



Reminder to submit your Unique Identification Numbers to Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies

The time period granted by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka for Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies to mandatorily record the Unique Identification Numbers of their existing depositors in terms of Operating Instructions issued under the Banking (Special Provisions) Act, No. 17 of 2023, will expire on 31.12.2024.

All individuals and entities who have not yet obtained the required identification documents (primarily the National Identity Card for individuals) or completed registration with the relevant registration body, as outlined in the table below, are advised to urgently obtain their identification documents or registration documents and provide their identification numbers to the applicable Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies before 31.12.2024.

It is emphasized that failure to record the specified unique identification number, or the use of alternative identification numbers, may result in delays, inconvenience or even an inability to claim compensation under the Sri Lanka Deposit Insurance Scheme, in the event of the cancellation of a licence issued to a Licensed Bank or a Licensed Finance Company in which you have deposited your money.

The mandatory unique identification numbers that depositors are required to provide when opening or maintaining deposit accounts with Licensed Banks and Licensed Finance Companies are as follows:

	Type of Depositor	Type of Identification Document/Number to be Produced
1.	Individuals	
1.1	Sri Lankan citizens	National Identity Card (NIC) and NIC Number <i>Alternative documents</i> <i>Licensed banks and licensed finance companies can use a depositor's driving licence or passport, which includes the NIC number, to open accounts. However, it is mandatory for these institutions to record the NIC number as the unique identification number of the depositor.</i>
1.2	Sri Lankan Citizen (residing outside Sri Lanka/ Permanent Resident holders/Temporary Resident holders), Sri Lankan Dual Citizens (residing in or outside Sri Lanka)	NIC and NIC Number <i>Exceptional circumstances</i> <i>The Sri Lankan Passport Number can be used only in the following instances when the NIC is not available,</i> (a) <i>the NIC has been temporarily surrendered by a depositor</i> (b) <i>a Sri Lankan is living overseas</i> (c) <i>the depositor left Sri Lanka prior to becoming a major and does not have an NIC</i> <i>In such scenarios, depositors are instructed to obtain their NICs as early as possible and update the same in the systems of licensed banks and licensed finance companies</i>
1.3	Non-Sri Lankan citizens Includes - Foreign Nationals of Sri Lankan origin (residing outside Sri Lanka), Foreign Nationals on temporary visit to Sri Lanka or intending to visit Sri Lanka and Foreign Diplomats.	Foreign Passport and Passport Number
1.4	Minor Depositors (until obtaining the NIC)	Birth Certificate: <i>To record the Date of Birth followed by the Birth Certificate Number as the identification number until obtaining the NIC</i>
2.	Institutions	
2.1	Companies registered under the Companies Act	Company Registration Certificate and Company Registration Number
2.2	Non-Governmental Organizations	Registration Certificate issued by the National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations and relevant Registration Number
2.3	Institutions registered under divisional/local government bodies such as Proprietorships/ Partnerships/Joint Ventures, etc.	Business Registration Certificate and Business Registration Number
2.4	An entity incorporated by an Act of Parliament	A copy of the initial Act of Parliament: <i>To record the initial Act Number followed by Year of Incorporation</i>
2.5	All other entities such as Clubs, Associations, Societies, etc.	Registration Certificate obtained from the relevant Authorities and relevant Registration Number. <i>Alternative for unregistered entities</i> <i>Identification number obtained under the International Transaction Reporting System through a licensed bank is permitted to be recorded as the unique identification number for that specific entity.</i>