

COMING TO THE UK

STUDENT VISA GUIDE



STUDENT VISAS

GLOBAL TALENT VISA

The Student Visa category (Tier 4) is for students aged 16 years old and over, who have been offered a place on a course by a licensed student sponsor, have enough money to support themselves and pay for their course, can speak, read, write and understand English and have consent from their parents if they are 16 or 17, (parental consent is not required for those students 18 years old and over).

The Child Student Visa is for those applicants who are between 4 and 17 years old and want to study at an independent fee-paying school in the UK. The child must have an unconditional offer of a place on a course at an independent school, be able to show they will have access to enough money to support themselves whilst in the UK and pay for their school fees and have the consent of their parent or guardian to study in the UK.

The Parent of a Child Student Visa is for those parents of a child who is applying for a child student visa and their child is aged between 4 and 11 years old and will be attending a fee paying independent school in the UK. The parent must be the only parent accompanying the child in the UK (the other parent must live abroad and cannot apply to join the child), must have enough money to support themselves and their child whilst in the UK (£1,560 for each month of their stay up to a maximum of 9 months), continue to maintain their main home outside the UK and plan to leave the UK when their visa expires (can only stay in the UK until the child's visa expires or they turn 12, whichever happens first).

The Graduate visa is for those overseas students who successfully complete a degree, masters or doctorate (or eligible qualification) in the UK whilst studying on a student visa in the UK. The graduate visa enables the student to remain in the UK and work for up to 2 years following successful completion of their course (3 years for a PHD/ doctorate).

GLOBAL BUSINESS MOBILITY

GRADUATE TRAINEE VISA

This visa replaced the old Tier 2 Intra-company Transfer Graduate Trainee visa on 11 April 2022.

A Graduate Trainee visa allows the applicant to come to or stay in the UK to work for his/her employer in their UK branch.

The Graduate Trainee's job must be eligible and part of a graduate training programme for a managerial or specialist role with his/her employer.

To qualify for a Graduate Trainee visa, the applicant must:

- be an existing employee of an organisation that's been approved by the Home Office as a sponsor
- have worked for his/her sponsor outside the UK for at least 3 months immediately before he/she applies
- have a 'certificate of sponsorship' from the employer with information about the work they will do in the UK
- do a job that's on the list of eligible occupations; and be paid at least £24,220 per year

The applicant cannot apply to change ('switch') to a Graduate Trainee visa from inside the UK.

The applicant can stay in the UK with a Graduate Trainee visa for whichever is the shorter of:

- the time given on the applicant's certificate of sponsorship plus 14 days
- 12 months

The applicant cannot extend this visa, but can apply for another Graduate Trainee visa from outside the UK.

HIGH POTENTIAL INDIVIDUAL VISA

PART 1

The High Potential Individual Visa is available to recent graduates of top global universities who wish to work, or seek work, in the UK. The High Potential Individual route opened on 30 May 2022.

The High Potential Individual route does not lead directly to settlement in the UK but the applicant can switch into another visa route in the UK that may allow them to settle.

In order to qualify for a High Potential Individual Visa, the applicant will need to satisfy the following:

- They are aged 18 or over;
- They have, in the last 5 years, been awarded an overseas degree level academic qualification from an institution which appears on the Global Universities List;
- They are competent in the English language to at least CEFR Level B1;
- They have enough money to support themselves without relying on public funds (minimum £1,270 in a bank account for 28 consecutive days before application is submitted);
- They have not previously been granted permission under the Student Doctorate Extension Scheme, as a Graduate or as a High Potential Individual;
- They have provided a valid TB certificate, if required.

PART 2

In order to qualify for a High Potential Individual Visa the applicant will need to have been awarded an overseas degree level academic qualification that must have been awarded in the 5 years before the date of their High Potential Individual Visa application.

The institution which awarded the applicant their degree must appear on the Global Universities List in respect of the date when they were awarded their degree. The Global Universities List is a list of universities published by the Home Office.

The applicant will need to provide confirmation from Ecctis that their qualification meets or exceeds the recognised standard of a UK bachelor's or UK postgraduate degree and also confirm the date when the applicant was awarded the degree.

The length of stay on this visa depends on the following:

- Phd or other doctoral level qualification – 3 years
- All other degree qualifications – 2 years
- It is not possible to apply for an extension of a High Potential Individual Visa.



CHARLES AVENS

PARTNER –

HEAD OF IMMIGRATION

+44 20 7468 7234

+44 7778 309 594

charles.avens@collyerbristow.com

Charles is Head of Immigration, specialising in Personal and Corporate immigration to the UK.

Charles provides advice and support to high-net-worth individuals and their families (and family offices) wishing to relocate; to international entrepreneurs and investors; and to both UK companies wishing to employ foreign nationals (recruiting from abroad or transferring employees to the UK from an overseas office) and to foreign businesses wishing to start a business in the UK.



CHARLIE FOWLER

PARTNER

+44 20 7470 4512

+44 7534 906386

charlie.fowler@collyerbristow.com

Charlie is a Partner in our Trusts, tax and estate planning team, specialising in advising resident non-domiciliaries, UK and international trustees and domestic clients on matters spanning pre-immigration planning, residency and domicile rules, international tax planning and UK wills and estate planning. Charlie also advises on a full range of immigration matters. On the personal immigration side, he specialises in advising private clients and their families throughout their immigration journey, from initial visa applications through to applications for indefinite leave to remain and naturalisation. He also advises entrepreneurs about setting up businesses in the UK under the Innovator or Start-Up immigration routes, and advises younger clients on Student visas and the Graduate visa. With businesses, Charlie advises corporate clients on recruiting and retaining top talent from the global market.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
collyerbristow.com

collyerbristow.com

 **@collyer-bristow-llp**

 **@collyerbristow**

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