

# VAT alert | Ministry of Finance to stagger VAT registration

28 November 2018 | Kingdom of Bahrain



## Bahrain to stagger registration of Bahrain businesses

Bahrain's Ministry of Finance has announced – through its Instagram page – that it is staggering the registration of Bahrain's businesses for VAT. While the National Bureau of Gulf Taxation (NBGT) continues to circulate a series of questionnaires to help determine which businesses need to be prioritised before VAT is implemented on 1 January 2019, we understand that - in the initial stage - only businesses with revenues over BD5m will need to register for VAT. These businesses must submit their registration before 20 December 2018. There has been no announcement on when businesses below the BD5m threshold will need to register for VAT.

The Instagram account also said that MoF will host meetings for companies and traders about VAT and the readiness of companies and that 94 basic food items - as well as other basic services such as education and health – have been zero-rated. The post also indicates that implementing regulations – once released – will set out procedures for calculating, paying and collecting VAT. The NBGT will be responsible for managing and collecting all types of taxes and related fines.

Meanwhile, the Arabic version of the Bahrain VAT law and Keypoint's unofficial translation of Bahrain's VAT law can be found on our website – [www.keypoint.com](http://www.keypoint.com).

With around 20 working days left until VAT is implemented in Bahrain, there is limited time to ensure your people, systems and organisation are prepared for one of the most significant economic changes in Bahrain in living memory.

For more details on this or other VAT issues, contact a member of Bahrain's leading VAT specialist team:

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