

United Kingdom

United Kingdom has always been the fantasy world for immigrants across the world. United Kingdom has so much to offer to the immigrants, as in the last few years UK has introduced a number of new visa categories naturalization, visa, work permit and UK working visa. The UK Border Agency introduced Highly Skilled Migrant Program, in January 2002. The points based skilled immigration category proved to be very successful for the country's economy.

UK Skilled Worker Visa

With effect from April 2011, the new UK 'Highly Skilled' Tier would be introduced. This new type of visa has replaced the Tier 1 General Visa, which was known as the Highly Skilled Migrant Program (HSMP). The UK Border Agency has stopped accepting Tier 1 (General) applications made from overseas since 23 December 2010.

Under the new Highly Skilled Tier Visa, entry in the UK would be open for entrepreneurs, investors and limited people under exceptional talent category. The new Tier 1 immigration system will concentrate on businessmen and people such as top scientists, artists and sports persons

Thus, from April 2011, only the limited few Entrepreneurs and Investors and people with Skilled Talents would only qualify under the new Highly Skilled Tier Visa and would make it to the UK *New Proposed Immigration Changes announced by the UK Government*

The much awaited and anticipated changes in the UK immigration system have been clarified by the UK Government. As per The UK Border Agency (UKBA), changes that took place in April 2011 include a permanent immigration cap on skilled immigration, a new exceptional talent visa and new criteria for skilled workers with a job offer and intra-company transfers. Furthermore, significant changes in the rules for sponsoring non-EU workers would also come in effect.

It was brought forth that the Tier 1 General skilled immigration visa would end with effect from April 6' 2011 and a new 'Exceptional Talent' visa would be introduced in its place. The UKBA confirmed that with effect from April '6' 2011, an annual limit of 1,000 visa would be in place for the 'exceptional talent' visa category and for Tier 2 visa the annual limit is decided at 20,700.

Clarifying further, the UKBA announced that the total of Tier 2 visa would be divided into 12 monthly quotas of 1,500 places. Also, after the certificate of sponsorship has been granted to the employer, the same is to be assigned to the prospective employer within a span of 3 months. The new laid rules also put forth that the employers would be required to apply for the certificate of sponsorship from the UKBA for a specific post. Currently, an annual allocation of certificates of sponsorship is practiced.

Under the Tier 2 visa, all the Non- EU workers would be eligible if they are working in a graduate level job in the UK, speak at intermediate level English and meet certain salary and employment requirements.

Some changes in the Tier 2 visa intra-company transfer route are also on the cards like the applicants applying under this visa type must be in an occupation on the graduate occupation list. Also, the worker must be in an occupation that pays more than £40,000 per year, in case he intends to stay in the UK for more than one year. A three-year visa with a possibility of extending the visa for another two years is applicable for the workers who earn more than £40,000 a year.

However, no cap has been placed on the number of workers that can enter the UK through Tier 2 visa intra-company transfer route.

Innovator Visa

Business Visas to the UK includes adaptable visa categories. UK Business Visas are applicable to flourishing business people and their families to extend and perform their business in the United Kingdom. These visas encompass the scope of permanent UK residence and British Citizenship, given that the applicants fulfill the additional criteria. We offer assistance with one of the chief Business Visa categories viz. – **INNOVATOR VISA**.

Innovator visa program is applicable to businesspersons who want to set up new business or run a business in UK. The UK Business Visa regulations permit Innovator visa holders to assign substantial financial investment in the UK.

Innovator visa program is designed for entrepreneurs who seek investment opportunities in the UK. The investor must intend to invest a sizeable amount of their wealth in the United Kingdom. The investment must be productive, be profitable to the UK economy, and facilitate financial growth of the state.

Visa, under this program, is granted for a maximum period of three (3) years initially. There's no limit on the number of times you can extend. It allows the applicant to conduct extensive market research to recognize the most profitable venture to invest in.

Innovator visa may be extended and eventually lead to permanent residence and UK Nationality, given that all the relevant prerequisites are fulfilled.

Innovator Visa Basic Requirements

To qualify for an Innovator visa, applicants must fulfill the following eligibility criteria,

The applicant must have at least £50,000 in investment funds to apply for an innovator visa if you want to set up a new business. You do not need funds if your business is already established. The applicants are also eligible if they can prove to possess at least £945 in your bank account of 90 consecutive days before you apply.

- You set up or run a business in the UK
- At least £50,000 in investment funds.
- Minimum 18 years of age
- Meet the English Language requirement CEFR level B2 or UK NARIC
- Funds should belong to personal savings to support yourself.
- At Least £945 in your bank account of 90 consecutive days before you apply
- Your Funds must be
- Funds can come from any source.
- Funds should be Disposable to UK
- When you apply for this visa at that time funds can be in UK or Overseas

UK Sole Representative Visa

The Sole Representative of an Overseas Business visa category allows the senior representative to travel to the UK in order to establish the company in the form of registering the company, conducting business matters, opening offices and acting as the sole representative of said company.

This visa is favorable for growing international businesses that have no presence in the UK and are looking for an access to European markets without any trade barriers. Since this program involves no investment requirement, it is often seen as a more flexible option than the Entrepreneur visa.

The United Kingdom – Quick Facts

- Capital – London
- Passport Rank – 8th
- Population – 65 Million
- Language – English

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT

In order to qualify for a Sole Representative of an overseas business visa, you need to satisfy UK Visas and Immigration that your overseas company sending you to UK fulfills the following criteria:

- It must be a genuine company, incorporated overseas and established for a min of one year.
- Sending the employee must be for the company's benefit.
- The budget allocated for UK expansion should be realistic keeping in mind the company's size, nature of business & its revenue.
- When the visa is granted & the employee comes to work on behalf of the company in the UK, the majority of company's business must always be conducted out of the UK.

WHICH EMPLOYEE QUALIFIES AS A SOLE REPRESENTATIVE?

To qualify for a Sole Representative visa, applicants must fulfill the following eligibility criteria,

- The applicant must hold a senior position within the company but not be major shareholder. You can be recruited and employed outside the UK by a company whose headquarter of business are outside UK.
- Applicant may hold senior position in the company and have full authority to make decisions on its behalf. However, the employee cannot be an owner or a manger & cannot own more than 49% of company's business.
- You can be recruited and employed outside the UK by company headquarters of business are outside the UK
- Meet the English Language requirement with at least CEFR level A1 or having an academic qualification taught in English and is recognized by UK NARIC

VISA EXTENSION FOR SOLE

The overseas representative visa lasts for a period of three years and can be extended after this. The extension lasts for a further two years. After the holder has been in the U.K for a total period of five years, they can then apply for permission to settle permanently in the United Kingdom.

INVESTMENT OPTIONS

- Investment Amount: Depending on Business Requirement. GBP 50,000 and above.
- IELTS – 5 Bands and above are required.

LOGICALPLATEAU – OFFERING EXPERT GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT ON SOLE REPRESENTATIVE VISA

LOGICALPLATEAU provides guidance for applicants looking to obtain Sole Representative Visa and will assist you throughout the application process right from first consultation till the granting of the visa as well as visa extensions.

STEP 1 – Client will Sign the Contract with LOGICALPLATEAU, makes the Initial payment

STEP 2 – LOGICALPLATEAU does the preliminary check on applicants' profile and provides the basic due diligence report to client. LOGICALPLATEAU staff will release the necessary documents checklist and application forms to client

STEP 3 – Complete file preparation and reviewing of documents

STEP 4 – Preparation of business plan and submission to UK authority

STEP 5 – Invitation for Interview Received (if required by UK authority)

STEP 6 – Attend interview if required

STEP 7 – Client received visa sanction confirmation

STEP 8 – Client received the Sole Rep Visa after 3 weeks of Visa Sanction time