

# WORKING IN THE UK: VISA OPTIONS

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# Today's agenda

- UK work visas: facts and myths
- Skilled worker visa for sponsored work
- Health and Care worker visa for sponsored medical professionals
- Innovator Founder visa for entrepreneurs
- Youth Mobility visa for certain nationalities
- Global Business Mobility visas
- Questions and answers

# UK work visas: facts and myths

- Most types of work visa are sponsored by the employer for you to do a specific skilled job for them
- For most nationalities, there is no visa for moving to the UK without a sponsor employer
- Standard Visitor can look for work, attend an interview, but must apply for any work visa in their home country
- Your degree from University of London does not open any specific visa routes
- Visas for family or for people with specific nationalities allow all work

# Skilled worker visa: basics

- Previously called Tier 2, and before that Work permit
- Employer sponsors you to do a specific job which meets a minimum level of skill and salary
- Employer decides length of your visa (up to 5 years) and issues a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS)
- You apply where you live. You cannot apply in UK
- You usually pay the visa fees, unless employer offers
- Nothing to pay to employer for sponsorship
- No agent or lawyer required
- Partner and children <18 can apply as dependants

# Skilled worker visa: eligible job, minimum salary and discounts

- Fixed lists of eligible jobs and minimum salaries
- Your minimum salary depends on (1) the going rate for the specific job code, then (2) on whether you are eligible for a discount on the going rate
- "New entrant" discount (70% of going rate) for those <26 or who are working towards a specific professional qualification or registered status with a professional body
- Absolute minimum salary for a "new entrant" is £30,960
- List of eligible jobs and "new entrant" discounted salaries:  
Immigration Rules Appendix Skilled Occupations  
[www.tinyurl.com/skilledworkersalaries](http://www.tinyurl.com/skilledworkersalaries)

# Skilled worker visa: examples of “new entrant” min salary

- 2135 Cyber security professionals: £31,710
- 3131 IT Operations technicians: £30,960\*
- 2132 IT Managers: £35,630
- 5245 Computer System equipment installers and servicers: £30,960\*
- 2419 Other legal professionals: £30,960\*
- 2433 Actuaries, economists, statisticians: £33,600
- 2422 Finance, investment analysts/advisers: £30,960\*

Full list: [www.tinyurl.com/skilledworkersalaries](http://www.tinyurl.com/skilledworkersalaries)

# Skilled worker visa: what if you are not a "new entrant"?

- If you are not a "new entrant", you have a second chance for a discount on minimum salary
- 80% of the going rate if your job is on the immigration salary list: [www.tinyurl.com/immigrationsalarylist](http://www.tinyurl.com/immigrationsalarylist)
- Plus a discount on the application fee (more shortly)
- If you are neither a "new entrant" nor is your job on the immigration salary list, your minimum salary is the full going rate: [www.tinyurl.com/goingrates](http://www.tinyurl.com/goingrates)

# Skilled worker visa: the application

- Evidence of £1270 held for 28 days
- Held in your name, or your partner's name if they are also applying. No parents or others.
- Employer can certify maintenance in the Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS)
- Knowledge of English is assumed from having a degree-level qualification that was taught in English and/or from your nationality
- Tuberculosis test for residents of some countries

# Skilled worker route: application fees

Based on length of Certificate of Sponsorship:

- 3 years or less: £769
- 3 years or less, immigration salary list job: £590
- More than 3 years: £1519
- More than 3 years, immigration salary list job: £1160
  
- Immigration Health Surcharge: £1035 per year of visa
- Premium application: add £500 (5 days) or £1000 (next working day)
- Dependants apply separately. Fees and maintenance

# Any questions?



# Health and care worker visa

- Type of Skilled worker visa
- Qualified doctor, nurse, health professional or adult social care professional
- Working for NHS, employer providing medical services to NHS, or employer providing adult social care
- Subject to lower minimum salary: £23,200
- No dependants
- Minimum skills, salary, and all other requirements and features of the visa and the application are the same as for the Skilled worker visa, except there is no Immigration Health Surcharge

# Innovator Founder visa

- Visa for entrepreneurs
- Four endorsing bodies
- Your business plan must be endorsed as "new, innovative, viable, and scalable"
- Application fee: £1274
- Immigration Health Surcharge: £1035 per year of visa
- [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

# Youth Mobility Scheme visa

- 13 passports eligible, plus British National (Overseas)



- Quota and (in some countries) ballot: check [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)
- Min age 18, max age 30 or 35, but anyone with a dependant child is not eligible
- No dependants on visa, but a couple can both apply

# Youth Mobility visa

- Maintenance: £2530 held in your own name for 28 days. No alternatives.
- Tuberculosis test for residents of some countries
- Application fee: £259 + £1552 Immigration Health Surcharge
- 2 years, all work allowed including self-employment, part-time, temporary, unpaid, etc.
- Australia, Canada, NZ passport holders can extend for 1 more year
- Can switch to Skilled worker or other longer-term work visa at any time

# **Graduate trainee visa (Global Business Mobility)**

- Visa to work in the UK at your employer's UK branch
- Graduate training programme for a managerial or specialist role. No additional work
- You must have worked for them for at least 3 months
- Minimum salary £25,410
- Maximum 12 months visa, not extendible

# **Graduate trainee visa (Global Business Mobility)**

- Application fee £319, plus £1035/year Immigration Health Surcharge
- Maintenance £1270 in your name for 28 days
- Partner and children <18 can come
- Speak to your employer for more details
- Other GBM visas for more senior employees

# Signposting other options

- **Global Talent visa** for leader or potential leader in academia or research, arts and culture, digital technology
- **High Potential Individual visa** for graduates of top non-UK universities
- **UK Ancestry visa** for Commonwealth citizen with a grandparent who was born in the UK, or in Ireland before 31 March 1922
- **EU settlement scheme** (mostly closed now)
- **British National (Overseas) BNO visa**
- **Homes for Ukraine**
- [www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) > Visas and immigration > Work in the UK

# More information

- **Types of visa:**

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) > Visas and immigration > Working

- **Being sponsored for a visa:**

Your employer's HR department

- **Immigration legal advice for an application:**

Not required!

- **Individual advice:**

See above. Sorry I cannot give one-to-one advice including via email or social media

# Any questions?

