



UK Research
and Innovation

Welcome





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1. UK Immigration Routes

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UK Visa System – Work and Study

Route	Description
EU Settlement Scheme https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families	Designed to offer EU, EEA and Swiss nationals (and their eligible family members) that are living in the UK before the end of the transition period the opportunity to protect their residence rights in the UK after the transition period has ended.
Global Talent visa https://www.gov.uk/global-talent	Global Talent visa - work in the UK if a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields (subject to Endorsing Body criteria): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • academia or research • arts and culture • digital technology
Investor, business development and talent visas Innovator visa https://www.gov.uk/innovator-visa Start up visa https://www.gov.uk/start-up-visa	Innovator or Start up visa applicant must meet the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they want to set up or run a business in the UK • are from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland • meet the other eligibility requirements • their business or business idea has been endorsed by an approved body
Skilled Worker https://www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa	A route for skilled workers who have a job offer from an approved employer sponsor. Replaces the Tier 2 route from 1 January 2021.

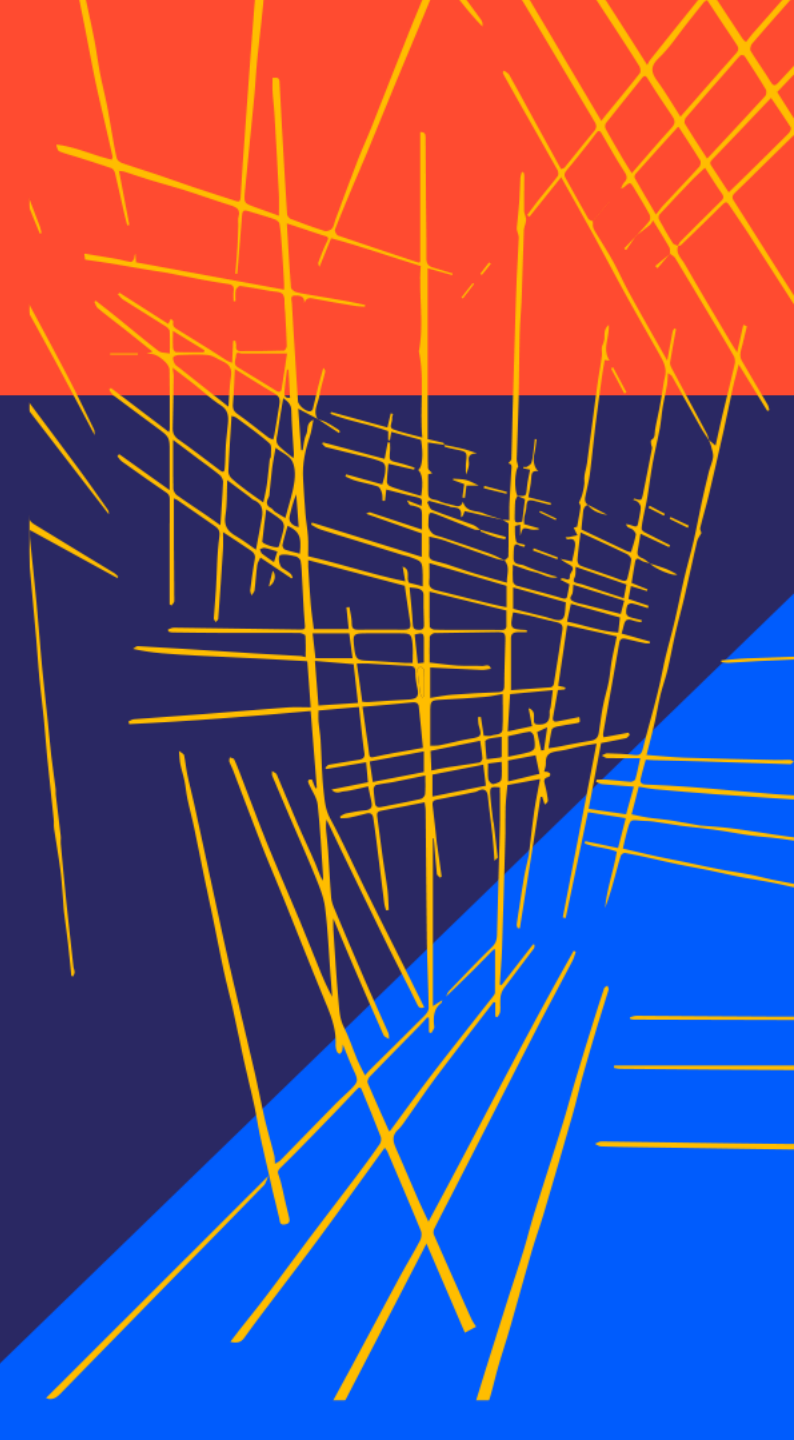
UK Visa System- Work and Study

Route	Description
Student Visa https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas	For students aged over 16 from outside the UK who wish to study on a further or higher education course in the UK.
Doctorate Extension Scheme https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas	Enables a PhD student to apply to stay in the UK to look for work after they have finished their PhD or doctorate at an accredited UK Institution.
Graduate Visa Guidance to be released summer 2021	Will be available to international students who have completed a degree in the UK from summer 2021.
Tier 5 This covers 7 routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Agreements • Government Authorised Exchange • Charity Workers • Creative and Sporting • Religious Worker • Seasonal Worker • Youth Mobility 	Main use of the Tier 5 routes for the sector are: Youth Mobility – This route is for sponsored young people from participating countries or territories who wish to experience life in the UK. https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-youth-mobility Government Authorised Exchange - through approved schemes that aim to share knowledge, experience and best practice through work placements (up to 24 months in duration). Cannot be used to fill job vacancies or provide a way to bring unskilled labour to the UK. Sponsorship available through HEIs or UKRI approved institutes.
UK Ancestry https://www.gov.uk/ancestry-visa	The UK Ancestry route allows Commonwealth citizens with a UK-born grandparent to live and work in the UK.



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1. Why the Global Talent Visa?



Britain's got (more) talent...

The **Global Talent Visa (GTV)** is a new immigration route for individuals coming to the UK to work in specific sectors.

It follows announcements made by the Prime Minister in 2019, outlining plans for a more expansive visa offer for research and innovation talent.

For the science and research sector GTV combined three existing 'Exceptional Talent' routes administered by the National Academies, plus the new '**endorsed funder route**' run by **UKRI**.



Why apply?

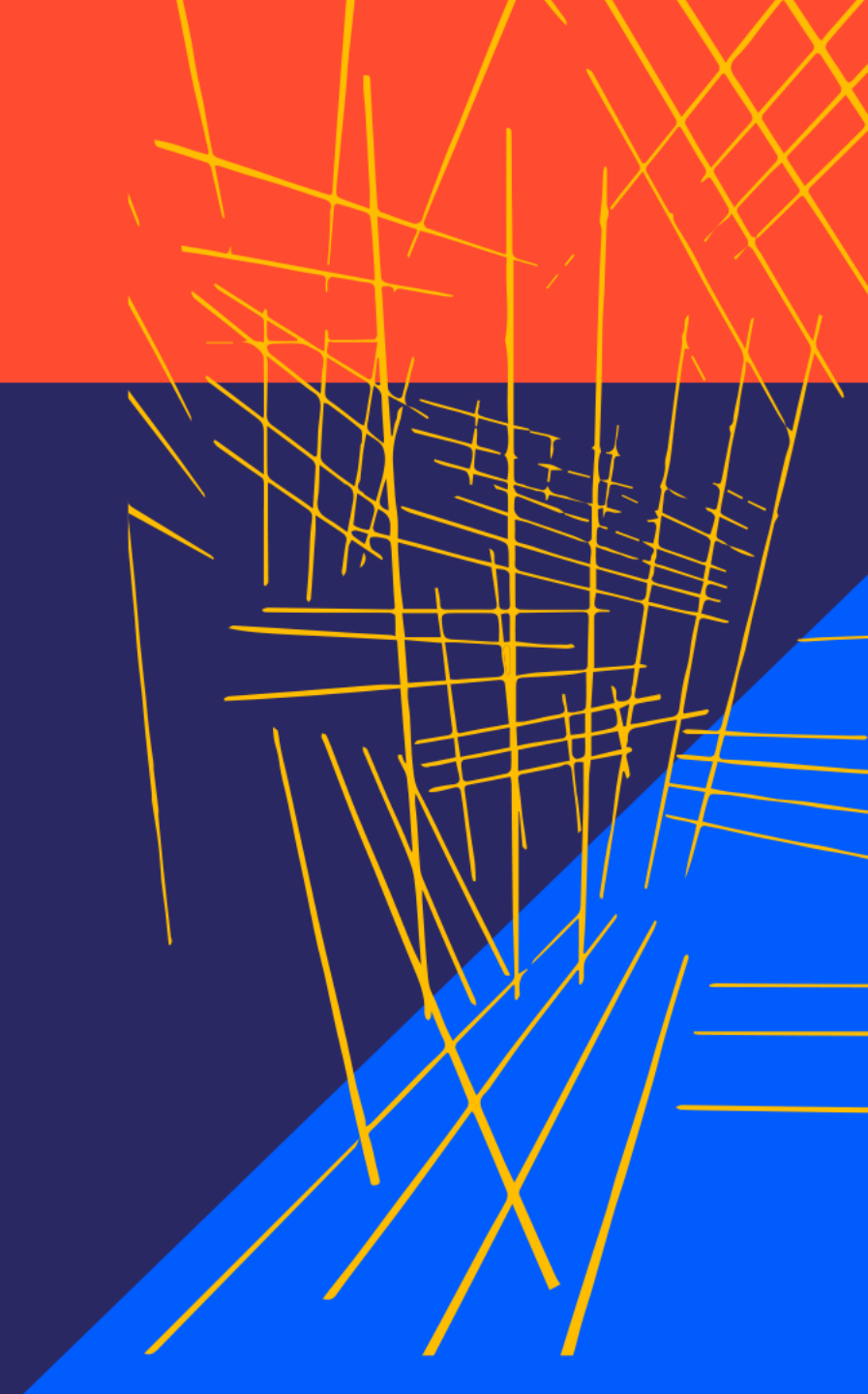
- A flexible visa for up to 5 years, allowing holders to come and go from the UK at will
- Eligible for settled status after 3 years
- No minimum salary requirement unlike Tier 2
- No requirement to have a confirmed job offer (applicants can have a hosting agreement)
- No requirement to complete an English Test Qualification
- Affirm existing arrangements to bring dependents with access to the labour market.





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2. Using the visa



Global Talent one visa, four routes

Have you accepted the offer of an **academic or research appointment** at an institution approved by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society?

YES

If you have been offered a role with responsibility for academic, research or innovation leadership and development **OR** for directing or leading an individual or team in a research or innovation project or programme of work, you need a statement of guarantee from the HR Director or equivalent at the employing institution confirming that certain recruitment requirements were met to support your application for a fast-track visa.

NO

Have you been awarded an **individual fellowship** on the list approved by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society?

YES

If your fellowship is listed and you hold it currently or have done so within the last 12 months, you must submit a copy of the award letter as part of your fast-track visa application.

NO

Are you working on a research grant* issued by an **endorsed funder** on the list approved by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)?

YES

If you as an individual or your role is named in a successful grant application from an endorsed funder, you need to submit both the award letter and a statement of guarantee from the employing or hosting institution as part of your application for a fast-track visa. The funder and the institution must both be on the approved UKRI list.

NO

Check the eligibility and assessment criteria for standard endorsement and submit an application for **peer review** by the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering or Royal Society.**

* Eligibility extends to the principal investigator (PI), co-investigators (Co-Is) and team roles stated in the grant application at graduate level and above – for example, postdoctoral researchers, research assistants, technologists and methodologists. Eligible individuals must spend at least 50% of their work time on fulfilling the grant conditions (PIs and Co-Is holding multiple grants must demonstrate 50% in aggregate). A minimum award threshold of £30,000 applies and the minimum grant duration is 24 months. Individuals must have at least two years left on their employment contract to be eligible. Temporary exemptions apply to researchers working on COVID-19 related projects.

** The British Academy reviews standard 'exceptional talent and promise' applications from the humanities and social sciences, the Royal Academy of Engineering covers engineering, and the Royal Society covers natural and medical sciences. If you do not meet the criteria for standard endorsement, you may still be eligible for a Skilled Worker visa. If you are coming to the UK for the purposes of collaboration, training or knowledge exchange, you may apply through the Government Authorised Exchange Worker route.

The new Endorsed Funder route

In the first phase, the list of funders was relatively limited but has been substantially updated on 1 December.

The full list now contains over 80 funding organisations.

It includes:

- All UK research councils
- All UK govt ministerial departments
- Charities such as the Wellcome Trust, Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation
- EU Horizon 2020 funding
- A range of other international funders, many of whom have longstanding partnerships with the UK.



Who can apply?

Anyone who is either named personally on a grant or has a defined position on that grant from an endorsed funder.

Not just professors! Specialist technical staff working on the grant - as long as they are hosted at a UKRI recognised research organisation.

The eligibility criteria can be found in the Home Office guidance on their website.



Eligibility

Covid-19

New: for Covid-19 projects, the minimum project/contract length required is now 12 months (normally 24 months).

- The grant must be >£30k, and at least 2 years' in duration
- At least 50% of an applicant's time must be working on the grant or award from an endorsed funder
- The employment contract or hosting agreement of the applicant must have at least 2 years remaining at the time of the application for endorsement.
- They must independently direct, or direct under the supervision of a Principal Investigator, a unique research or innovation project.

OR

- They must make critical contributions to research through the provision of core technical or domain excellence, or in developing new technologies and methodologies. The applicant will be typically named, or their post listed, on the grant/award under 'directly incurred' costs.

Host Organisations

What do you need to know?

- The GTV reduces the amount of bureaucracy and paperwork.
- You need to support the applicant by providing:
 - Award letter (redacted if necessary)
 - Statement of Guarantee
- It's a new way of working, with a new process.

Process

1) Recruitment

2) UKRI Global Talent Visa Tool

3) Award Letter and Statement of Guarantee

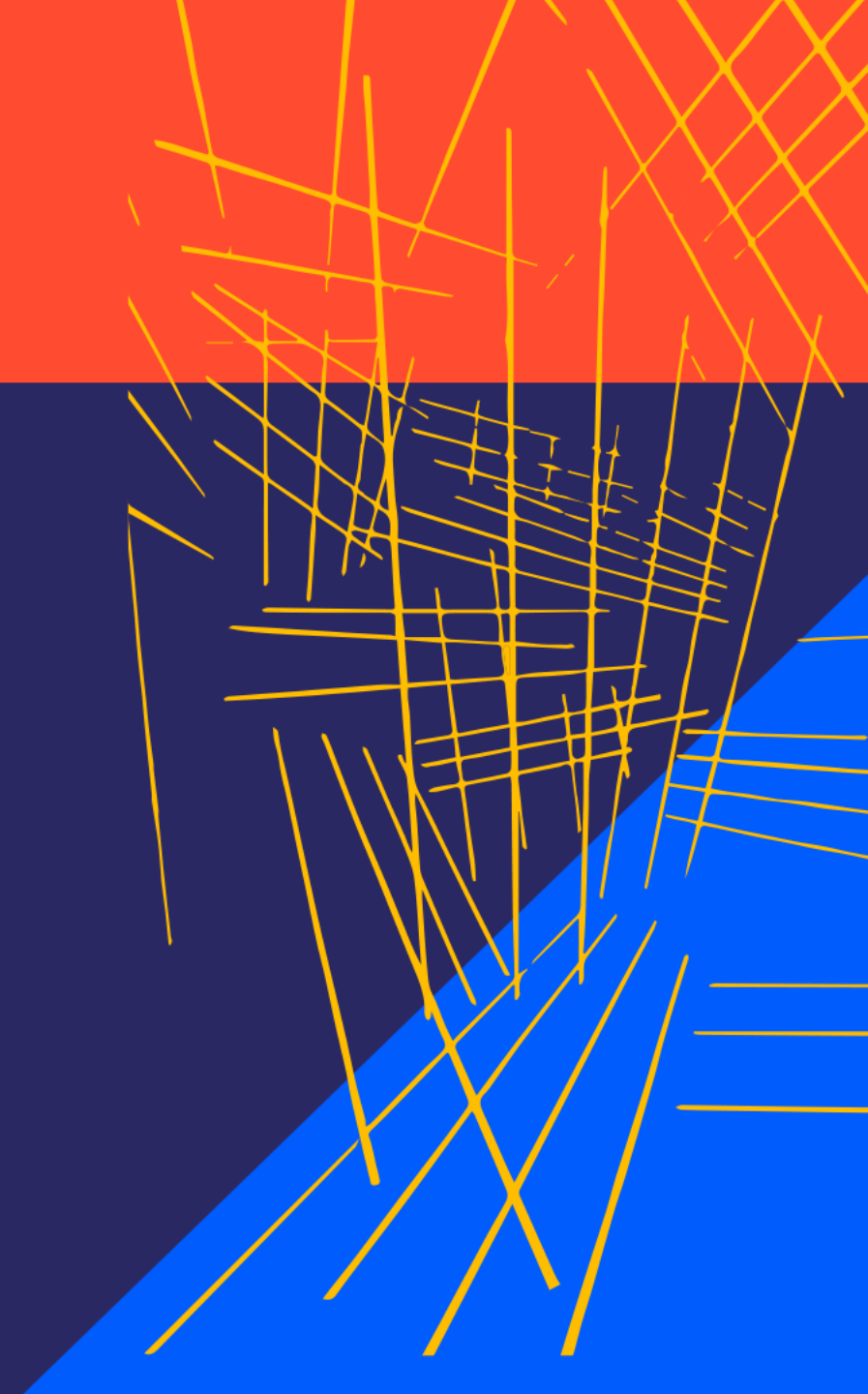
UKRI Global Talent Visa globaltalentvisa@ukri.org





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3. Developing the visa



Additional funders & host organisations

Our External Advisory Board will consider the addition of new funders to this endorsed funder route.

UKRI seek recommendations for new funders via our [online engagement platform](#). All suggestions will be evaluated according to our due diligence process.

Ultimately all decisions are subject to sign-off from UKRI and the immigration minister.





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Questions?





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Thank you

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