help of a diagnostic test. Those students that are entered into the transition classes, have for the duration of 2 years a modified curriculum that includes intensive classes of Greek as a second language with classes of History and Culture, 14 periods in total every week, and 5 periods of enhancement Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology as regards terminology and basic knowledge. Attendance of private schools of secondary education is also obligatory from the 1st grade of Gymnasium until the 3rd grade of Lyceum.

Note that...
Another point that is stressed is the fact students who wish to register in the Cyprus public schools from schools abroad have to mandatorily sit an examination to be graded, after a relevant notification to the District Education Offices (an exception to this rule regards students from schools in Greece, where the language of tuition is Greek). Students who do not exhibit a satisfactory command of the Greek language have the chance to enroll in special programs for learning the Greek language, including transition classes, where it is deemed necessary, in order to help their smooth integration into the educational system.

The level of Greek language knowledge is ascertained in the beginning of each school year, with the help of a diagnostic test. Those students that are entered into the transition classes, have for the duration of 2 years a modified curriculum that includes intensive classes of Greek as a second language with classes of History and Culture, 14 periods in total every week, and 5 periods of enhancement Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology as regards terminology and basic knowledge. Attendance of private schools of secondary education is also obligatory from the 1st grade of Gymnasium until the 3rd grade of Lyceum.

It should also be noted that the secondary education has promoted the institution of special interests’ schools by creating Sports and Music Gymnasiums and Lyceums, one in each city of the unoccupied areas of Cyprus.

Private Schools
Private Schools of a similar type: under this category fall schools that, besides other courses, teach essentially Greek culture.

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Higher Education

Public Universities

Prospective bachelor students are accepted in the public universities (University of Cyprus and Technological University) via the Pancypryan Examinations. All secondary education graduates have the right to participate in the examination regardless of their citizenship, as well as all overseas Cypriots from all over the world. Entrance to Master’s programs is through a selection process that is mainly based on academic achievement.

The Open University of Cyprus accepts entrance applications by prospective students online through its website. The selection process is based on an algorithm of applications by prospective students online through its website. The lists of approved by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth secondary education private schools and the equivalent private institutes that operate in Cyprus are accessible online.

Private Universities

All private universities in Cyprus have similar entrance policies regarding the entrance of prospective students. High academic achievement, ability to use computers and high level of English language knowledge are, among others, the basic criteria for private university entrance.

Frederick University

7, Y. Frederickou Str., Pallouriotissa, 1056 Nicosia, Cyprus
P.O. Box 24729, 1303 Nicosia, Cyprus
Telephone: +357 22 431555
Fax: +357 22 438234
E-mail: info@frederick.ac.cy
Website: www.frederick.ac.cy

E.U.C. European University – Cyprus

P.O.Box: 22006, 1516 Nicosia, Cyprus
Telephone: +357 22 625000
E-mail: adm@euc.ac.cy
Website: www.euc.ac.cy

University of Cyprus

University House “Anastasios G. Leventis”, P.O. Box 26057, 1678 Nicosia
Telephone: +357 22894000
E-mail: info@ucy.ac.cy
Website: www.ucy.ac.cy

University of Technology

P.O.Box: 50329, Lemesos, Cyprus
Telephone: +357 23 00 2500
Fax: +357 23 00 0270
E-mail: administration@cut.ac.cy
Website: www.cut.ac.cy

Neapolis University Pafos

Neapolis University Pafos, 2 Danais Avenue, 8042, Pafos, Cyprus
Telephone: +357 26 843500
Fax: +357 25 931944
E-mail: info@nup.ac.cy
Website: www.nup.ac.cy

Open University Cyprus

P.O.Box 12794, 2252, Nicosia, Cyprus
Telephone: +357 22 416000
Fax: +357 22 41601
E-mail: info@ouc.ac.cy
Website: www.ouc.ac.cy

University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN)

Telephone: +357 24 694000
Fax: +357 24 691200
E-mail: info@uclancyprus.ac.cy
Website: www.uclancyprus.ac.cy

Private Higher Education Institutions

In Cyprus, there are many registered, offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses, as well as shorter professional programs. These Higher education Institutions are:

1. A Aegean School of Fine and Applied Arts
2. Drama School Vladimiro Kafkarides
3. Church of Cyprus Theology School
4. A.C. American College
5. ACC Academy of Science
6. Alexander College (Larnaca, Pafos)
7. Arte Music Academy
8. Atlanticus College (Fatagusta)
9. Casa College
10. CBS – College of Business Studies
11. C.D.A. College (Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca, Pafos)
12. City Unity College Nicosia
13. College of Tourism & Hotel Management
14. Cyprus College (Nicosia, Limassol)
15. Cyprus International Institute of Management (Nicosia, Limassol)
16. Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine – The Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics
17. Frederick Institute of Technology (Nicosia, Limassol)
18. Global College
19. Institute of Professional Studies (IPS)
20. UCLan Cyprus
21. Intercollege (Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca)
22. InterNapa College
23. KES College
24. Larnaca College (Larnaca)
25. Ledra College
26. Mesoyios College (Limassol)
27. Neapolis College
28. P.A. College
29. Susini College (Nicosia, Limassol)
30. The CTL Euro College (Limassol)
31. The Cyprus Academy of Art
32. The Cyprus Institute
33. The Cyprus Institute of Marketing (Nicosia, Limassol)
34. The Limassol College - T.L.C. (Limassol)
35. The Philips College

Pupils with Migrant Background

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth aims at the smooth integration of pupils with migrant background into the Cyprus Educational System. In response to the demands of contemporary society and the changing social environment, the Ministry is promoting the implementation of differentiated educational measures and policies to assist in the smooth and effective integration of groups with different cultural and linguistic identities. Towards this end, the Ministry has developed an upgraded educational policy pertaining to Multicultural education, which focuses on five priority areas:

1. Learning the Greek language.
2. Reception of newly arrived children with migrant background.
3. Education and teachers’ in-service training.
4. Data collection and analysis of the needs of pupils with migrant background.
5. Intercultural approach in the new curricula.

The policy document also describes the current state of affairs regarding the integration of pupils with migrant background in the Cyprus Educational System, as well as the teaching of Greek as a second language.

Greek Language Learning for pupils with Migrant Background

When the children register in the primary school, they have the chance to enter several Greek language as a second language learning programs. Pupils who do not have satisfactory Greek language knowledge, have the chance to enter special Greek language learning programs, including transition classes, when it is deemed necessary for their smooth integration in the education system. Ascertainment any child’s Greek language knowledge takes place with the help of a diagnostic test at the beginning of the school year.

Further Information:

Website of Intercultural education:
The Adult Education Centers (A.E.C) of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth organize every year a short-term hospitality program for overseas Cypriot children. All groups are accompanied by a limited number of accompanying educators (one for approximately every ten children) who are also responsible for the pupils during their journey and stay in Cyprus. The aim of the Hospitality Program is to give the chance to children from Greece, Cypriot communities overseas, as well as to children from countries where Greek people are settled to visit and know Cyprus and its tourist attractions, its civilization and its culture, as well as the Cypriot hospitality.

Such a hospitality program may be implemented:
1. During an Educational Program (Spring / Autumn) - 5-day duration on Monday to Friday and it includes stay, alimentation and transportation from and to the airport. Two excursions are made to nearby destinations to get acquainted with important landmarks and tourist attractions of Cyprus (Holy Monastery of Panagia of Kykkos and the Marathasa-Kalopanagiotis valley, Aigos Ioannis Lambadistis, deposits of holy icons, experimental fish farm, Marathasa crops, etc.).
2. During the Summer Program (Summer): It usually has a 9 day duration and includes stay, alimentation and transportation from and to the airport. Two excursions are made to different cities of Cyprus (Nicosa and Limassol or Pafos) as well as an excursion to a nearby destination to get acquainted with important landmarks and tourist attractions of Cyprus.

Grants of the fees for children of repatriated Cypriots studying at private secondary schools:

The terms “Παππούδες” (Grandfathers) and “Εναντιαρχοί Σιχώρι” (Repatriated) for the purposes of the grants concerning the fees for children of repatriated Cypriots studying at private secondary education schools, refer to persons of Cypriot descent, from at least one of the two parents, who holds Cypriot nationality/citizenship and who previously settled in the Republic of Cyprus after a ten-year permanent continuous stay abroad. The provisions of the Decisions of the Council of Ministers, concerning the above institution, apply also to those whose mothers are Cypriot nationals, from the school year 2002-2003.

The institution covers a maximum of 150 pupils annually. The children of repatriated parents are entitled to an annual grant of €768,87 (seven hundred, sixty eight euro and eighty seven cents) - €450,00 (four hundred and fifty Cypriot pounds).

Specifically, they are eligible pupils who, on their arrival to Cyprus, immediately attended classes at the upper (lyceum) or lower (gymnasium) circle of Private Secondary Schools or at the 7th class of Primary Private Schools, registered at the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth. The enrolment in the 1st (A) class precludes the pupil of any grant.

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The interested applicants should request from the school the "Application of Allowance /Grant of the Fees of for Children of Repatriated Cypriots" studying at private secondary education school that submit it to the Headmaster of the school fully filled and signed. The application must be filed together with all necessary documents, including. Confirmation Certificate from the Embassy/Appropriate Authority of the Cyprus Republic resident at the overseas country confirming that the parent was permanently living abroad for ten continuous years before his/her repatriation. All applicants will be informed from the school accordingly, given the information from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth.
Special Education

Special needs children enjoy the same rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal footing with all the other children. According to their classified needs, the MoEC provides all children with special education, on the basis of individual education programs adapted to the individual needs of every child, in appropriately outfitted spaces.

The children and their families can also make use of sponsored means of transportation to schools outside their educational area. Furthermore, the MoEC takes all measures to secure accessibility also in the buildings (elevators, ramps, signs, etc.). At the same time, because of the use of new technologies in education, the Curriculum becomes accessible to special needs children through specialized technological equipment.

Also, the MoEC responds to the needs of the children for creative activities in the schools in the afternoon during the summer by extending the timetable of the special schools. This way the needs of the children and their families are served to the highest possible degree.

Public schools also take measures to secure the educational development of children in all aspects, especially as regards the psychological, social and educational aspect. Special needs children that have been deemed in need of special education are entitled of free of charge schooling in classes of run-of-the-mill schools outfitted in the appropriate manner and adapted to the special needs of the children and the individualized educational program they follow.

The following Special education Programs are in place in the Secondary Education level:
- Learning difficulties
- Special units
- Hearing-impaired
- Visually-impaired
- Home schooling

Also, in order to combat the functional illiteracy and prevent the resulting school and social exclusion, there is in place a Literacy Program. The content of the Program focuses on three basic skills – reading, writing, arithmetic – equivalent to the first three grades of primary school and at the same time adapted for the needs and experience of the Gymnasium student.

Further Information:
- Special Education Provision: www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/eidiki_agopi_ekpaidefsi.html
- Special education: www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/index.html
- Evaluation of Children by the District Committee of Special Education (E.E.E.A.E.) with the aim to provide Special Education: www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/axiologisi_paidion.html
- Parents’ rights: www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/dikaiomata_gonion.html
- Application submission by parents / guardians for copies of the personal files on their children: www.moec.gov.cy/exypiretisi_politi/index.html#eidiki
- Further information: www.moec.gov.cy/eidiki_ekpaidefsi/index.html
MILITARY SERVICE

Military service in Cyprus (According to the National Guard Law 2011)

All Cypriot male repatriates (18 to 45 years old), that have at least one parent of Cypriot descent, have the obligation to serve a military service in the National Guard.

All male repatriated Cypriots have lived abroad for more than 10 years (in one or more countries) are serving a reduced military service depending on their age at the time of their return and resettlement in Cyprus.

- Males over 26 will serve 3 months.
- Males between 18 and 26 will serve 6 months (According to the Article 21 (1) (b) (ii) (iii) and (d) (i) of the National Guard law of 2011).

The Conscription period for serving military service, takes place, from 2018 and forward, in the month July of every year. Since 2016, the duration of the military service is set to 14 months.

Male Cypriots that live permanently abroad (the conditions for someone to be a permanent resident abroad are explicitly mentioned in Article 2 (α) of the National Guard Law) and wish to repatriate in Cyprus are obligated to contact the Military Recruitment Office of the city of their residence or the Ministry of Defence, to fill the necessary forms for their registration in the military records.

Cypriots that live permanently abroad (as defined in Article 2 (α) of the National Guard Law), between 16 and 26 years of age, when visiting the Republic of Cyprus must obtain an exit permit from the Military Recruitment Offices or the Citizens’ Service Centres (ΚΕΠ) of their city of residence, before their departure.

The above process is not necessary if they have a permanent exception from serving Military Service. In this case the provided document of exception can be used as an exit permit from the Republic of Cyprus. A Cypriot that resides permanently abroad, can apply for a permanent exception from Military Service, if he’s over 18 years old, by providing a filled form and a certificate of his permanent residence abroad. Both can be provided to him by the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in the country he lives.

Note that...

- Cypriot citizens (men and women) can apply for employment in the National Guard if they meet the conditions for professional work set by the Ministry of Defence
- All Repatriated Cypriots receive allowance accordingly, as all Cypriot recruits do, when they are serving their military service, depending on their marital status. Specifically:
  - Married recruits (the spouse is considered a dependent member of the family) receive € 157 (basic) plus € 82,70 extra, per month
  - Recruits with two dependents receive € 157 (basic) plus €102,60 extra, per month.
  - Recruits with three dependents or more receive € 157 (basic) plus € 136,80 extra, per month

Further Information:

Ministry of Defense
Telephone: +357 22 807500
Fax: +357 22 676182 / +357 22 302021
Website: www.mod.gov.cy

Directorate of Recruitment of Armed Forces
Telephone: +357 22 417121
Fax: +357 22 375989
Website: http://www.army.gov.cy

Nicosia-Kyrenia-Morphou Army Recruitment Office
Telephone: +357 22 510260
Fax: +357 22 510262

Limassol Army Recruitment Office
Telephone: +357 25 342382
Fax: +357 25 351943

Larnaca-Famagusta Army Recruitment Office
Telephone: +357 24 625376
Fax: +357 26 653391

Pafos Army Recruitment Office
Telephone: +357 26 933270
Fax: +357 26 222035
Cypriot expatriates who wish to repatriate and work in Cyprus are encouraged to contact the Public Employment Services of the Department of Labour (Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Insurance), which helps people find suitable employment and provides guidance on the opportunities for training and participation in training / employment programs, through Offices in all regions of Cyprus.

Cypriot expatriates / repatriates are offered all the services and facilities necessary for their professional rehabilitation. They are offered personalized services at the Public Employment Service Offices by specialized Employment Consultants.

In the framework of the policy for supporting and encouraging repatriation and of informing expatriates on the labour market situation in Cyprus, the Department of Labour promotes the following:

- Provision of information to Cypriot expatriates by telephone, in writing or by e-mail, about the opportunities and terms of employment in Cyprus and the services provided by the Public Employment Services.
- Allows Cypriot expatriates, who are interested in settling in Cyprus and finding a job, to register with the Public Employment Services as job seekers. Expatriates who wish to do this fill in and submit the form "Application by Cypriots living abroad for employment in Cyprus" which can be obtained from the Diplomatic Representations of the Republic, from the Department of Labour or from the Department’s Website www.mlsi.gov.cy/dl ("Forms / Applications").

Note that...

Persons with special professional qualifications are subject to the Law for the Recognition of Vocational Qualifications for Occupational Professions.

Further Information:

Further information:
Telephone: +357 22 400845
E-mail: qualifications@dl.mlsi.gov.cy

Department of Labour
Address: 9 Klimentos Street, 1480 Nicosia.
Telephone: +357 22 400802, +357 22 400803
Fax: +357 22 400809
E-mail: director@dl.mlsi.gov.cy
Website: www.mlsi.gov.cy/dl

Websites with useful information on Cyprus employment issues:
- Online System for registering vacancies and seeking job positions - Public Employment Services - Department of Labour - www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy
- European Job Mobility Portal (EURES) - www.eures.europa.eu
- National Information Center on Education and Vocational Training - www.nrcg.dl.mlsi.gov.cy
- Department of Labour Relations - www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr
- Social Insurance Services - www.mlsi.gov.cy/sis

Websites with useful information on Cyprus employment issues

- Online System for registering vacancies and seeking job positions - Public Employment Services - Department of Labour - www.pescps.dl.mlsi.gov.cy
- European Job Mobility Portal (EURES) - www.eures.europa.eu
- National Information Center on Education and Vocational Training - www.nrcg.dl.mlsi.gov.cy
- Department of Labour Relations - www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr
- Social Insurance Services - www.mlsi.gov.cy/sis
The aim of the Industry and Technology Service is the upgrading of the competitiveness of enterprises mainly by improving their business environment, through innovation, simplification of procedures, access to finance for SMEs, the creation of appropriate infrastructures and information networks and the promotion of technology and digital actions.

The policies and actions are in line with the EU policies for enterprises and industry and the corresponding EU guidelines.

Main targets of the Industry and Technology Service:
- Strengthen industrial growth and competitiveness
- Technological development
- Promotion of innovation
- The development of entrepreneurship
- Providing finance for businesses
- Improvement of business environment
- Creation and management of industrial areas,
- Provision of information to potential investors and to businesses through the services of One Stop Shop and the Point of Single Contact
- Monitoring and coordinating the EU Internal Market and promoting opportunities for the business community
- Provision of information to citizens / businesses through the European networks Your Europe and IMI
- Operate the European SOLVIT Center
- Promotion of Electronic Commerce

The schemes aim to develop, support and encourage entrepreneurship by young people between the ages of 20-40 and women between the ages of 18-55, who wish to establish an enterprise in any economic activity except commerce. Emphasis is given in the development of new technologies, in the use of innovative methods of production and the promotion of products and services, in the development of business skills in the sector of environment and generally in the promotion of modern enterprising activities.

The eligible candidates must:
- Either be unemployed, employees or freelance professionals under specific contract.
- Had not had any previous business activity in any sector, for a period of 6 months before the date of submission of their proposal.
- Can only participate in only one proposal and their participation must equal a percentage of at least 75% of the share/corporate capital of the newly established company.
- Can only participate in only one proposal and their participation must equal a percentage of at least 75% of the share/corporate capital of the newly established company.

The grant is given as a percentage (50%) of the entire eligible investment with a maximum amount of €70,000 for the manufacturing sector and €50,000 for other sectors.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment is the Managing Authority of the RDP 2014-2020. The Competent Authority for the implementation of the Scheme is the Industry and Technology Department of the Ministry of Energy, Trade and Industry. The competent Authority for the payment of financial aid is the Cyprus Agricultural Payments Organization (CAPO).

Incentive Plan for the Investment Activity and Enhancing Competitiveness in the Wine Sector - Measure 3a

The Measure aims to encourage investment activity by providing support for tangible or intangible investments in processing facilities, wine-making and / or wine-making infrastructure, which improve the overall performance of enterprises and enhance competitiveness in the winemaking industry. The investee has to participate in at least 25% of the eligible costs, and to establish in areas controlled by the Cyprus Community.

Eligible are:
- Buildings / Extensions of buildings and premises
- New machinery and equipment
- Means of transport
- General expenses (Advisory fees for preparation of a study costs, patents and licenses / exploitation).

The maximum rate/percentage of aid is 40% of the eligible costs for Beneficiaries category A, 20% of the eligible costs for Beneficiaries category B and 15% of the eligible costs for the Beneficiaries category C.
The Scheme’s main objective is to promote deep energy renovation of existing households belonging to individuals who are permanent residents of the Republic of Cyprus. New businesses must be innovative and efficient in order to ensure their successful entry into the markets. This ultimately leads to an increase in the overall productivity of the economy, enhancing its competitiveness and its resilience to international developments.

To this end, the Ministry promotes a series of actions and initiatives focusing on the following key objectives:

1. Simplification of procedures
2. Facilitating access to finance
3. Providing incentives and facilities for access to the single market

Point of Single Contact (PSC) Cyprus

Within the scope of harmonization with the Services Directive, 2006/125/EC, the Ministry of Energy, Commerce, Industry, and Tourism has established the Point of Single Contact (PSC Cyprus) in order to facilitate the establishment of businesses in the services sector and the cross border provision of services from other EU Member States and EEA countries in the Republic of Cyprus.

The PSC Cyprus Portal (www.businessincyprus.gov.cy) is a benchmark as a source of information for services as it provides comprehensive information regarding the administrative procedures and formalities for access to the various services and professions falling within the scope of the Services Directive, including all horizontal procedures and formalities required for setting up a business in the Republic of Cyprus.

In parallel, through the PSC Cyprus Portal, online submission of application forms is available as well as the tracking of an on-going application/procedure, for a number of registrations/authorizations under the scope of the Services Directive with regards to: (a) the access to the single market and therefore eu laws governing the single market are applicable in those countries too. Its purpose, is to help: -for free- citizen and businesses when they exercise their right to move in the internal market and during this process their rights are denied by public authorities.

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Small Medium Enterprises’ and entrepreneurship

Small Medium Enterprises’ and entrepreneurship policy is a major priority of the government, as it has a crucial role the country’s economic activity and development. The growth of new businesses is seen as one of the main drivers of job creation and acceleration of economic activity while the development of new businesses based on knowledge, technological upgrading and innovation, strengthens the competitiveness of all enterprises in the country.

New businesses must be innovative and efficient in order to ensure their successful entry into the markets. This ultimately leads to an increase in the overall productivity of the economy, enhancing its competitiveness and its resilience to international developments.

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Solvit Network

Solvit is a network’s operating in 31 countries. 28 Ms plus Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway which are members of the EEA (European Economic Area) meaning they are part of the single market and therefore eu laws governing the single market are applicable in those countries too. Its purpose, is to help: -for free- citizen and businesses when they exercise their right to move in the internal market and during this process their rights are denied by public authorities.

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and exercise of service activities through an establishment of business (e.g. establishing and operating a Catering and Entertainment Establishment) and (b) the temporary provision of cross-border services (e.g. such as the ‘Temporary Provision of Tourist Guide Services’).

The Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver (Companies Section)

The Companies Section promotes the development and function of business activities. It is the competent authority in Cyprus for keeping a reliable register of all registered business entities.

The Companies Section is one of three sections at the Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver that operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry.

In the framework of modernization and restructuring of the Companies Section reforms are on the way that will further aid business activity to grow, will attract investments, will optimize service to the business world and will provide reliable information through the implementation of enhanced procedures that will be supported by modern technology.

Further information regarding the matters and services that the Companies Section manages can be found at the new Companies Section website: http://www.companies.gov.cy/gr that is planned to be in working order in the beginning of the second semester of 2019.

Further Information:

Address: Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver (D.R.C.O.R.) Makarios III Ave. and Karpenisiou, Xenios Court, 1427 Nicosia.

Telephone: +357 22 404301/2
Fax: +357 22 304887
E-mail: deptcomp@drcor.mcit.gov.cy
Website: www.mcit.gov.cy/drcor
The main goal of the Trade Service of the Ministry of Energy, Commerce & Industry is the enhancement of exports of goods and services and the penetration of Cypriot products and services into foreign markets as well as the promotion of Cyprus as an International Business Centre.

In order to achieve these goals, a targeted plan of action is implemented, which amongst others, includes promotional and marketing events, the participation in international overseas exhibitions, the organisation of business forums, advertising and market research surveys. The Trade Service is in close collaboration with the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI), the Employers and Industrialists Federation (EII), the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency (CIPA) and other associations and organisations both in Cyprus and overseas. At the same time the Trade Service has strong ties with the foreign diplomatic missions stationed in Cyprus, is following closely the global trade developments, and is participating in various working groups of the European Commission as well as other International organisations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the Organisation for the Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

In addition, the Ministry currently operates thirteen Trade Centres abroad. In Austria, France, Germany, Greece, United Arab Emirates, USA, United Kingdom, Iran, Israel, China, Lebanon, Poland and Russia. Their main responsibility is the promotion of exports of goods and services in overseas markets and the establishment of Cyprus as an international business centre. Moreover, in 2015 the Export Help Desk commenced its operation within the Ministry, its main task being the matchmaking between Cypriot and foreign companies.

Further Information:
Address: Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry, 6 Andreas Anouchos Street, 1421, Nicosia. Telephone: +357 22 867123 Fax: +357 22375120 E-mail: ts@mcit.gov.cy Website: www.mcit.gov.cy
SPORTS

Cyprus Sports Organization (CSO)

In 1969 was voted the legislation that created the Cyprus Sports Organization (CSO) as a semi-state owned organization. Its main goals are to develop out-of-school sports, coordinate the island’s sports’ world, cultivate the Olympic ideal and promote Cyprus in the international sports’ world.

The rapid development of Cyprus sports that followed soon afterwards was unseen before in Cyprus and it fashioned the foundation for the evolution of Cyprus sports. The “Sports for All” (AGO) program started and it mainly covered most of childrens’ ages.

Further Information:
Cyprus Sports Organization website: www.cyprussports.org

“Sports for All” (AGO) program

The program envisages the involvement of the majority of the Cyprus’ population with sports, so that all citizens, regardless of nationality, gender, age, social status, mental or physical state, educational level, physical integrity, financial status and social class will reap the benefits of exercise and have equal chance to exercise.

The AGO program employs professional trainers who are the locomotive behind the program and the most important factor of success or failure of our programs.

Programs for Children

These programs are aimed at 4–14 year-old children and are implemented in after-school hours.

- Contribute to the completion of the physical evolution of children through kinetic activities.
- Contribute to the formulation of the childrens’ personality.
- Contribute to the creation of sports’ spirit and athletic conscience.
- Help in the life of children, so that they may develop a healthy, friendly, athletic way of life.
- Aim at an educational level to the exercise of children as a complement to their education at school.

Programs for adults

Sports programs for men and women of all ages are offered. They are adapted to their needs and particularities giving them the chance through their involvement in sports to escape the anxiety and problems of everyday life.

Sports’ Program and Women – Men

The program covers large urban areas and it extends to rural centers as well.

Sports and elderly people

The program aims to continue the Physical activity during all ages. This program operates in cooperation with Municipalities and the corresponding Clubs of Elderly.

Further Information:
Further information: http://ago.org.cy/
Telephone number for AGO: +357 22 897000

Further Information:
Further information: http://ago.org.cy/
Telephone number for AGO: +357 22 897000

Note that...

In the framework of the “Sports for All” program are in place the following programs:
- Sports and Child
- Sports for All in pre-school education
- Specialized Programs
- Sports Program and Women – Men
- Sports and elderly people
- Program for People with Special Needs
- Exercise in Mental Health centers
- Child and Swimming
- Summer Sports Activities’ Program

It has the following benefits:
- Beneficial exploitation of free time.
- A means to improve physical health and mental balance.

Children and Swimming:

It takes place during May, June, and July and is expanded to all the cities and in the countryside.

Fan Card Registry

The Cyprus Sports’ Organization in accordance with the Law, when the All-Cyprus Premier League Championship 2018-2019 started, implemented the Fan Card registry and therefore, all Cypriots who love sports should register in order to have access to the stadiums where team sports take place.

Any person who wished to have access in tickets, must register in the Fan Card registry that is valid for all championship games of Premier League Team Sports (football, futsal, basketball, volleyball, handball).

Link for registration: https://theasis.cy.net/koa
RURAL AFFAIRS

Agriculture remains one of the vital sector of the Cyprus economy, despite steady decrease in the sector, due to the development of other sectors, such as tourism and services, but also due to the difficulties arising the last years because of the intensely competitive environment.

Rural Register for Farmers and Agricultural Holdings

This is the Register that maintains the data on the farmers and the agricultural holdings in accordance with the provisions of section 12 of Law 26(I)/2016. The ultimate objective is to register therein all farmers, professional or not and their agricultural holdings that comply with the conditions set out for registration therein, so that it can become the basic tool for the exercise of rural policy. In the Register can be entered persons who practice rural activities on a full or part-time scale.

The Register is separated in:
- Register Α – Farmers and Agricultural Holdings.
- Register B – Part-time Agricultural activity and Traditional professions.

Register A

Data on:
- Farmers that are employed exclusively in the production of agricultural and/or husbandry products or fisheries or fish-farming products.
- Those persons that it is certain that their permanent residence is in rural areas, in areas with an altitude over 390 meters and above and are partially employed in the production of agricultural and/or husbandry products or fisheries or fish-farming products.

Register B

Data on:
- Farmers that are not active exclusively in the sectors of plant and/or animal production that aim at the production of agricultural and/or husbandry products, but that it is certain that their permanent residence is in rural areas.
- Persons active in agro tourism, fisheries, fish-farming services and traditional products.

There are 23 categories (charts) to apply for the Register Registration applications are submitted solely electronically at the Department of Agriculture the through the Government Gateway Portal ARIADNE.

Further Information:

Website: www.moa.gov.cy/da
(subject matter Rural Register),
District Agricultural Offices and Farmers’ Service Centers (FSC).

Farmers’ Service Centers (FSC)

The FSC have been established in order to help the services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment respond to the needs of the rural areas’ inhabitants, make a reality the commitment for a decrease of red tape and increase to the effectiveness and efficiency of the Public Service.

Further Information:


BREXIT

At the European Council (Art.50) of 10 April 2019, the 27 remaining EU countries and the British government have decided to postpone once more the exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union until 31 October 2019 at the latest.

Further information for Cypriot citizens in the United Kingdom:

Further Information:
Website: www.moa.gov.cy/da
(subject matter Rural Register),
District Agricultural Offices and Farmers’ Service Centers (FSC).

Internet
At the www.cybc.com.cy website you can find the radio and TV shows of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation.

CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION (CYBC)

The action plan of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation (CyBC) for overseas Cypriots are the following:

- A weekly one hour TV show entitled «Οι Κύπριοι του κόσμου» (Cypriots around the world). It is shown every Saturday at 16.00 by CyBC1. It centers solely on diaspora Cypriots. Via the CyBC satellite channel, the show is broadcast to all continents and almost all the countries where Cypriot and Greek expatriates can be found. It functions as a platform and a communication bridge with Cypriot expatriates around the world and its subject matter is the life, activity and life’s journey of our expatriates.
- A weekly radio show entitled «Κύπρος Πατρίδα μου» (Cyprus, my home). It is a variable content show for expatriates, broadcast only from the CyBC website (www.cybc.com.cy).
- CyBC Third Program. Every night expatriate Cypriots are able to communicate via the phone in live late night shows of the Third Program of CyBC.
- The CyBC Third Program has live links with Greek radio stations, such as LGR-London Greek Radio and ANT1 FM New York.

Further Information:

Further Information:
Website: www.moa.gov.cy/da
(subject matter Rural Register),
District Agricultural Offices and Farmers’ Service Centers (FSC).

Internet
At the www.cybc.com.cy website you can find the radio and TV shows of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation.
Below you will find all the contact details of the Ministries, Deputy Ministries and Basic Services of the Republic of Cyprus.

Ministries / Ministries

**Ministry of Defense**
Address: Ministry of Defense, 4 Emmanuel Roide, 1432 Nicosia, Cyprus. Telephone: +357 22 807500
Website: http://www.mod.gov.cy

**Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment**
Address: Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, 6, Amphipolis Str., 2025, Strovolos, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Central E-mail: registry@moa.gov.cy
Contact telephones: +357 22 408300 / +357 22 408343
Website: http://www.moa.gov.cy

**Ministry of Justice and Public Order**
Address: Ministry of Justice and Public Order, 125th Athalassas Avenue, 1461 Strovolos, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 805950
Fax number: +357 22 518356
E-mail: registry@mjpo.gov.cy
Website: http://www.mjpo.gov.cy

**Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry**
Address (Main Building): Ministry of Energy, Commerce and Industry, Andreas Araouzou 6, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Postal mail: Ministry of Energy, Trade and Industry, CY-1421, Nicosia, Cyprus. Telephone: +357 22 867700
E-mail: registry@mcit.gov.cy
Website: http://www.mcit.gov.cy

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
Address: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1448 Presidential Palace Avenue, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 867100
Fax: +357 22 661881 / +357 22 665535 / +357 22 665778
E-mail: info@mfa.gov.cy
Website: www.mfa.gov.cy
Service Officer: +357 99 660129 (only in non-working hours).

**Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Insurance**
Address: Ministry of Labor, Welfare and Social Insurance, 7 Vyronos Avenue, 1463 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 401600
Fax number: +357 22 670993
E-mail: administration@mlsi.gov.cy
Website: http://www.mlsi.gov.cy

**Ministry of Interior**
Address: Ministry of Interior: Ministry of Interior - 1453, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 867 800
Fax number: +357 22 671465
E-mail: info@moi.gov.cy
Website: http://www.moi.gov.cy

**Ministry of Finance**
Address: Michail Karaoli & Grigoris Afxentiou Corner, 1439 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Call Center - Information: +357 22 602723
E-mail: registry@mof.gov.cy
Website: http://www.mof.gov.cy

**Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Youth**
Address: Corner of Kimonas and Thucydides, Acropolis, 1434 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 800600 / 700
E-mail: registry@moec.gov.cy / moec@moec.gov.cy
Website: http://www.moec.gov.cy

**Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works**
Address: Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works, Achaeon 28, 1424 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 800100
Fax: +357 22 776266
E-mail: permsec@mcw.gov.cy
Website: www.mcw.gov.cy

**Ministry of Health**
Address: 1, 17 Prodromou Street & 17, Chilonas Street, 1448 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Contact telephones: +357 22 605300 / 501
E-mail: perm.sec@moh.gov.cy
Website: www.moh.gov.cy

**Deputy Ministry of Maritime Affairs**
Address: Killini Street 4007, Mesa Gitonia, Limassol, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 25 848100
Fax number: +357 25 848200
E-mail: maritimeadmin@dms.gov.cy
Website: www.dms.gov.cy/www.shipping.gov.cy

**Deputy Ministry of Tourism**
Address: 19 Limassol Avenue, 2112 Aglantzia, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 691100
Fax: + 357 22 334696 / + 357 22 334696
E-mail: cytour@visitcyprus.com
Website: http://www.visitcyprus.com

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**Services**

**Cyprus Police**
Mail address: Police Headquarters, Evangelos Florakis Street, Nicosia, 1478, Cyprus.
E-mail: police@police.gov.cy
For any urgent situation requiring direct management, contact the Police Headquarters by telephone at 1460 or at +357 22 808080.
Fax: +357 22 808598
Website: www.police.gov.cy

**Cyprus Fire Service**
Mail Address: 12 Akadimias Street, 2330 Lakatamia, Nicosia.
Telephone: +357 22 802424
Fax: +357 22 802464
E-mail: cyprusfireservice@fs.gov.cy

**Port Authority**
Address: 5 Limassol Avenue, 2112 Nicosia, Mailbox 22007, 1516 Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 817200
Fax: +357 22 765420
E-mail: cpa@cpa.gov.cy
Website: https://www.cpa.gov.cy

**Ports**
New Port of Limassol
Old Port of Limassol
Larnaca
Paphos
Latchi
Terminal of Vasilikos
Press and Information Office
Address: Press and Information Office (PGI), 5-7 Apelli Street, T.T. 1080, Nicosia, Cyprus.
Telephone: +357 22 801180
E-mail: communications@pio.moi.gov.cy
Website: https://www.pio.gov.cy

Civil Defense
Address: John Kennedy 23, 1st Floor, 2314 Lakatamia, Nicosia.
Mail Address: Mailing Box: 23830, 1686 Floucose
Telephone: +357 22 403413
Fax: +357 22 315638
E-mail: g.d@cd.moi.gov.cy
Website: http://www.moi.gov.cy

Public Hospitals
- Nicosia Hospital
  Telephone: +357 22 603000
- Old Nicosia Hospital
  Telephone: +357 22 801400
- Archbishop Makarios III Hospital (Nicosia)
  Telephone: +357 22 455500
- Old Limassol General Hospital
  Telephone: +357 25 801100
- General Hospital of Limassol
  Telephone: +357 25 304532
- General Hospital of Larnaca
  Telephone: +357 24 800500
- General Hospital of Pafos
  Telephone: +357 26 803100
- General Famagusta Hospital (Paralimni)
  Telephone: +357 23 200000
- Kyparousa Regional Hospital
  Telephone: +357 25532021
- Polis Chrysochous Hospital
  Telephone: +357 26 321431

Ambulance Service
The ambulance calls are received by telephone through the following procedures:
- Police Call Control Center: Calls are made to phones 199 or 112 and from there they are forwarded to the Ambulance Call Coordinating Center. Directly to the Ambulance Call Coordinating Center at: +357 22 887171.
- Through the Zoom-Cyprus application.

Airports
Larnaca International Airport
Address: Larnaca International Airport, Post Office 43027 Post Office. 6650 Larnaca, Cyprus.
Phone number: 77778833 (local calls only) +357 25 123022 (international calls only).
Fax: + 357 26 007100
E-mail: info@hermesairports.com / customerservices@hermesairports.com
Website: https://el.hermesairports.com/while-at-the-airport/larnaka/airport-services

Pafos International Airport
Address: Pafos International Airport Mailbox 62320 Postal Code. 8063 Pafos, Cyprus.
Telephone: 77778833 (local calls only) +357 26 123022 (international calls only).
Fax: + 357 26 007100
E-mail: info@hermesairports.com / customerservices@hermesairports.com
Website: https://el.hermesairports.com/while-at-the-airport/paphos/airport-services

Central Bank of Cyprus
Address: 80 John T. Kennedy Avenue, 1076 Nicosia or T.G. 25529, 1356 Nicosia.
Telephone: +357 22 714100
Fax: +357 22 71959
Website: https://www.centralbank.cy