

Tier 1: Global Talent

THE MAIN FACTS

What does this visa do?

You can apply for the Global Talent visa if you're **recognised** in your industry and wish to live and work in the UK in your field.

This is the perfect visa for those who **work** in the fields of Science, Arts and Culture, Medicine, Humanities, Tech and Engineering.

Remember! This visa is great for people who can be endorsed in their field. It allows for a lot of freedom in your time here in the UK, so if you're able to be endorsed, this visa could be perfect for you!

Am I eligible?

For the Global Talent visa, there are quite a **few criteria to meet**.

The most important one is getting an endorsement from your field's governing body/Designated Competent Body (DCB). You must also meet **all** the criteria below:

1. Be at least 18 years old.
2. From outside the EU, European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland.
3. Can access the internet to upload your important documents and fill out the forms online.
4. Able to pay the cost of this visa.

Remember! This visa has a two-step application process. You will have to apply for an endorsement, then for the visa itself. If you fail to get the endorsement, your visa is automatically refused.

How long can I stay?

For the Global Talent visa, you can stay in the UK for a maximum of **5 years and 4 months**.

You can also **extend** this visa up to **1 to 5 years**.

Remember! If you're unable to get to the UK within the first 30 days of your visa start date, you can apply for a Vignette Transfer to get another 30 day time slot to collect your BRP.

Will this count towards Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)?

Yes! The years spent in the UK on this visa contribute to the **5 years** needed to apply for Permanent Residency or Indefinite Leave to Remain.

In fact this visa comes with the added benefit of being able to apply for ILR in **less** than 5 years. If your field is Science you can apply for ILR after **3 years** of residency in the UK.

Remember! If you remain legally in the UK for 10 years, you will be eligible to apply for settlement regardless of your visa history.

What are my chances of getting this visa?

This is not an easy visa to get due to the amount of varying criteria you must fill to get an **endorsement**. Each industry has different needs and it can feel overwhelming at times, but do not worry! Keep reading as we break all this down for you later.

There used to be a cap on the amount of individuals allowed on this visa, but that was **removed** in Feb 2020. This gives you a little more control over being accepted!

Remember! No visa is ever a guarantee. Delays, change of circumstance and mistakes happen. Always allow yourself plenty of time to prepare for a visa.

What happens after I apply?

Your application will either be accepted or rejected. You'll get a notification via email or post, which will then list any next steps needed.

Remember! Sign up to Salmo to get notifications when your visa is about to expire, and other helpful advice and updates.

If you're successful, then it's time to celebrate! However, it's also important to be aware that in the UK there will be some **restrictions** on what you're allowed to do on this visa in the UK.

With this visa you **can**:

1. Work full time in your field
2. Change jobs freely
3. Do volunteer work
4. Bring family / dependants

However, you **cannot**:

1. Get public funds (e.g. universal credits or housing benefits)
2. Work as a sportsperson
3. Work as a doctor/dentist in training

But you **might** be able to:

- Study

As always there are **exceptions**.

You can study **if** it does not interfere with your work schedule or is a part of your work.

Remember! If your application is rejected then this will be a stressful time. Make sure to take care of yourself, and check out our Help Centre article on "Next steps after a rejected visa" [link to: article].

DOCUMENTS & EVIDENCE

What do I need to prepare?

Gathering documents can be one of the most confusing parts when applying for a visa, so we are here to help break it down for you!

Remember! If any of your documents are not in English or Welsh, then you must provide the original document alongside a translation, which will then be independently verified.

For the Global Talent visa you **will need**:

1. **A form of Identification (ID), such as a passport or valid travel document** [link to help centre article “All about ID”]
2. Endorsement letter

Depending on your situation, you **might need**:

- **Your Tuberculosis (TB) Results** [link to help centre article “Tuberculosis (TB) Facts”]

Endorsement: The Basics

An endorsement is essentially letter from an expert in your field that says “You’re good at what you do. I agree that you should get a visa.”

You’ll have to reach out to your governing body via the Home Office, and provide evidence of your achievements. If you qualify, they will provide you an **endorsement letter via email**. Once you have your endorsement letter, you’ll send it to Home Office when applying for your visa, who will determine your skills further and decide what you could bring to the UK.

Remember! Whilst you can apply for your endorsement letter at the same time as your visa, it’s not generally advised. If you don’t get your letter, your visa will be automatically refused and you’ll lose the money you spent on it.

The endorsement can be broken down into two categories:

- **Exceptional Talent** is for anyone who is a current leader in your field. You’ll be internationally recognised and will have achievements such as awards.
- **Exceptional Promise** is for anyone who is currently rising up in their field. Whilst you may not be as well recognised right now, you should be seen as a future leader.

Remember! If you’ve previously been on the Exceptional Talent visa and have an endorsement from your previous stay, you can use this endorsement to apply for the Global Talent visa.

Each field will have their own specific requirements when it comes to the evidence they need. However, they generally ask for these types of evidence:

- **Publications** such as articles about you in industry standard publications. Especially if you’re early on in your career.
- **Career history** such as being a part of a fellowship or a recognised work society. Also, your career progression since your most recent degree is important to show.
- **Research impact over the past ten years** such as a quote of yours being used in the media, the influence your work has had on any national, international system/technology. If any of your works have patents or spin-outs this would also be helpful.
- **Prizes and awards** such as winning internationally recognised awards, especially if they opened up doors to allow you to achieve more in your field.
- **Funding** such as any past projects in the last 10 years that have received funding.
- **International standing** such as any international recognition, especially if you are at a point where you have a consultant to manage your work globally.

Remember! Some fields will only let you apply for Exceptional Talent and not Exceptional Promise. Don't worry will make this clear when this is the case in the next sections.

No matter what evidence you provide, they must fit **all** the following formats:

1. Written documentation must be in English or Welsh, typed out, be signed by the third party and include full contact details and company logo/details. If your documentation has been translated, it must be done so by an independent translator who can be verified.
2. You cannot submit a CD, DVD for review that has a webpage on. If you wish for a web page to be reviewed, you must print it out with the URL clearly displayed.
3. If a letter of recommendation is needed, then the same documentation rules apply above, plus it must be no longer than 3 pages (excluding details and CV sections) and directly refers to the Global Talent visa (it can't be a general letter). These same rules apply if you're submitting your own CV.

Remember! Getting an endorsement doesn't automatically grant you a visa.

Endorsement: Arts & Culture

Arts Council England offers **both** Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise for dance, music, theatre, visual arts (museums or galleries), literature, combined arts.

Remember! Arts Council England is the main arts body in the UK. All arts applications will go through them and then be redirected if needed. If you have any questions that you can't find the answer to, feel free to get in touch with them. [link to: <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/our-organisation/contact-us>]

Whilst each discipline will have its own conditions, here are some rules that apply to anyone in the arts:

1. Professionally engaged in work that has been shown internationally **or** (in some Exceptional Promise cases) nationally.
2. Actively working in your field for the last 5 years.
3. A strong track record of your work appearing in more than one country, unless you're applying for Exceptional Promise.
4. A maximum amount of 10 A4 pages of evidence will be considered. So be short and sweet and remember that event listings and advertisements do not count towards recognition.
5. You must also provide 3 letters of recommendation from well established, UK based **or** internationally recognised organisations.

Remember! As with each topic in the Global Talent visa, not every bit will apply to you. Make sure you're looking at the right section for your job.

For anyone in dance, music, theatre, visual arts (museums or galleries), literature, combined arts.

Exceptional Talent applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Minimum 2 examples of recent significant international media recognition for your work as an individual only. This must appear in at least 2 countries, one of which can be your home.
- Proof of win **or** made a significant contribution to winning at least 1 international award for excellence, e.g. The Booker Prize.
- Proof of appearances, performances or exhibitions in internationally recognised context **or** evidence of extensive international distribution and audience for your work.

Exceptional Promise applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Minimum 2 examples of recent significant international or UK media recognition for your work, or work you've been involved with. This must appear in 1 or more countries, one of which can be your home.
- Proof of won **or** nominated **or** shortlisted **or** made a significant contribution to winning at least 1 international or national award for excellence in the last 5 years e.g. The Booker Prize
- Proof of appearances, performances or exhibitions in internationally recognised context **or** evidence of extensive international distribution and audience for your work.

British Fashion Council offer **both** Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise for fashion design or industry arts. Arts Council will pass on your application to them if your job fits.

Exceptional Talent applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Minimum 2 examples of recent significant international media recognition for your work, or work you've been involved with. This must appear in at least 2 countries, one of which can be your home.
- Proof of won **or** nominated **or** shortlisted **or** made a significant contribution to winning at least 1 international award for excellence, e.g. The Fashion Awards.
- Proof of catwalk shows/presentations which have been internationally significant **or** evidence of international distribution and sales of your collections.
- Proof of international distribution sales through renowned retailers **or** your own physical outlet/e-commerce platform.

Exceptional Promise applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Minimum 2 examples of recent significant international media recognition for your work, or work you've been involved with. This must appear in at least 2 countries, one of which can be your home.
- Proof of having received sponsorship/support via the British Fashion Council **or** a similar internationally recognised establishment.
- Proof of one or more orders being placed by UK or international luxury retailers.
- Proof of recognition from leading industry players (this can include social media key players or influencers). e.g. Graduate Fashion Week.

Royal Institute of British Architects offer **both** Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise for Architects or experts in this field. Arts Council will pass on your application to them if your job fits.

Exceptional Talent or Exceptional Promise applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Minimum 2 examples of recent significant international media recognition for your work, or work you've been involved with. This must appear in at least 2 countries, one of which can be your home.
- Proof of won **or** nominated **or** shortlisted **or** made a significant contribution to winning at least 1 international award for excellence in the last 5 years e.g. Age Khan Award. (If applying for Exceptional Promise this can also be a national award)
- Proof of work being published or exhibited in context which are internationally recognised such as World Festival of Architecture.

All proof must come from **at least 1** country other than your home, and demonstrate a **minimum** of 2 publications of your work.

Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television (PACT) offer **only Exceptional Talent** and do **not** offer Exceptional Promise. This is for anyone who works in film, TV, animation, post-production or visual effects (VFX). Arts Council will pass on your application to them if your job fits.

Exceptional Talent applicants must have **at least 2** of the following:

- Within the last 10 years you've won **or** nominated **or** made a significant contribution to a project for an award from at least one of the following; Academy Award, BAFTA, Golden Globe or Emmy Award.
- Within the last 15 years you've received a minimum of 2 nominations for one of the previously mentioned awards.
- Evidence of high international distribution sales and recognition. You also should have some recognition from an award recognised on the **PACT notable industry list** [link to: <https://www.pact.co.uk/static/uploaded/8510cc85-f32e-4322-a4b7f5eef4745e40.pdf>] The recognition can come in the following ways; won 2+ awards **or** won 1 award and been nominated for 1 other in the last 6 years **or** within the last 6 years been nominated for 3+ awards **or** within the last 6 years made a significant contribution to a project winning/being nominated for 3+ awards.

With each piece of evidence here, you'll need to provide full details of the production nomination award including category and date, alongside evidence of any credits.

Remember! If you are unsure if your award or contribution counts, get in touch with Arts Council England. [link to:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/our-organisation/contact-us>]

Endorsement: Technology

Tech Nation offer **both** Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise for individuals using, building or innovating the latest tech. It is also for anyone who is in the business of selling tech.

Remember! Some tech based positions are not considered for endorsement. Including corporate roles, outsourcing, consultancy, system admin & junior investors/analysts.

For **both** Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise you can only provide up to 10 pieces of evidence, so be concise! You must provide all the following:

1. Completed **Tech Nation Global Talent form** [link to: <https://technation.io/visa/apply>].
2. A CV with career and publication history.
3. Three different, dated letters of recommendation from well established organisations in tech. The individual writing the letter must be in a senior position, include their own details and CV and be personalised for this application.
4. A full breakdown of any past businesses in the last 5 years, even if they've been dissolved.

Exceptional Talent applicants must have **at least 1** of the following key points:

- Have a proven track record of innovation in the digital sector, as a founder or senior executive of a product led company **or** an employee in a new digital field that has clear potential.
- Proof that you've gone beyond your day-to-day work in your sector to advance the digital tech industry.

You must also have **at least 2** of the following qualifying points:

- Evidence of your significant technical, commercial or entrepreneurial achievements in the digital sector. You can be a founder, senior executive or employee of a product led company.
- Recognition as leading talent in the digital sector.
- Show how you have grown continuously throughout your career by mastering/learning new digital skills (Commercially or technically).
- Academic contributions showing your exceptional ability in your field **OR** an endorsement from an established researcher/expert.

Exceptional Promise applicants must have **at least 1** of the following key points:

- Provide more than 1 example of innovation in the digital sector, as a founder of a product led company **or** an employee in a new digital field that has clear potential.
- Proof that you've gone beyond your day to day work in your sector, to advance the digital tech industry.

You must also have **at least 2** of the following qualifying points:

- Evidence of your significant technical, commercial or entrepreneurial achievements in the digital sector. You can be a founder or employee of a product led company.
- Recognition as having potential to become a leading talent in the digital sector.
- Show how you have grown continuously throughout your career by mastering/learning new digital skills (Commercially or technically).
- Show more than 1 piece of evidence for your academic contributions showing your exceptional ability in your field **or** an endorsement from an established researcher/expert.

If you're a part of one of the following programs, you're also eligible for the fast track option.

This will allow your application to be processed by Tech Nation 1 - 2 weeks faster:

- Antler
- Barclays Accelerator
- Bethnal Green Ventures (BGV)
- Collider
- Creative Destruction Labs
- CyLon
- Entrepreneur First (EF)
- Founders Academy
- Founders Factory
- Ignite Accelerator
- Microsoft for Startups
- Natwest Accelerator
- SETsquared
- Startupbootcamp
- TechStars
- Wayra(all programmes)
- Zinc

Remember! If you're a part of an accelerator program and wish to take the fast track option, you must state this when applying.

Endorsement: Academics

This section covers a wide range of disciplines, such as Science & Medicine (The Royal Society), Humanities (The British Academy) or Engineering (The Royal Academy of Engineering).

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) also offers fast-track options if you're in one of the above fields **and** involved with certain forms of research.

Remember! Before you go any further, check out our article [link to: Help Centre article "Jobs that qualify for Global Talent"] to see if your job qualifies in your field.

So, for both Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise, you will need to provide:

1. Your CV outlining your career and publication history.
2. A letter of recommendation written by a UK based individual who is familiar with your work and qualified to assess it. They should mention how they know you, why you exhibit any Exceptional Talent or Exceptional Promise, how you would benefit from being in the UK and how your contribution would benefit the industry and wider society.

Exceptional Talent applicants must also have **all** the following key points:

1. Must be an active researcher in your field.
2. Must have a PHD or local equivalent in research experience, industrial or clinical research.
3. Provide a letter of personal recommendation from a resident in the UK supporting their Global Talent application.

You must also have **at least 1** of the following qualifying points:

- You're a member of your national academy or a foreign member of an academy in another country (UK based academies are preferred).
- You've been awarded a prestigious, internationally recognised prize.
- You can provide a letter of recommendation from a reputable UK organisation involved with your field. It must be from a high up person in the organisation.

Exceptional Promise applicants must have **all** the following key points:

1. Must be an active researcher in your field.
2. Must have a PhD or local equivalent in research experience, industrial or clinical research.
3. Provide a letter of personal recommendation from a resident in the UK supporting their Global Talent application.
4. Must be early on in your career.

5. You must have/had in the last 5 years a prestigious UK based Research Fellowship or an international Fellowship or an advanced research post judged by the endorsing body.

So whilst those are the overall rules, you'll also need to see if you fit into any of the following categories. There are 4 main pathways for individuals in these fields.

Senior Appointments: Fast Track application

This is for individuals who apply as a Professor **or** equivalent position of a senior group leader.

To prove this you must supply a statement of guarantee (letter) from the Director of Human Resources (or someone similar) from an approved UK Higher Education Institution **or** research institute. In this statement you must include:

1. Your job was advertised and there was open competition. If this was not the case then please make sure the statement explains why.
2. Confirmation that you have accepted the job and your full job title with the department you'll be based in.
3. Clarify that there are minimum 3 references that were used to ensure you will be able to Poughill this job.
4. Clarify that minimum 4 senior representatives were present at your panel interview.
5. Confirm that at least 1 senior external expert was consulted during your recruitment process.

Individual Fellowships: Fast Track application

This is for people who have been awarded an individual fellowship.

You must currently/in the last 12 months, have a specific peer-reviewed research fellowship **or** you have been awarded and named on the list published by The Royal Society, The Royal Academy of Engineering or the British Academy.

Make sure to provide written confirmation of the fellowship/any award and the body that issued it.

Endorsed Funders: Fast Track application

This is for people who are listed on a successful grant application in the UK, by an **approved** UKRI business. If you're not too sure, you can check with the body who awarded the grant for confirmation.

You must have written confirmation that your grant/award is a minimum of £30,000 and covers a **minimum** of 2 years. You also must include a declaration from your Director of HR and your new role, this must include:

1. You are essential to this job and the research being done. If you were not named specifically on the grant proposal, they must clarify how and why they hired you.
2. Your time spent with them will be at least 50% towards the grant's aim.
3. You've accepted the job and clarify your position title and the department you'll be in.
4. Confirm you're an academic, researcher, scientist, research engineer or other skilled research specialist.
5. Confirm that you're at an approved UK research organisation.
6. The money you/your team receive for the work you do for the grant you've been awarded, must be a one off grant or award AND it must be linked to a renewable award that is subject to peer review.

If you're a Principal Investigator or a Co-Investigator in addition to above, you may be able to use a collective of eligible grants to meet the minimum amount required (£30,000):

1. Your contract must have 2 years at the time of application for endorsement, and be regularly active in your field.
2. Your name and job titles are listed on the grants.
3. Must have a Principal Investigator involved.
4. You must have a PHD (or overseas equivalent, accepted by UKRI).
5. You must have research experience.

Remember! Until 31 January 2021, if you're researching COVID-19, you can have relaxed conditions such as reduced required length of stay here and switching from any other visa.

Peer Review: Standard application

For people who are applying in any of the Science & Medicine, Humanities or Engineering **and** who don't fit into any of the previously mentioned research categories, you will be submitted for a full peer review. This will be from your governing body, so either the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering or Royal Society.

Remember! Any fast-tracked options at this stage will be for your endorsement only, and not for the visa application itself.

Endorsement: Dealing with Refusals

Hopefully when you apply for your endorsement letter, it all goes through smoothly! However, you may find yourself in a situation where you were refused, but you are **certain a mistake** was made by Home Office or your endorsing body.

In this circumstance, you can apply for a **free endorsement review**. [link to: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/global-talent-and-tier-1-exceptional-talent-endorsement-review-form>] This takes up to **28 days** from the moment you request it, and you can only do this once per application.

Remember! You won't be able to submit new evidence this way. If you wish to submit more evidence, you'll need to start a new application.

Once you start the review process, Home Office will deal with the documents and check the areas you've mentioned need reviewing are correct. They will then pass this onto the endorsing body who will double-check your original application again, and see if they made a mistake.

Common mistakes that can occur are usually documents being incorrectly processed by Home Office, such as not handing all the evidence to the endorsing body. It could also be that the Home Office didn't pass the correct reason for refusal to the applicant.

Remember! You must request for a review within 28 days of receiving your refusal letter.

Following your review request, there are 4 possible outcomes:

If the new decision is the same as the original one.

The Home Office will notify you via email, you will not be allowed to make a further endorsement review.

Your review is still rejected but with a revised reason.

A new refusal letter will be sent, along with the endorsement review letter from the endorsing body explaining why they still rejected your application.

Your review is still rejected but with a new reason.

A new refusal letter will be sent confirming the reasons that weren't stated in the original application. You may be able to request another review based on these reasons.

They've changed their mind and you're getting endorsed.

The Home Office will notify you via email.

PROCESS & APPLYING

How do I apply?

Before you start:

You'll have to apply for your endorsement letter via Home Office. You'll have to pay for this and you'll have 3 months from the date the letter is issued to use it.

Step One:

Prepare your **Documentation** [link to Documentation "what kind of documents do I need?"]. If you need a Tuberculosis Test, you should get this now.

Step Two:

Apply for your visa online, and pay. You'll also be able to add any optional priority services [here](#).

Step Three:

If you're applying from within the UK, at this point you will no longer be able to travel outside the UK. If you do, your application will be **withdrawn**, and you'll lose your money.

Step Four:

Book for your Biometric appointment, to submit your details for your **BRP** [link to BRP Help Centre Article].

Step Five:

Attend your appointment. Don't forget to bring along documentation if needed.

Step Six:

Wait for your result! If successful, go to Step Seven. If unsuccessful, **check here** [link to: Help Centre refused visa article] to see what your next step is.

Step Seven:

Book your flight!

Your vignette (the visa paper stuck on your passport) lasts for 30 days for you to enter the country. If you enter before or after the given dates on the visa, then you risk not being let into the UK.

Step Eight:

Get your Biometric Residency Permit!

It should be available to collect within 10 days after the date of your arrival. Check your confirmation letter to see where to collect.

Step Nine:

Welcome to the UK and enjoy your stay!

Remember! If you're is applying from North Korea, you will need to apply via post.

Download the application form [link to

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-form-for-uk-visa-to-work-study-and-for-dependants-and-right-of-abode-form-vaf2>] and guidance to apply.

What timeframe do I need to apply in?

You must apply within **3 months** after you receive your endorsement letter. You can then link your endorsement letter to your visa application whilst applying.

Some people prefer to apply for the endorsement at the **same time** as the visa. This way your visa application will be put on hold until the endorsement letter is produced. Once the letter is confirmed this will automatically start the visa application process, without you having to do anything else.

Of course applying at the same time does come with risks. A refused endorsement letter results in an **automatically** refused visa, costing you time and money. There are some **steps you can take** [\[link to: Help Centre article on refused visas\]](#) if you are refused, but alternatively you might just want to consider applying for your endorsement and then waiting for the result, before taking the next step.

Remember! We don't recommend leaving it to the last minute to apply for this visa, as the Home Office system is notorious for glitching out. Always make sure you apply as soon as you can after receiving your Certificate of Sponsorship number.

How long till I get my results?

For your endorsement should receive a response within **8 weeks** of your application under standard routes, or **2 - 4 weeks** under a fast track.

Once you've got your endorsement and you're onto applying for the visa, this should take **8 weeks** when applying from inside the UK, and **4 weeks** when applying outside the UK.

If you're in a **hurry**, you have two options to speed things along:

- **Priority Service** £500. Get your decision in 5 working days.
- **Super Priority Service** £800. If your appointment is on a weekday, you can get your decision in the next working day; if your appointment is on a weekend, you can get your decision in 2 working days. Working days are Monday to Friday (not including bank holidays).

Remember! Whilst you can pay more for priority, it doesn't always guarantee you will get the visa in the time frame stated, as delays can always happen

How much does this visa cost?

It costs **£152** to apply for a visa of **up to 5 years**.

If you're from Turkey or Macedonia the costs are slightly different. A visa up to 5 years costs **£97**.

The following are other visa related costs that you will need to cover:

- Immigration Health Surcharge £400 per year.
- Pay for a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) which costs £19.20

So the base total most people need to apply for this visa is **£571.20**.

Remember! This total doesn't include optional fast track/priority service or any fees such as the cost of getting your documents returned to you.

Once you've paid for your visa, you'll no longer be able to travel outside the UK. If you do so your application will be **withdrawn**, and you'll lose your money.

EXTEND & SWITCH

Can I extend this visa?

Yes you can extend the Global Talent visa!

You can extend up to **5 years**, as long as your current endorsement has not been withdrawn.

Remember! Make sure to apply a few months before your current visa expires!

It costs **£152** to **extend** this visa up to **5 years**.

If you're from Turkey or Macedonia the costs are slightly different. A visa up to **5 years** costs **£97**.

You must apply **online** and be **in the UK** to extend this visa.

Remember! You cannot travel outside the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man until you get your decision. If you do, your application will be withdrawn and you will lose your money.

How do I extend?

For most people extending is simple. You **must** still meet the criteria you had to when applying, especially the endorsement from your governing body.

Remember! If your governing body has withdrawn their endorsement, you'll need to leave the UK and apply again from the beginning in your home country.

You should receive a response within **8 weeks of your application**.

If you're in a **hurry**, you have two options to speed things along:

- **Priority Service** £500. Get your decision in 5 working days.
- **Super Priority Service** £800. If your appointment is on a weekday, you can get your decision in the next working day; if your appointment is on a weekend, you can get your decision in 2 working days. Working days are Monday to Friday (not including bank holidays).

Remember! To extend a visa you must be in the UK when you apply.

Can I switch to/from this visa?

Yes you can **switch** to the Global Talent visa, **depending** on what your previous visa was (more on this next section).

Individuals currently on this visa have the option to switch to the Tier 1: Investor visa and the Tier 2: General Work, Minister of Religion or Sportsperson visas. For more details check out the Extend & Switch category for the visa you're interested in.

You can stay in the UK for up to **5 years** after switching to this visa.

Remember! Make sure to apply two months before your current visa expires!

It costs **£152** to **switch** this visa for a stay of up to **5 years**.

If you're from Turkey or Macedonia the costs are slightly different. A visa up to **5 years** costs **£97**.

You must apply **online** and be **in the UK** to extend this visa.

Remember! You cannot travel outside the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man until you get your decision. If you do, your application will be withdrawn and you will lose your money.

How do I switch?

You'll need to be in the UK under **one of the following** visas to be able to switch:

- Tier 1 visa
- Tier 2 visa
- Tier 5 (Temporary Worker - Government Authorised Exchange) on an exchange scheme for sponsored researchers
- Startup visa
- Innovator visa

Once you've applied to switch you're able to stay in the UK until you've been given a decision. Just make sure you apply **before** your last visa expires.

Remember! If you're not on one of the visas mentioned above, do not worry. You'll still be able to apply for this visa, but you'll have to return to your home country to do so.

You should receive a response within **8 weeks of your application**.

If you're in a **hurry**, you have two options to speed things along:

- **Priority Service** £500. Get your decision in 5 working days.
- **Super Priority Service** £800. If your appointment is on a weekday, you can get your decision in the next working day; if your appointment is on a weekend, you can get your decision in 2 working days. Working days are Monday to Friday (not including bank holidays).

Remember! To switch a visa you must be in the UK when you apply.

FAMILY & DEPENDANTS

Can my family (dependants) come with me?

Yes, you can bring dependants with you on this visa!

Remember! If applying from in the UK, your dependent cannot travel outside the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man until you get your decision. If you do, your application will be withdrawn and you will lose your money.

A dependant can be a child under 18 or your unmarried/married/civil partner to come and live with you in the UK.

If you have a child who is over 18, they can only apply to be on your visa if they are currently living in the UK.

For more general information about the application process with dependants, check out **[Applying with Dependants](#)** [link to: Help Centre article “Applying with Dependants”].

Remember! In general, if your child is over 18 they will need to apply on their own visa.

How do my dependents apply?

If applying from **inside the UK**, you can simply apply online on their behalf **or** at a UKVCAS appointment.

If applying from **outside the UK**, be sure to get them to their local visa application centre before applying, to check their documentation is correct and get their biometrics taken.

If your dependent is currently **visiting you on a visitors visa**, they will need to **return** to their home country to apply.

Remember! If your dependent is applying from North Korea, they will need to apply via post. Download the application form [link to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-form-for-uk-visa-to-work-study-and-for-dependants-and-right-of-abode-form-vaf2>] and guidance to apply.

How much does this cost?

All these fees will be in addition to the fees you pay for your application.

It costs an additional **£608** per dependant to apply for a stay of **up to 5 years**.

The following are other visa related costs that you will need to cover:

- Immigration Health Surcharge £624 per year.
- Pay for a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) which costs £19.20

So the base total most people need to apply for one dependent to join this visa is **£1251.20**.

Remember! This total doesn't include optional fast track/priority service or any fees such as the cost of getting your documents returned to you or visa centre appointments.

How long till I get my results?

You should receive a response within **8 weeks of your application**.

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Remember! Whilst you can pay more for priority, it doesn't always guarantee you will get the visa in the time frame stated, as delays can always happen

