



# Applying for Licenses & Permits in Georgia

In Georgia's role as a regional hub and transit country, the ability to register for businesses and apply for licenses and permits quickly and without bureaucratic delays continues to be an essential component of attracting foreign investment.

## *IN BRIEF*

- Simplified procedures, with statutory time limits.
- "Silence is Consent" prevents bureaucratic delays.
- Required licenses & permits reduced by 84%.

## **LAW ON LICENSES & PERMITS**

The 2005 Law of Georgia on Licenses and Permits dramatically simplified licensing and permitting requirements to ease constraints on business. The total number of licenses and permits was reduced by 84%, in reforms that eliminated 756 licenses and permits and streamlined procedures. Many licenses were shifted to pure informational obligations, whereby a business can start operations and simply inform the authorities. Only 86 licenses and 50 permits now exist. Licenses and permits can only be required for:

- Safety and health protection
- Security of living conditions and cultural environment of individuals.
- Protection of state and public interests.

## **KEY BENEFITS OF NEW LAW**

From 2004-2005, the Georgian government implemented a number of reforms that improved the business climate and encouraged foreign investment. In Georgia's role as a regional hub and transit country, the ability to register for businesses and apply for licenses and permits quickly and without bureaucratic delays continues to be an essential component of attracting foreign investment.

Highlights of the reforms are below:

- **ONE-STOP SHOP PRINCIPLE** – the issuing agency is responsible for collecting all relevant information from different government agencies.
- **STATUTORY TIME LIMITS** – the following statutory time limits are imposed: 30 days after filing an application for a decision on granting a license and 20 days after filing an application for issuing a permit.
- **"SILENCE-IS-CONSENT" RULE** – if the agency fails to respond within defined statutory time limits, the license or permit is automatically granted.
- **"UMBRELLA PRINCIPLE"** – general and special licenses are introduced and holder of a general license is not required to apply for a specialized license.

## EXAMPLES OF REQUIRED LICENSES, PERMITS & REGULATORS

There are 86 licenses and 50 permits required for various activities, with some examples below.

Ministry of Environment	Ministry of Healthcare	National Bank of Georgia	Georgian National Communications Commission	Energy Regulatory Commission	Oil & Gas Regulatory Agency
Mining & Excavation	Primary Care Medical Facilities	Commercial Banking	Radio Frequency Usage	Electricity Generation	Oil & Gas Exploration
Underground Storage	Specialized Care Facilities & Clinics	Non-Bank Credit & Deposit Activities	Numbering Sources Usage	Electricity Transmission	Oil & Gas Production
Forestry & Timber	Medical Research Laboratories	Brokerage & Asset Management Firms	Private & Community Broadcasting	Electricity Dispatching & Distribution	Oil & Gas Processing

## REGULATORS CONTACT INFORMATION

Firms requiring a License or Permit to establish or operate their business activities should apply directly to the supervising regulator. A complete list of regulators and contact information is available below:

### Ministry of Agriculture

6 Gelovani Ave.nue, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 378009  
Fax: (+995 32) 378013  
<http://www.maf.ge>

### Ministry of Environment

6 G. Gulua Street, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 727224/727234  
Fax: (+995 32) 727234  
<http://www.moe.gov.ge>

### Ministry of Justice

24 Gorgasali Street, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 405202  
<http://www.justice.gov.ge>

### Ministry of Education and Science

52 Dimitri Uznadze Street, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 318940  
<http://www.mes.gov.ge>

### Ministry of Labor, Health & Social Affairs

30 K. Gamsakhurdia Avenue, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 221235/387071  
Fax: (+995 32) 770086  
<http://www.healthministry.ge>

### National Bank of Georgia

3/5 Leonidze Street, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 406544  
Fax: (+995 32) 406577  
<http://www.nbg.gov.ge>

### Georgian National Communications Commission

Ketevan Tsamebuli Ave/Bochorma St 50/18, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 921667  
Fax: (+995 32) 921625  
<http://www.gncc.ge>

### Georgia National Energy & Water Supply Regulatory Commission

26 Chechelashvili Street, Kutaisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 231) 4-42-81/4-42-92/4-42-94  
Fax: (+995 231) 4-42-02  
<http://www.gnerc.org>

### State Agency for Regulation of Oil & Gas Resources of Georgia

45 Kazbegi Avenue, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 253399/253300/253311  
Fax : (+995 32) 253311.  
<http://www.sarogr.ge>

### Civil Aviation Administration of Georgia

12, Kazbegi Avenue, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 933092  
Fax: (+995 32) 9977480  
<http://www.gcaa.org.ge/>

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

#### GEORGIAN NATIONAL INVESTMENT AGENCY

Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia  
12 Chanturia St. 0108 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 433 433  
Email: [info@investinggeorgia.org](mailto:info@investinggeorgia.org)  
[www.investinggeorgia.org](http://www.investinggeorgia.org)

#### NATIONAL AGENCY OF PUBLIC REGISTRY

Ministry of Justice of Georgia  
2 N. Chkheidze St., 0102, Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel: (+995 32) 282 828  
Email: [info@napr.gov.ge](mailto:info@napr.gov.ge)  
[www.reestri.gov.ge](http://www.reestri.gov.ge)