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Apply for the Global Talent visa

1. Overview

You can apply for a Global Talent visa to work in the UK if you're a leader or potential leader in one of the following fields:

- academia or research
- arts and culture
- digital technology

You must also be at least 18 years old.

Before you apply for a visa

You can usually only apply for a Global Talent visa if you have successfully applied for an endorsement to prove that you are a leader or potential leader.

You can apply for the visa without an endorsement if you've won an eligible award. [Find out which awards are eligible \(/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list\)](/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list).

Find out what you can do with a Global Talent visa and how to apply for an endorsement if you work in one of the following fields:

- [academia or research \(/global-talent-researcher-academic\)](/global-talent-researcher-academic)
- [arts and culture \(/global-talent-arts-culture\)](/global-talent-arts-culture)
- [digital technology \(/global-talent-digital-technology\)](/global-talent-digital-technology)



If you're not eligible for a Global Talent visa, there are other ways to [work in the UK \(/check-uk-visa\)](#) - for example a [Skilled Worker visa \(/skilled-worker-visa\)](/skilled-worker-visa).

How long you can stay

You can live and work in the UK for up to 5 years at a time.

If you want to stay longer in the UK

There's no limit to how long you can stay in the UK in total, but you will need to renew ('extend') your visa when it expires. Each extension can last from 1 to 5 years - you choose how long you want the extension to be.

You may be able to get [indefinite leave to remain so you can settle in the UK \(/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa\)](/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa) after 3 or 5 years, depending on which field you work in and how you apply. This gives you the right to live, work and study here for as long as you like, and apply for benefits if you're eligible.

How to apply

You must apply online.

How you apply depends on whether you're:

- [outside the UK \(/global-talent/apply-from-outside-the-uk\)](/global-talent/apply-from-outside-the-uk) and are coming to the UK
- inside the UK and [extending your current visa \(/global-talent/extend-your-visa\)](/global-talent/extend-your-visa)
- inside the UK and [switching from a different visa \(/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa\)](/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa)

How long it takes

As part of your application, you'll need to prove your identity and provide your documents.

You may need to allow extra time if you need an appointment to do this. You'll find out if you need one when you start your application.

Getting a decision

Once you've applied online, proved your identity and provided your documents, you'll usually get a decision on your visa within:

- 3 weeks, if you're outside the UK
- 8 weeks, if you're inside the UK

If you need to go to an appointment, you may be able to pay for a faster decision. How you do this depends on whether you're [outside the UK \(/guidance/visa-decision-waiting-times-applications-outside-the-uk\)](/guidance/visa-decision-waiting-times-applications-outside-the-uk) or [inside the UK \(/faster-decision-visa-settlement\)](/faster-decision-visa-settlement).

Fees

It costs £623 to apply.



If you're applying based on an endorsement, you'll pay the £623 in two parts:

- £456 when you apply for the endorsement
- £167 when you apply for the visa itself

If you're applying based on an eligible award, you'll pay the full £623 when you apply for the visa.

If you're including your partner or children in your application, they'll each need to pay £623.

Healthcare surcharge

You'll also have [to pay the healthcare surcharge \(/healthcare-immigration-application/pay\)](/healthcare-immigration-application/pay) as part of your application - this is usually £624 per year for each person applying.

[Check how much you'll have to pay \(https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type\)](https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type) before you apply.

2. Documents you'll need to apply

When you apply you'll need to provide:

- a valid passport or other document that shows your identity and nationality
- your [tuberculosis test results \(/tb-test-visa\)](/tb-test-visa) if you're from a country where you have to take the test

If you've had an award or scholarship to study in the UK in the last year, you'll also need written permission to apply from the agency or government that granted it.

If your documents are not in English or Welsh you'll also need to provide a [certified translation \(/certifying-a-document\)](/certifying-a-document).

You need a blank page in your passport for your visa if you're:

- from outside the EU, EEA or Switzerland
- from the EU, EEA or Switzerland but do not have a biometric passport with a chip in it



If you've won an [eligible award \(/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list\)](/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list), the Home Office will look at publicly available information (such as the award organisation's website) to confirm that you've won. You'll only be asked for evidence of your win if they cannot find this.

3. Apply from outside the UK

Before you apply for the Global Talent visa, you need to have either:

- won an [eligible award \(/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list\)](/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list)
- successfully applied for an endorsement to prove that you are a leader or potential leader in your field

If you're applying for an endorsement

Find out [how to apply for an endorsement \(/global-talent\)](/global-talent) before you apply for a visa.

When you have an endorsement, you can apply for this visa if:

- you've been endorsed by an organisation approved by the Home Office
- you're applying within 3 months of receiving your endorsement letter
- the organisation that endorsed you has not withdrawn its approval

How to apply for the visa

You can apply online for a Global Talent visa.

Check which [documents you'll need to apply \(/global-talent/documents-youll-need-to-apply\)](/global-talent/documents-youll-need-to-apply).

You may also be able to apply at a visa application centre. You can apply from any country as long as you've been given permission to live there for at least 6 months. [Check if there's a visa application centre \(/find-a-visa-application-centre\)](/find-a-visa-application-centre) that you can travel to that accepts Global Talent visa applications.

If you're already living in the UK, you and your partner and children may be able to [extend a Global Talent visa \(/global-talent/extend-your-visa\)](/global-talent/extend-your-visa) or [switch to a Global Talent visa \(/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa\)](/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa).

Proving your identity and supplying supporting documents

As part of your application, you'll need to prove your identity. How you do this depends on where you're from and what type of passport you have.

You'll either:

- have your fingerprints and photograph taken at a [visa application centre \(/find-a-visa-application-centre\)](/find-a-visa-application-centre) - this is to get a [biometric residence permit \(/biometric-residence-permits\)](/biometric-residence-permits)
- use the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to scan your identity document (you'll also create or sign into your UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) account)

You'll be told what you need to do when you apply.

If you do need an appointment:



- the centre may need to keep your passport and documents while they process your application
- you may have to travel to get to your nearest visa application centre (this could be in another country)

Apply for a Global Talent visa

Once you've started your application, you can save your form and complete it later.

**Start
now**

(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/global_talent_out_uk)

Continue your application

Sign in to your account using the link from your sign-up email.

How long it takes to get a decision

Once you've applied online, proved your identity and provided your documents, you'll usually get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks.

You'll be contacted if your application will take longer, for example:

- if you're applying with a family member who needs an appointment but you do not
- if your supporting documents need to be verified
- if you need to attend an interview
- because of your personal circumstances, for example if you have a criminal conviction

If you've applied through a visa application centre, [find out if you can pay to get a faster decision \(/guidance/visa-decision-waiting-times-applications-outside-the-uk\)](#) - this depends on where you're applying from.

You'll get an email or a letter containing the [decision on your application \(/apply-to-come-to-the-uk/getting-a-decision-on-your-application\)](#). This will explain what you need to do next.



If you need to change or cancel your application

If you need to change something in your application after you've sent it [contact UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\) \(/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk\)](#).

You can ask to [cancel your application \(/cancel-visa\)](/cancel-visa). You'll only get your fee refunded if UKVI has not started processing your application.

4. Your partner and children

Your partner and children can also apply to join you or stay in the UK as your 'dependants' if they're eligible.

If your partner or child's application is successful, their visa will usually end on the same date as yours. If a child's parents have visas with different expiry dates, the child's visa will end on the earlier date.

Your relationship

A 'dependant' is any of the following:

- your husband, wife, civil partner or unmarried partner
- your child under 18 - including if they were born in the UK during your stay
- your child over 18 if they're currently in the UK as your dependant

You'll need to provide evidence of your relationship when you apply.

Your partner

You must be able to prove that either:

- you're in a civil partnership or marriage that's recognised in the UK
- you've been living together in a relationship for at least 2 years when you apply

If your child is 16 or over

They must:

- live with you (unless they're in full-time education at boarding school, college or university)
- not be married, in a civil partnership or have any children
- be supported by you without using [benefits \('public funds'\)](/government/publications/public-funds--2/public-funds)



If your child lives with you, you'll need to provide 2 of the following documents confirming their address:

- a bank statement
- credit card bills
- driving licence

- NHS registration document
- an official letter from their university or college

Fees

For each person applying, you'll need to pay:

- the £623 application fee
- the [healthcare surcharge \(/healthcare-immigration-application/pay\)](/healthcare-immigration-application/pay)

They'll also need to have their biometric information (fingerprints and a photo) taken. There's no fee for this.

If your partner or children are outside the UK

Your partner and children must either:

- [apply online as a partner \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_partner_out_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_partner_out_uk)
- [apply online as a child \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_out_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_out_uk)

Each family member will need to complete a separate application and pay the visa fee. They must apply before they travel to the UK.

They'll be asked to provide your application number so the Home Office can link their application to you.

If your partner or children are already in the UK (extend or switch their visa)

Your partner or child can apply to switch their visa either:

- at the same time as you [apply to extend \(/global-talent/extend-your-visa\)](/global-talent/extend-your-visa) or [switch your own visa \(/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa\)](/global-talent/switch-to-this-visa)
- at any time before their current visa expires



This includes children who have turned 18 during your stay.

Your partner and child cannot apply to switch to your Global Talent visa as your dependants if they are currently in the UK in one of the following circumstances:

- on a visit visa
- on a short-term student visa
- on a Parent of a Child Student visa

- on a seasonal worker visa
- on a domestic worker in a private household visa
- [on immigration bail \(/bail-immigration-detainees\)](/bail-immigration-detainees)
- they were given [permission to stay outside the immigration rules \(/government/publications/chapter-1-section-14-leave-outside-the-immigration-rules\)](/government/publications/chapter-1-section-14-leave-outside-the-immigration-rules), for example on compassionate grounds

If your partner or child is currently in the UK on a Student visa, they can only switch if they have either:

- completed the course they were sponsored to study
- studied for a PhD for at least 24 months

How to apply

Your partner and child must apply online to either:

- [extend or switch as a partner \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_partner_in_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_partner_in_uk)
- [extend or switch as a child \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_in_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_in_uk)

They'll need your application number - you'll get this when you apply. This number is called a Global Web Form (GWF) or a Unique Application Number (UAN). You'll find it on emails and letters from the Home Office about your application.

As part of their application, they'll be asked to make an appointment at a [UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services \(UKVCAS\) \(/ukvcas\)](#) service point to provide their biometric information (fingerprints and a photo).

They'll also need to submit their supporting documents. They can:

- upload them into the online service
- have them scanned at their UKVCAS appointment

They must not travel outside of the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man until they get a decision. Their application will be withdrawn if they do.



Children born in the UK

If you have a child while you're in the UK, they do not automatically [become a British citizen \(/british-citizenship\)](/british-citizenship).

You must apply for your child's dependant visa if you want to travel in and out of the UK with them.

The form you fill in depends on if:

- [your child is inside the UK \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_in_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_in_uk)
- [your child is outside the UK \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_out_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_out_uk) You'll need to provide a full UK birth certificate for each child, showing the names of both parents.

You must apply for their dependant visa before they turn 18 if they want to stay in the UK.

What your partner or child can and cannot do

Your partner or child can:

- work, except as a sportsperson or coach
- study
- travel abroad and return to the UK
- apply to settle permanently in the UK (also known as 'indefinite leave to remain') if they've lived in the UK for 5 years and meet the other eligibility requirements

They cannot apply for most benefits (public funds), or the State Pension.

If their application is successful, they'll get a full list of what they can and cannot do.

5. Extend your visa

You can usually apply to extend your stay in the UK if either:

- you applied for the Global Talent visa based on an endorsement, and the organisation that endorsed you has not withdrawn its approval
- you applied for a Global Talent visa based on an [eligible award \(/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list\)](#) you won, and the award has not been withdrawn

You must be able to show that you earned money in your expert field during your time in the UK by [sending evidence toward your application \(/government/publications/send-evidence-for-your-global-talent-extension-or-settlement-application\)](#), for example payslips.

Your [partner or children \(/global-talent/your-partner-and-children\)](#) will need to apply separately to extend their visa. They can either apply at the same time as you, or at any time before their current visa expires.

You should apply before your current visa expires.

Applicants who currently have a Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visa can extend under the Global Talent category.

How long you can stay

You can apply to extend your visa for up to 5 years at a time. You can renew your visa as many times as you like, as long as you still meet the eligibility requirements.

If you want to stay longer in the UK

You may be able to get [indefinite leave to remain so you can settle in the UK \(/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa\)](/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa) after 3 or 5 years, depending on which field you work in and how you apply. This gives you the right to live, work and study here for as long as you like, and apply for benefits if you're eligible.

Fees

It costs £623 to apply to extend a Global Talent visa from inside or outside the UK.

Your partner and children must pay the visa fee of £623 if they want to apply to travel with you or join you later in the UK.

You will need to have your biometric information (fingerprints and a photo) taken. There's no fee for this.

Healthcare surcharge

You'll also have to [pay the healthcare surcharge \(/healthcare-immigration-application/pay\)](/healthcare-immigration-application/pay) as part of your application.

[Check how much you'll have to pay \(https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type\)](https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type) before you apply.

Proving your identity and giving supporting documents



As part of your application you'll need to prove your identity.

How you do this depends on where you're from and the type of passport you have.

You'll either:

- give your fingerprints and a photograph (biometric information) at a [UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services \(UKVCAS\) \(/ukvcas\)](/ukvcas) service point - this is to get a

[biometric residence permit \(/biometric-residence-permits\)](/biometric-residence-permits)

- use the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to scan your identity document (you will also create or sign in to your UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) account)

You'll be told what you need to do when you apply.

Apply in the UK

You must apply online.

Once you've started your application, you can save your form and complete it later.

**Start
now**

(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/global_talent_in_uk)

You must not travel outside of the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man until you get a decision. Your application will be withdrawn if you do.

Apply outside the UK

You can [apply online \(https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/global_talent_out_uk\)](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/global_talent_out_uk) to extend a Global Talent visa you've had in the last year.

You may also be able to apply at a visa application centre. You can apply from any country as long as you've been given permission to live there for at least 6 months. [Check if there's a visa application centre \(/find-a-visa-application-centre\)](/find-a-visa-application-centre) that you can travel to that accepts Global Talent visa applications.

How long it takes

You'll usually get a decision within 8 weeks of your application date.

You may be able to [pay to get a faster decision \(/faster-decision-visa-settlement\)](/faster-decision-visa-settlement) - you'll be told if you can when you apply.



After you apply

If you need to change something in your application after you've sent it [contact UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\) \(/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk\)](/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk).

You can ask to [cancel your application \(/cancel-visa\)](/cancel-visa). You'll only get your fee refunded if UKVI has not started processing your application.

You'll get an email or a letter containing the [decision on your application \(/apply-to-come-to-the-uk/getting-a-decision-on-your-application\)](/apply-to-come-to-the-uk/getting-a-decision-on-your-application). This will explain what you need to do next.

6. Switch to this visa

You might be able to apply to change ('switch') to a Global Talent visa if you're already in the UK on a different type of visa.

Your [partner or children \(/global-talent/your-partner-and-children\)](/global-talent/your-partner-and-children) will need to apply separately to switch their visa. They can either apply at the same time as you, or at any time before their current visa expires.

You should apply before your current visa expires.

Eligibility

To switch to a Global Talent visa you must be in the UK and have either:

- won an [eligible award \(/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list\)](/government/publications/global-talent-eligible-prize-list)
- proven that you are a leader or potential leader in one of the fields covered by the visa - this is also called getting an endorsement

If you're currently in the UK on a Student visa, you must also have either:

- completed the course you were sponsored to study
- studied for a PhD for at least 24 months

If you're applying for an endorsement

The fields you must prove you're a leader or potential leader in are:

- [academia or research \(/global-talent-researcher-academic\)](/global-talent-researcher-academic)
- [arts and culture \(/global-talent-arts-culture\)](/global-talent-arts-culture)
- [digital technology \(/global-talent-digital-technology\)](/global-talent-digital-technology)



You must apply to switch to the Global Talent visa within 3 months of getting an endorsement.

You cannot apply for the visa if the organisation that endorsed you has withdrawn its approval.

Who cannot apply to switch to this visa

You cannot apply to switch to this visa if you're currently in the UK in one of the following circumstances:

- on a visit visa
- on a short-term student visa
- on a Parent of a Child Student visa
- on a seasonal worker visa
- on a domestic worker in a private household visa
- [on immigration bail \(/bail-immigration-detainees\)](/bail-immigration-detainees)
- you were given [permission to stay outside the immigration rules \(/government/publications/chapter-1-section-14-leave-outside-the-immigration-rules\)](/government/publications/chapter-1-section-14-leave-outside-the-immigration-rules), for example on compassionate grounds

You must leave the UK and [apply for a Global Talent visa from abroad \(/global-talent/apply-from-outside-the-uk\)](/global-talent/apply-from-outside-the-uk) if you're in one of these categories.

How long you can stay

You can choose how long you want to apply for, up to 5 years at a time.

After you apply, you can stay in the UK until you get your decision.

If you have settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme, you do not need to apply for a visa.

If you want to stay longer in the UK

You may be able to get [indefinite leave to remain so you can settle in the UK \(/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa\)](/settle-in-the-uk/y/you-have-a-work-visa/global-talent-visa) after 3 or 5 years, depending on which field you work in and how you apply. This gives you the right to live, work and study here for as long as you like, and apply for benefits if you're eligible.

Fees



Switching to a Global Talent visa costs £623.

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- £456 when you apply for the endorsement
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If you're applying based on an eligible award, you'll pay the full £623 when you apply for the visa.

Your partner and children must pay £623 each if they want to apply to travel with you or join you later in the UK.

You will need to have your biometric information (fingerprints and a photo) taken. There's no fee for this.

Healthcare surcharge

You'll also have to [pay the healthcare surcharge \(/healthcare-immigration-application/pay\)](/healthcare-immigration-application/pay) as part of your application.

[Check how much you'll have to pay \(https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type\)](https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type) before you apply.

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How long it takes to get a decision

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You may be able to [pay to get a faster decision \(/faster-decision-visa-settlement\)](/faster-decision-visa-settlement) - you'll be told if you can when you apply.

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