

REDUCTION OF CONDITIONAL BUSINESS LINES IN VIETNAM FROM JULY 2026

Vietnam has recently reformed its list of conditional business lines, effective from 1 July 2026. This reform is part of the Government's broader efforts to simplify market entry, reduce certain licensing and compliance burdens, and create a more business-friendly regulatory environment for investors and enterprises.

1. WHAT ARE CONDITIONAL BUSINESS LINES IN VIETNAM?

In Vietnam, conditional business lines refer to sectors where enterprises and investors must meet specific statutory requirements before or during their business operations. Such requirements commonly take the form of sub-licences, certificates of eligibility, professional qualifications, minimum capital thresholds, or other sector-specific approvals.

The governing framework for these conditional sectors is set out primarily in [Appendix IV of the Law on Investment 2025](#).

2. WHAT CHANGES APPLY FROM 1 JULY 2026?

Pursuant to Resolution No. 66.17/2026/NQ-CP on the reduction and amendment of conditional business lines ("**Resolution 66.17**"), which took effect on **1 July 2026**, the total number of conditional business lines has been **reduced from 198 to 142**. This adjustment reflects a combination of changes, including the removal, consolidation, and amendment of certain conditional business lines.

Some notable business lines removed from the list include:

- Accounting services
- Alcoholic beverage business
- Sea transport business
- Waterway transport business
- Foreign exchange services provided by non-credit institutions
- Trading in audio and video recordings of music, dance, and stage performances
- Gas trading
- Occupational safety and hygiene training services
- Domain name registration and maintenance service business
- Information content services provided through telecommunications networks and the internet

- Publication distribution service business
- Construction inspection practice

From a business perspective, this change may help reduce certain market-entry barriers and compliance costs for enterprises operating in affected sectors. It may also provide more flexibility for investors, including foreign investors, when considering business opportunities in Vietnam.

For ease as reference, please see the full updated list of **142 conditional business lines** (see below).

3. PRACTICAL NOTE FOR INVESTORS:

Firstly, Investors should not assume that the removal of a business line from the list of conditional business lines automatically eliminates all related regulatory obligations. Investors currently operating in, or planning to invest in, any of the business lines removed from the conditional list should further assess whether other regulatory requirements may still apply, such as technical standards, industry-specific regulations, product quality requirements, environmental, labor, tax, or other post-licensing compliance obligations.

Secondly, Resolution 66.17 is set to remain in effect **until 28 February 2027**. Investors should factor this timeframe into their long-term business plans and continue to monitor official guidance from the relevant authorities.

4. CONCLUSION:

The reduction and amendment of conditional business lines under Resolution 66.17 mark an important step in Vietnam's ongoing efforts to simplify investment and business conditions. While the reform may create more flexibility for enterprises and investors, it should be assessed carefully in practice, as other regulatory, sector-specific, and foreign investment requirements may still apply.

As Resolution 66.17 currently applies until 28 February 2027, we will continue to monitor further developments and provide updates as official guidance becomes available. Should you have any questions on how this reform may affect your specific business activities in Vietnam, please do not hesitate to contact us.

LIST OF CONDITIONAL BUSINESS LINES

(Attached to Resolution No. 66.17/2026/NQ-CP dated 15 May 2026 of the Government)

No.	Business line
1	Production of seals
2	Trading of support tools (including repair)
3	Trading of fireworks, except explosive fireworks
4	Trading in camouflage equipment and software used for recording sound, recording video, and positioning, and equipment causing interference and disrupting mobile communications
5	Trading of military uniforms and equipment for the armed forces, military-use weapons, specialized military and police equipment, techniques, armaments and vehicles; components, spare parts, accessories, materials and specialized equipment, and specialized technology for their manufacture
6	Pawnshop business services
7	Massage services
8	Security services
9	Legal practice
10	Notarial practice
11	Practice of judicial expertise
12	Audit services
13	Trading in bonded warehouses and retail goods collection locations
14	Customs clearance location, consolidation and customs inspection and supervision point business
15	Securities Business
16	Securities depository, clearing and settlement services; support services for trading on domestic carbon exchanges
17	Insurance business operations (excluding ancillary insurance services)
18	Price appraisal service business
19	Lottery business
20	Gaming business with prizes (including electronic games with prizes for foreigners, casinos and betting)
21	Credit rating services
22	Voluntary pension fund management services
23	Petroleum (gasoline and oil) trading
24	Industrial explosives trading (including disposal activities)

25	Explosive precursors trading
26	Business in sectors using industrial explosives and explosive precursors
27	Blasting services
28	Production and trading of chemicals, except chemicals on the list of prohibited chemicals and minerals specified in Appendix II issued with the Law on Investment No. 143/2025/QH15; chemical storage services; specialized chemical consultancy activities
29	Trading of tobacco products, raw tobacco materials, tobacco sector machinery and equipment, except electronic cigarettes and heated tobacco products
30	Trading of food products under the specialized management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and the Ministry of Health
31	Operations of the Commodity Exchange
32	Power generation, transmission, distribution, wholesale and retail activities
33	Rice export
34	Industrial precursor chemicals trading
35	Purchase and sale of goods and activities directly related to the purchase and sale of goods by foreign service providers in Vietnam
36	Multi-level marketing (MLM) business
37	E-commerce activities: management and operation of intermediary e-commerce platforms, social media platforms conducting e-commerce, and integrated e-commerce platforms; authentication of electronic contracts in commercial transactions
38	Oil and gas activities
39	Vocational education activities
40	Vocational skills assessment services
41	Occupational safety technical inspection services
42	Services for sending workers abroad
43	Voluntary drug rehabilitation services
44	Road transport business
45	Motor vehicle manufacturing, assembly and import
46	Motor vehicle inspection services
47	Driver training services
48	Driver licensing examination services
49	Road safety audit services
50	Training services for inland waterway vessel crew and operators
51	Maritime seafarer training and manning services

52	Aviation transport business
53	Design, manufacture, maintenance and testing services for aircraft, aircraft engines, aircraft propellers and aircraft equipment in Vietnam
54	Import, temporary import for re-export, and temporary export for re-import of unmanned aircraft (drones) and other aerial vehicles, aircraft engines, aircraft propellers, and equipment and devices of unmanned aircraft and other aerial vehicles
55	Research, manufacture, testing, repair and maintenance of unmanned aircraft and other aerial vehicles, aircraft engines, aircraft propellers, and equipment and devices of unmanned aircraft and other aerial vehicles
56	Airport business
57	Aviation services at airports
58	Aviation personnel training and vocational services
59	Rail transport business
60	Railway infrastructure business
61	Dangerous goods transport services
62	Real estate business
63	Practice of investment construction project management and site management
64	Construction survey practice
65	Construction design and design review practice
66	Construction supervision consultancy practice
67	Specialized construction testing services
68	Urban and rural planning consultancy practice
69	Postal services
70	Telecommunications services
71	Trust services
72	Publishers' activities
73	Printing services, except packaging printing not bearing product labels
74	Social media services
75	Online gaming services on telecommunications networks and the Internet
76	Paid radio and television broadcasting services
77	General electronic information page establishment service business
78	Processing and repair services for information technology products on the list of prohibited used imported information technology products, for foreign traders for consumption abroad
79	Electronic authentication services

80	Cybersecurity products and services (excluding civilian cryptography products and services)
81	Imported press distribution services
82	Civilian cryptography products and services
83	Pre-school education activities
84	General education activities
85	Higher education activities
86	Operations of foreign educational institutions and their branch campuses
87	Continuing education activities
88	Fishery harvesting
89	Fishery trading
90	Production of aquaculture feed and aquaculture environment treatment products; production of livestock feed and livestock waste treatment products
91	Fishing vessel inspection and registration
92	Pesticide trading
93	Plant quarantine subject treatment services
94	Pesticide testing services
95	Veterinary medicines, vaccines, biological products, microorganisms and chemicals used in veterinary medicine trading
96	Veterinary testing and animal surgery services
97	Animal vaccination, disease diagnosis, prescription, treatment and healthcare services
98	Veterinary medicine testing and examination services (including veterinary medicines, aquatic veterinary medicines, vaccines, biological products, microorganisms and chemicals used in veterinary medicine and aquatic veterinary medicine)
99	Farm animal husbandry business
100	Livestock and poultry slaughter business
101	Fertilizer production
102	Fertilizer testing services
103	Breeding livestock and crop seed production
104	Aquaculture seed production and nursing
105	Genetically modified products trading
106	Medical examination and treatment services
107	Pharmaceutical business
108	Cosmetics manufacturing
109	Medical device trading



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110	Radiation work services
111	Nuclear energy application support services
112	Conformity assessment services
113	Technology assessment, valuation and expert appraisal services
114	Intellectual property (IP) representation services (including copyright and related rights representation, industrial property representation and plant variety rights representation)
115	Film distribution services
116	Authentication and appraisal services for antiquities and heritage artifacts
117	Planning, project development, design, construction management and construction supervision consultancy services for historic site preservation, restoration and rehabilitation projects
118	Karaoke and discotheque services
119	Travel agency services
120	Sports business operations of sports enterprises and professional sports clubs
121	Accommodation services
122	Trade in antiquities and heritage artifacts, except export of antiquities and heritage artifacts; preservation, restoration, digitization and database development services for antiquities and heritage artifacts
123	Import of cultural goods under the specialized management of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
124	Surveying and mapping services
125	Hydro-meteorological forecasting and warning services
126	Groundwater drilling and exploration services
127	Water resource abstraction services
128	Mineral exploration services
129	Mineral extraction
130	Hazardous waste transport and treatment services
131	Scrap import
132	Environmental monitoring services
133	Commercial bank business operations
134	Non-bank credit institution business operations
135	Cooperative bank, people's credit fund and microfinance institution business operations
136	Provision of payment intermediary services, provision of payment services not through customer payment accounts; provision of mobile money services
137	Provision of credit information services

138	Gold trading, except gold jewelry and handicraft gold
139	Trading of intermediary, data analysis and synthesis products and services
140	Data marketplace services
141	Activities providing services related to crypto-assets
142	Personal data processing services