



AB Elite Services Limited

Client Guide: Biometric Passport Registration

St. Kitts & Nevis Citizenship by Investment — 2026 Update

This guide consolidates the key processing steps, expected timelines, biometric enrolment requirements, and document checklist into a clear client-facing reference. It is designed to help you understand what is required, what to prepare, and where delays commonly occur.

Key Requirement

Mandatory biometric enrolment — including fingerprints and facial scans — before final passport issuance.

Who It Applies To

All applicants and qualifying dependants. Interviews are required for applicants and dependants aged 16 and over.

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What Has Changed: Biometric Passport Registration

 2026 PROTOCOL UPDATE

As part of the 2026 processing protocol, final passport issuance now includes a mandatory biometric enrolment step. Applicants should expect to complete biometric capture — including fingerprints and facial scans — after approval-in-principle and investment completion, before receiving the final biometric E-Passport.

Biometric Enrolment is Mandatory

The biometric process must be treated as a required final-stage compliance step, not as an optional appointment. It cannot be skipped or deferred.

Plan Ahead to Avoid Delays

Missing documents, incomplete source-of-funds evidence, or failure to disclose previous visa refusals may create administrative delays at any stage of the process.


Final Output: Biometric E-Passport

Upon successful completion of all stages, applicants receive a Certificate of Registration and a final biometric E-Passport issued by St. Kitts & Nevis.

Application Process: Step-by-Step Overview

The following table outlines each stage of the citizenship by investment application process, including expected timing and the key actions required from the client at each step.

Step	Stage	Expected Timing	Client Action / Notes
1	Preparation & Pre-Screening	Weeks 1–6	Authorised agent engagement; initial KYC background checks; collection, certification, and apostilling of essential civil documents.
2	Submission & Initial Review	Weeks 1–2	Application submission to the CIU and payment of due diligence fees. Current guide notes US\$10,000 for the main applicant.
3	Enhanced Due Diligence & Mandatory Interview	Months 4–6	Independent background investigations by global firms. Interviews are mandatory for all applicants and dependants aged 16+.
4	Approval-in-Principle	After review	Conditional approval is issued by the Unit once the application clears the relevant review stages.
5	Investment Completion	Within 90 days	Transfer of qualifying funds under the selected pathway: SISC, Real Estate, Private Real Estate, or Public Benefit Option.
6	Biometric Enrolment & Issuance	Weeks 1–4	Mandatory biometric enrolment including fingerprints and facial scans, followed by Certificate of Registration and final biometric E-Passport issuance.

 Timelines are indicative and may vary depending on applicant profile, document quality, due diligence findings, external government processing, and CIU regulatory updates.



Investment Completion Before Final Issuance

After approval-in-principle, the applicant must complete the qualifying investment before the final registration and passport issuance stage. The 2026 briefing materials identify the following minimum investment thresholds:

Sustainable Island State Contribution (SISC)

\$250,000 minimum

Single applicant or family of up to 4.

Approved Developer Real Estate

\$325,000 minimum

Minimum 7-year holding period required.

Private Real Estate

\$600,000 minimum

Single-family private residence.

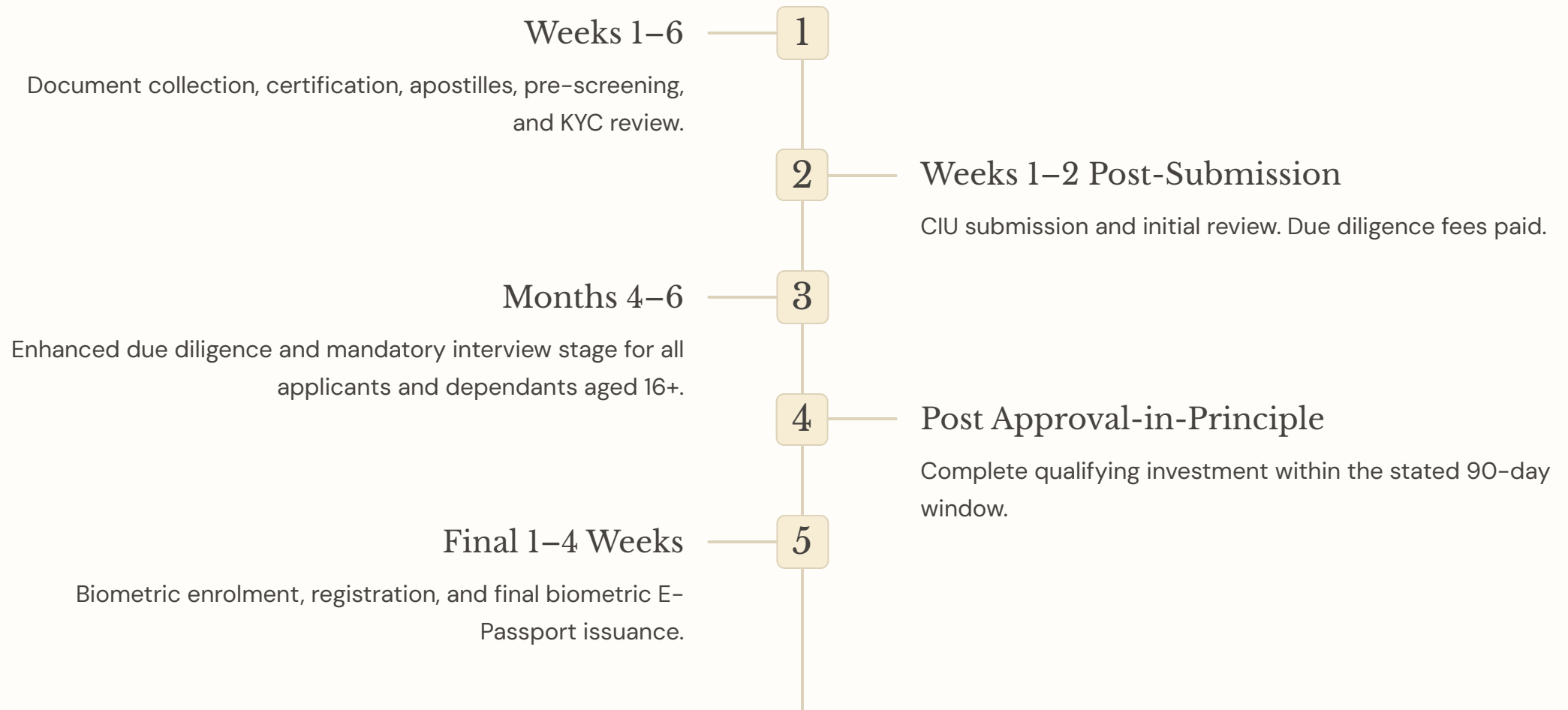
Public Benefit Option

\$250,000 minimum

Approved infrastructure projects.

Client Timeline Snapshot

Use this timeline as a planning reference. Clients should begin gathering documents early — particularly those with validity windows or requiring certification and apostille.



i Clients should begin gathering police certificates, bank and professional references, source-of-funds evidence, and documents requiring certification or apostille as early as possible.

Required Documents: Each Applicant, Including Children

The following checklist consolidates the core forms and supporting documents required from each applicant. Documents must be complete, legible, properly certified where required, and translated by a professional translator where applicable.

Government Forms

- General Government Form (Form C1)
- Photograph and Signature Certificate (Form C2)
- Medical Certificate (Form C3), including original HIV test results no older than 3 months
- Investment Confirmation Form (Form C4) – If applying under the Sustainable Island State Contribution
- Public Benefit Option Purchase Agreement – If applying under the Public Benefit Option

Identity & Civil Documents

- Certified copy of current passport(s) showing name, photo, citizenship/nationality, date and place of issue, expiry date, passport number, issuing country, and signature
- Certified copy of current national identity card(s)
- Original excerpt of full birth record or certified copy of full birth certificate showing parent details
- Original police certificate(s) from country of citizenship and from any country where the applicant lived for more than 1 year during the past 10 years – must be less than 6 months old at time of lodging
- Proof of full-time attendance at a recognised secondary or tertiary institution, where applicable
- Certified copy of military records, if applicable
- Certified proof of name change, if applicable (deed poll, statutory declaration, adoption papers, or other supporting evidence)

Passport Photo Requirements



Specifications

- 6 original passport-size photos taken within the past 6 months
- Full front close-up view of head and shoulders; head covering approximately 70%–80% of the photograph
- Ears and hairline must be clearly visible
- Plain, light-coloured background; clear, sharp, in focus; good quality colour on high-quality paper
- Approximate size: 35 x 45 mm

Expression & Appearance

- Neutral expression, mouth closed, looking straight at the camera
- Eyes open, no hair in eyes, no head covering unless permitted
- No sunglasses; tinted prescription glasses may be worn only if the eyes remain clearly visible

☐ Photos must match in all aspects. One photo must be certified and attached to Form C2.

Documents Required from the Main Applicant & Conditional Documents

Required Once from the Main Applicant

- Investment Confirmation (Form C4), where applicable
- Escrow Agreement and confirmation that funds have been deposited in escrow, where applicable
- Copies of duly executed contracts or agreements, including Purchase and Sale Agreement, where applicable
- Evidence of title transfer if closing on property has already taken place
- Proof of funds, including 12-month bank statements and any supporting financial statements required
- Original bank reference letter issued by an internationally recognised bank, not older than 6 months
- Original professional reference (attorney, notary public, chartered accountant, or similar), not older than 6 months
- Original document evidencing residential address (certified utility bill, tenancy agreement, official confirmation of residence, or real estate title deed)

Required Only If Applicable

- Original excerpt of marriage record or certified copy of marriage certificate if married persons apply together
- Certified copy of divorce documents, if applicable
- For a dependant child in full-time attendance at a recognised secondary or tertiary institution: affidavit or statutory declaration confirming the child is unable to financially support himself/herself and has depended on the main applicant since before age 18
- For a physically or mentally challenged dependant child: affidavit or statutory declaration confirming the child is unable to financially support himself/herself and has depended on the main applicant for financial and other support since before age 18

How AB Elite Services Supports Clients

AB Elite Services acts as your dedicated guide throughout the entire citizenship by investment process – from initial briefing through to final passport issuance.



Client Briefing

Comprehensive briefing on the biometric passport registration requirement and full process expectations from start to finish.



Pre-Screening & Document Review

Thorough review of all documents before submission to identify gaps, validity issues, or certification requirements.



Certification & Apostille Guidance

Expert guidance on certification, apostille, translation, and document validity windows to ensure compliance.



Submission & Milestone Updates

Coordination of application submission and regular communication of key milestone updates throughout the process.



Interview Preparation

Dedicated support in preparing clients and qualifying dependants for the mandatory interview stage.



Biometric Enrolment Guidance

Step-by-step guidance on final-stage biometric enrolment, registration, and passport issuance procedures.

Delay Prevention Checklist

The following risk areas are the most common sources of delays in the citizenship by investment process. Addressing each proactively will help ensure a smooth and timely application.



Source of Funds

Provide a complete, well-organised history of capital origins and supporting financial documents. Incomplete or unclear source-of-funds evidence is one of the most common causes of delay.



Previous Visa Denials

Disclose prior denials or immigration issues fully and accurately. Non-disclosure can cause immediate and significant delays to the application.



Document Validity

Track expiry dates carefully for HIV results, police certificates, bank references, and professional references. Expired documents will require replacement before submission.




Translations

Ensure all required translations are completed and certified by professional translators. Uncertified or incomplete translations will not be accepted.



Biometric Appointment

Treat biometric enrolment as a mandatory final step. Prepare all identification documents in advance and attend the appointment as scheduled.

 This brochure is for informational guidance only and does not replace official instructions from the St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Unit, legal advice, or applicant-specific due diligence review. Requirements, forms, fees, biometric procedures, and timelines may change without notice.