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How to verify a broker's license

From ForexLicenseWiki, the free encyclopedia of forex licenses · Last updated 28 November 2026

In short: Find the exact legal entity you would contract with, look it up on the regulator's own register, and check that the register's website and contact details match the site you are using.

Five steps

1. **Find the entity.** The website footer and the client agreement should name the legal entity, its license number and its regulator.
2. **Go to the register yourself.** Type the regulator's address or use the links below; do not follow links sent by the firm.
3. **Match the details.** Name, license number, permitted activities, website and phone number should all match. A mismatch can mean a clone firm.
4. **Check the status.** Look for suspended, revoked or “passported” status, and which services are permitted.
5. **Check warnings.** Search the regulator's warning list and IOSCO's I-SCAN.[1]

Official registers

Jurisdiction	Register
Anjouan (Comoros)	Banque Centrale des Comores (the national regulator)
Australia	ASIC professional registers (AFS licensees)
Bahamas	SCB registrants
Belize	FSC Belize licensees
British Virgin Islands	BVI FSC regulated entities

Jurisdiction	Register
Cayman Islands	CIMA search entities
Cyprus	CySEC register of Cyprus Investment Firms
Germany	BaFin company database
Grande Comore (Comoros)	Banque Centrale des Comores (the national regulator)
Labuan (Malaysia)	Labuan FSA directory of licensed entities
Marshall Islands	No forex register (company registration only)
Mauritius	FSC register of licensees
Mohéli / Mwali (Comoros)	Banque Centrale des Comores (the national regulator)
Nauru	Government of Nauru public notice G.N. No. 1132/2024
Poland	KNF entity search
Saint Lucia	FSRA (regulates non-bank financial institutions; no forex register)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	SVG FSA (registers companies; does not license forex)
Seychelles	FSA Seychelles regulated entities
Singapore	MAS Financial Institutions Directory
South Africa	FSCA regulated entities search
Switzerland	FINMA list of authorised institutions
United Arab Emirates	DFSA public register (DIFC firms)
United Kingdom	FCA Financial Services Register
United States	NFA BASIC (Background Affiliation Status Information Center)
Vanuatu	VFSC licensed financial dealers

References

1. Official I-SCAN: investor alerts portal . IOSCO. Accessed November 2026.

Source: https://forexlicensewiki.com/verify-a-broker/
Version: last updated 28 November 2026. Check the online version for later changes.

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