Shari’ah for Business FAQs

What is the Wakaalah principle?
Shari'ah for Business is structured through a Wakaalah arrangement that supports genuine commercial activity without charging interest (riba). The structure is independently reviewed and overseen by a Shari'ah Advisory Committee.

How is Shari’ah for Business different from a conventional loan?
A conventional loan involves borrowing money and repaying it with interest (riba). Shari'ah for Business works differently. GoTyme Bank appoints your business as its agent under a Wakaalah agreement and provides funding. Your business purchases Shari'ah-compliant goods and trades as part of its normal business operations. Payments are collected automatically in accordance with the Wakaalah agreement until the agreed maximum amount has been reached, at which point the agreement concludes. No interest. No riba.

Is this product only for Muslims?
No. Anyone looking for a funding solution that aligns with their values can apply. Shari'ah for Business is available to all qualifying South African businesses, provided the business operates within a Shari'ah-compliant trade or activity.

What can I use the funding for?
Funding must be used to purchase Shari'ah-compliant goods in accordance with the Wakaalah agreement. It cannot be used for salaries, rent, refinancing or settling other funding arrangements or any goods that are not Shari'ah compliant. Your Shari’ah Funding Specialist will confirm what qualifies before you proceed.

How do payments work?
Payments are collected automatically from your business sales in accordance with the agreement, by debit order, and are calculated as a percentage of your average daily or weekly card payments. This means payments move in line with your trading activity rather than following a fixed monthly instalment. Payments continue until the agreed maximum amount has been reached.

Who oversees the Shari'ah compliance of the funding solution?
Shari'ah for Business is independently reviewed and overseen by a Shari'ah Advisory Committee (SAC) made up of qualified Islamic Scholars . The committee approves and oversees the overall Wakaalah structure and arrangement, and provides ongoing guidance to ensure continued Shari'ah compliance.

What is my role in the Wakaalah structure?
GoTyme Bank appoints your business as its agent under the Wakaalah agreement. Your responsibility is to use the funding to purchase Shari'ah-compliant goods and to trade them as part of your normal business activities, in accordance with the agreement.

What does the journey look like from start to finish?

- GoTyme Bank appoints your business as its agent under a Wakaalah agreement.
- Funding is provided.
- Your business purchases Shari'ah-compliant goods.
- Your business trades as part of its normal business operations.
- Payments are collected automatically in accordance with the Wakaalah agreement until the agreed maximum amount has been reached.
- The agreement concludes.

How does GoTyme Bank ensure the funding solution is right for my business?
Before the agreement is signed, your Shari'ah Funding Specialist will discuss your business, trading activity and expected profit margins to help ensure the funding solution is appropriate for your business.

Can I apply for Shari'ah for Business again once my agreement has concluded?
Yes. Once an agreement has concluded, you may be eligible to apply for additional Shari'ah for Business funding, subject to GoTyme Bank's assessment and approval criteria at the time.