

# **MSME Amnesty Guide Booklet**

## ***About the MSME Amnesty Programme***

The *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Amnesty Programme*, offers an opportunity for MSMEs conducting business in Belize, to formalise their status with the Belize Tax Service (BTS).

Upon successful registration, MSMEs will qualify for business tax exemption for a period of one year from the date of issue of the Amnesty Certificate and will not be liable any accrued penalties or interest related to business tax obligations.

### ***Benefits:***

- One Year Exemption from the payment of business tax from the date of issue of the Amnesty Certificate
- Waiver of accrued business tax interest
- Waiver of accrued tax penalty
- Eligibility to participate in Government of Belize tenders
- Eligible for Fiscal Incentives
- Improved public and private collaboration
- Eligibility to participate in other MSME initiatives funded by GOB

### ***Application Process:***

#### ***Step 1: Eligibility***

1. Eligible businesses and companies\* will be able to register with BTS without incurring any accrued tax penalties, or interest related to business tax obligations.
2. To qualify for the MSME Amnesty Programme, your business or company must meet two out of three of the criteria (employees, annual sales, total assets) of the MSME definition below:

Indicator	Employees	Annual Sales	Total Assets
Micro	< 10	<\$200,000	<\$200,000
Small	10-49	\$200,000- < \$6 million	\$200,000- < \$6 million
Medium	50-300	\$6 million - \$30 million	\$6 million - \$30 million

*Source: Fiscal Incentive Act, Section 18: Fiscal Incentives for MSMEs not registered prior to Act*

### ***Step 2: Registration under MSME Amnesty Programme***

1. Visit Small Business Development Center at BELTRAIDE for assistance with:
  - a. Registration of your company as a business name under the Business Names Act, Chapter 247, ([Belize Companies & Corporate Affairs Registry \(bccar.bz\)](http://bccar.bz));
  - b. Registration with the BTS ([Register User Account Belize Tax Service \(bts.gov.bz\)](http://bts.gov.bz))
  - c. Submission of completed Advising Request Form
  - d. Submission of completed MSME Amnesty Application Form (<https://forms.gle/wndKHJbxRztPypalA>)



2. MSME application form must be accompanied by:
  - a. Copy of a valid identification (Passport or Social security card)
  - b. Copy of rental receipt/land title/written permission to occupy
  - c. Proof of submission of application for a Trade License, (*if applicable*)
  - d. BELTRAIDE/SBDC issued MSME client ID
3. Interested MSMEs must complete and submit an application form on or before **October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

### ***Step 3: Collect your MSME Amnesty Certificate***

1. After seven (7) days of completion of step 2, your MSME Amnesty Certificate will be issued.
2. Proceed to the BTS for verification of waiver and one (1) year exemption.

**\*Companies that conduct activities listed below shall not be eligible under the MSME Amnesty Programme.**

1. A bar that is not an ancillary to a hotel
2. Gaming and Lotteries
3. Retail or Wholesale of Imported Goods or Services
4. Real Estate
5. Professional and Consultancy Services that are not Global Digital Services
6. Financial or Money Lending Services
7. Import, Retail, or Wholesale of Petroleum-Based Products
8. Restaurant that is not an ancillary to a hotel
9. Construction and Masonry
10. Rental of Real Estate or Goods not including hotels or auto rental services
11. Production or Sale of any Service or Good or Prohibited by any Law
12. Entertainment Promotion Services, excluding Promotion of Local Artists or Entertainers
13. Auto Rental Services

*Source: Fiscal Incentive Act, Schedule II: MSME negative list of activities*