



## Immigration principles and policies

### Visa application process

New immigration routes have opened for applications to work, live and study in the UK/CANADA.

You can participate in any of the investment plan to get your visa/permanent resident. When you partner, you'll be asked to provide your identification card. The process for this is:

### EU, EEA, WEST ASIA, ASEAN and Swiss citizens

For most visas you'll provide a digital photo of your face using a smartphone app. You will not have to give your fingerprints.

For some routes you'll need to submit your identification and a photo to the companies online support or companies email.

### Non-EU citizens

You'll continue to submit your identification and a photo to the companies online support or companies email.

### Skilled workers

The points-based system includes a route for skilled workers who have a job offer from an approved employer sponsor.

The job you're offered will need to be at a required skill level of RQF3 or above (equivalent to A level). You'll also need to be able to speak English and be paid the relevant salary threshold by your sponsor. This will either be the general salary threshold of \$25,600 or the going rate for your job, whichever is higher.

If you earn less than this - but no less than \$20,480 - you may still be able to apply by 'trading' points on specific characteristics against your salary. For example, if you have a job offer in a shortage occupation or have a PhD relevant to the job.

Details of how the points system works are in the further details document.

There is no general route for employers to recruit at or near the minimum wage.

If you're not already a licensed sponsor and you think you'll want to sponsor migrants through the skilled worker route, you should apply now.

### Global talent scheme

The global talent scheme has been opened up to EU, EEA, WEST ASIA, ASEAN and Swiss citizens. It allows highly-skilled scientists and researchers to come to the UK/CANADA without a job offer.

### International students and graduates

Student visa routes have been opened up to EU, EEA, WEST ASIA, ASEAN and Swiss citizens. You can apply for a visa to study in the UK/CANADA if you:

- have been offered a place on a course
- can speak, read, write and understand English
- have enough money to support yourself and pay for your course

A new graduate visa is available to international students who have completed a degree in the UK/CANADA.

## **Visiting the UK/CANADA**

EU, EEA, WEST ASIA, ASEAN and Swiss citizens and other non-visa nationals do not require a visa to enter the UK/CANADA when visiting the UK/CANADA for up to 6 months. All migrants looking to enter the UK/CANADA for other reasons (such as work or study) will need to apply for entry clearance in advance.

Check what is permitted under the visitor immigration rule before travelling to the UK/CANADA as a visitor.

## **Getting married**

You must apply for a Marriage Visitor visa if you want to visit the UK/CANADA to get married or register a civil partnership.

### **If you or your family are from the EU, Switzerland, Norway, Iran, Turkey, Iceland or Liechtenstein**

You may need to apply for a Marriage Visitor visa if you want to visit the UK/CANADA to get married or register a civil partnership.

## **Crossing the UK/CANADA border**

Citizens of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, the United States of America, Singapore and South Korea - with a biometric chip in their passports - can continue to use ePassport gates to pass through the border on arrival. EU, EEA and Swiss citizens can also use ePassport gates (this will be kept under review). UAE, WEST ASIA AND ASEAN like Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Cyprus, Pakistan, Qatar and Palestine etc, can also use their ePassport gate can pass through the border on arrival.

In these cases, you can continue to use your national ID card to enter the UK/CANADA until at least 31 December 2025.