

## UK Work visa routes - Guidance

	Global Talent	Skilled Worker	Graduate	Innovator Founder	High Potential Individual	Temporary Worker
<b>Gov link</b>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-global-talent-visa">Apply for the Global Talent visa : Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/skilled-worker-visa">Skilled Worker visa: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/graduate-visa">Graduate visa: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/innovator-founder-visa">Innovator Founder visa: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/high-potential-individual-hpi-visa">High Potential Individual (HPI) visa: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/government-authorised-exchange-visa">Government Authorised Exchange visa (Temporary Work): Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a>
<b>Who is the visa for?</b>	For exceptionally talented and exceptionally promising individuals in research & innovation, or technology wishing to work in the UK	Individuals can come to the UK to take an eligible job with an approved employer	If the current visa is a <a href="#">Student visa</a> or <a href="#">Tier 4 (General) student visa</a>	For individuals wanting to set up a new and innovative business in the UK	For individuals who have been awarded a qualification equivalent to a UK bachelor's or postgraduate degree from an eligible university in the last 5 years.	For work experience, training, to complete an Overseas Government Language Programme, or for research or a fellowship
<b>How long is it for?</b>	Up to 5 years in each application	Up to 5 years in each application	Up to 2 years. If PHD or other doctoral qualification held, it will last for 3 years	Up to 3 years in each application	Up to 2 years, or up to 3 years if you have a PhD or other doctoral qualification	Up to 1 or 2 years, depending on the type of scheme
<b>Can it be extended?</b>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Not beyond 2 years, depending on the type of scheme
<b>Can you settle in the UK?</b>	May be eligible to settle after 3 years	May be eligible to settle after 5 years	Not through this visa type	May be eligible to settle after 3 years	Not through this visa type	Not through this visa type
<b>Do I need to be sponsored by an employer?</b>	No. You will need an endorsement from a Global Talent endorsing body*	Yes, you must be sponsored by a licensed organisation.	No, your education provider (such as your university or college) has told the Home Office you've	No. You will need an endorsement from an Innovator endorsing body.	No. You will need proof of your qualification.	Yes, you must be sponsored by an organisation which holds a GAE licence

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			successfully completed your course			
<b>Do I need to have a full time job?</b>	No, the Global Talent visa allows applicants to be self- employed, in salaried employment, undertake contract work etc. Individuals can move employers and/or take sabbaticals during the duration of their visa.	Yes. The job is required to be on the list of eligible occupations, must work at the sponsoring organisation.	No, it allows work in most jobs – contract, salaried, self-employment or the ability to look for work.	Yes, required to be at your innovative business.	No. The HPI visa places no restrictions on your ability to work in the UK	No. All engagements under this route must be supernumerary, so you cannot take on a fixed term or permanent job within the sponsoring organisation.
<b>Is there a set salary requirement?</b>	No	Yes, You'll usually need to be paid the 'standard' salary rate of at least £38,700 per year, or the 'going rate' for your job, whichever is higher.	No	No	No	Yes, you must be in receipt of funding equivalent to at least National Minimum Wage
<b>Do I need to prove I speak English?</b>	No, unless you apply to settle in the UK	Yes, assessment required	Yes, through your UK degree	Yes, assessment required	Yes, assessment required	No

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<b>Can my family come and work?</b>	Yes, with limited exceptions to the type of work	Yes, with limited exceptions to the type of work	If partner and children joined in UK as 'dependants' on current Student visa or Tier 4 (General) student visa, they can apply to stay as dependants Graduate visa	Yes, with limited exceptions to the type of work	Yes, with limited exceptions to the type of work	Yes, with limited exceptions to the type of work
<b>How much does the visa cost (£ per person) from outside the UK?</b>	£716	Up to 3 years: £719 More than 3 years: £1420	£822	£1191	£1032	£298
<b>Immigration health surcharge cost, per year.</b>	£1035	£1035	£1035	£1035	£1035	£1035
<b>Do I need to have additional funds available?</b>	No	Yes, £1270 in your bank account for last 28 days unless your employer agrees to cover this.	No	Yes, a £1270 in your bank account for last 28 days	Yes, £1270 in your bank account for last 28 days unless your employer agrees to cover this.	Yes, £1270 in your bank account for last 28 days unless your employer agrees to cover this.
<b>What is the application process for those coming from</b>	Once you have received an endorsement from an endorsing body,	You can apply for the visa up to 3 months before the date you are due to	You must apply before your Student visa or Tier 4 (General)	Decision upon application to Home Office usually takes 3 weeks	You must apply for your visa within 5 years of being awarded your qualification from	You must have a sponsor. Decision upon application to Home

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<b>outside the UK?</b>	you have 3 months to apply for the visa. Decision upon application to Home Office usually takes 3 weeks.	start working as listed on your certificate of sponsorship.  Decision upon application to Home Office usually takes 3 weeks.	student visa expires.  Decision upon application to Home Office usually takes 8 weeks.		an eligible university.  Decision upon application to Home Office usually takes 3 weeks.	Office usually takes 3 weeks.
<b>Can I switch from another visa?</b>	Yes, with the exception of some visa types.	Yes, with the exception of some visa types.	Yes from Student visa or Tier 4 (General) student visa.	Yes, with the exception of some visa types.	Yes, with the exception of some visa types.	Switching is not generally permitted.

All details are correct as of 15 April 2024, but are subject to change. This information should only be treated as guidance and does not constitute immigration advice. You can find more information about other [visa types on gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/visas-and-immigration/visas)

\*You do not need to apply for an endorsement if you've won an [eligible award](#).