



UNITED KINGDOM

Business Migration

UK-Tier 1 Visa:-Investor visa

Have a minimum of £2 million available to invest in qualifying UK investments, usually for 5 years.

Visa Validity-Initial - up to 3 years and 4 months Extension - 2 years



Eligibility

- Have access to at least £2,000,000 in investment funds, which has been held for a consecutive 2-year period;
- Be able to prove that the money belongs to you;
- Have opened a UK bank account. The bank must carry out all required due diligence checks and Know Your Customer enquiries and provide confirmation of this;
- no English language requirements or test for initial application;
- No individual maintenance requirement.



Investment Required

£2,000,000



Processing time

2-4 weeks from submission of the application to approval



Key Benefits

- The right to live, work, and study anywhere in the United Kingdom
- International business environment — London is the financial capital of the world
- Attractive tax regime for high-net-worth individuals who are resident but not domiciled
- Direct international flight connections to almost all major cities in the world
- World-renowned schools and universities

UK Sole Representative

An overseas business wishes to send a senior employee, who is not a majority shareholder, to the UK to set up its first UK establishment.

Visa Validity- Initial - 3 years Extension - 2 years

A sole representative route is an immigration route that allows senior executive, managers and directors of an overseas company to set up an office or an operation in the UK. The overseas company must meet the following requirements for the individual to be able to move the UK:

- The representative cannot be a majority shareholder of the business but they can be a minority shareholder in the company.
- The main business that is outside of the UK must be larger than the proposed business in the UK and it should not have been trading in the UK or carried out any transacted business in UK.

- As part of your application you will need to show financial information about the business.
- Verify the business has been operating for a number of years and if possible show that you have the appropriate capital available to start the business in UK.
- The timeline for the approval is between 1 to 3 months which thereafter you can move to the UK.

Representative of an Overseas Business visa (UK)

Attractive for reasons below:

1. Fast – Takes Between 3 Weeks to 3 Months for approval.
2. No financial investment commitment.
3. ILR can be attained in 5 years.
4. Citizenship in 6 years.
5. Can take spouse and kids.

Overview

We can apply as a representative of an overseas business if you're either:

- The sole representative of an overseas business planning to set up either a UK branch or wholly owned subsidiary
- An employee of an overseas newspaper, news agency or broadcasting organisation posted on a long-term assignment to the UK
- The Sole Representative of an Overseas Business visa is for businesses that would like to send a senior employee to the UK in order to establish a branch or wholly-owned subsidiary of the parent company.
- Indefinite leave to remain (ILR) can be achieved after 5 years in the Representative of an Overseas Business visa category. You will be given permission to enter and remain in the UK as a sole representative for up to 3 years initially. Beyond this, you will need to submit a further application for leave to remain, which will be valid for 2 years.
- After 5 years in the UK as a sole representative of an overseas business, you may be eligible to apply for settlement. Subject to meeting various requirements, sole representative visa holders can qualify for British citizenship once they have held indefinite leave to remain in the UK for a period of 12 months
- You may bring, or be joined by, their spouse, civil partner, unmarried or same-sex partner and any children under the age of 18. Sole representatives cannot bring their parents, siblings or other extended family members.

- The parent company (Existing company in India) does not need to demonstrate any minimum level of turnover or profit in order to send a senior employee to the UK as a sole representative. However, the parent company must be a genuine commercial enterprise with its principal place of business outside the UK. The business must not be established in order to facilitate your entry to the UK. The parent company must be a genuine business that has its headquarters and principal place of business outside the UK. It must intend to set up a branch or wholly-owned subsidiary in the UK.

Sole representatives

To apply as a sole representative you must:

- be recruited and employed outside the UK by an active and trading business (whose headquarters and principal place of business are, and will remain, outside the UK)
- have the skills, experience and knowledge to do the role
- hold a senior position within the business (but do not own or control the majority of it) and have full authority to make decisions on its behalf
- intend to establish the overseas business's first commercial presence in the UK, either as a registered branch or a wholly owned subsidiary
- You may also be eligible if the business has a legal entity in the UK that does not employ staff or do any business.
- If your employer has been working to establish a UK branch or subsidiary, but it is not yet set up, you can replace a previous sole representative.

How long it will take to get the Visa?

We should get a decision on our visa within 3 weeks or max 3 months.

What you can and cannot do

You can

work for your employer, full time

- bring your family ('dependants') with you to the UK
- apply to extend your visa
- apply to settle in the UK after you've been here for 5 years

You cannot

- work for yourself or any other business
- stay in the UK if the sole representative arrangement is ended by your employer
- switch to this visa from any other visa category
- get public funds

Knowledge of English

You may need to prove your knowledge of the English language when you apply.

You can prove your knowledge of English by either:

- passing an approved English language test with at least CEFR level A1 in speaking and listening
- having an academic qualification that was taught in English and is recognised by UK NARIC as being equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree, master's degree or PhD

Exceptions

You will not need to prove your knowledge of English if you're a national of one of the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago & USA

Innovator Visa

Main requirement- Have been approved by an "endorsing body" to set-up and run a business(es) in the UK.

Visa Validity- Initial 3 years Extension 3 years

The Tier 1 Innovator visa is aimed at those who can demonstrate relevant experience in business. It requires an individual to set up or run an existing business in the UK. The applicant must be at least 18 years of age and have at least GBP 50,000 in investment funds if they want to set up a new business. They do not need funds if their business is already established and has been endorsed for an earlier visa. The funding can come from any source.

Before one applies, one needs to have one's business or business idea assessed by a Home Office-approved endorsing body. They will assess the viability of the business or business idea and, if approved, provide an endorsement letter to submit with the application.

The immigration rules distinguish between applicants who apply under the 'new business' criteria and those who apply under the 'same business' criteria. Individuals who go to the UK for the first time will need to apply under the 'new business' requirement.

Successful innovators are granted leave for three years at a time and can bring their family members to the UK. After three years, innovators can apply to extend their stay for a further three years or to settle permanently in the UK under indefinite leave to remain (ILR). Each of these three stages (initial application, extension, settlement) requires endorsement from an endorsing body. To qualify for ILR under the Tier 1 Innovator visa category, applicants are required to meet certain criteria, detailed in the downloadable UK Innovator Program factsheet.

Criteria for the UK Innovator Program

You can apply for a Tier 1 Innovator visa if:

- You want to set up or run a business in the UK. You need to have your business or business idea endorsed by an approved body
- You are outside the UK
- You meet the other eligibility requirements (that is, are 18 years old, have sufficient personal savings, and speak the English language)

Procedures and time frame of the UK Innovator Program

The completed application and supporting documentation must be submitted to the diplomatic post in the applicant's country of residence. The time frame from the submission of the application is dependent on the embassy receiving the application, and approval may take between one and 8 weeks. Upon expiry of the initial three-year period, the main applicant must apply for an 'extension of stay' from within the UK. The authorities will issue the applicant with a three-year extension if all relevant criteria are met. Upon being granted settlement and spending a minimum of 5 years in the UK (the applicant must have held ILR in the last 12 months of that period), it is possible to apply for British citizenship.

Key advantages of the UK Innovator Program

- International business environment — London is the financial capital of the world
- Attractive tax regime for high-net-worth individuals who are resident but not domiciled
- Direct international flight connections to almost all major cities in the world
- World-renowned schools and universities

Detailed information on the Tier 1 Innovator visa is available on the Home Office website. This information is not intended to be immigration advice.

Additional Residence Visa Options — UK Overseas Business Visa

The Representatives of an Overseas Business visa is designed primarily to allow senior executives and managers of an overseas company to enter the UK to set up the company's first UK office, branch, or subsidiary.

Prospective investors who are senior employees of an overseas business and would like to go to the UK to set up and run a UK branch or wholly owned subsidiary of that business may be able to submit an application for a sole representative visa. The company must have its headquarters and principal place of business outside the UK and, where applicants are seeking entry as sole representatives, the company must have no other branch, subsidiary, or representative in the UK.

Criteria for the UK Overseas Business Visa

Applicants must:

- Have an intention to work full-time for their current employer in the UK and must have been recruited and employed outside the UK
- Maintain a physical residence in the UK to avoid losing their permanent resident status
- Pass the 'Life in the UK' test and an English language exam

The company:

- Must have its headquarters and principal place of business outside the UK
- Must have no other branch, subsidiary, or representative in the UK
- Must not have transacted business in the UK
- Cannot have any employees in the UK, although it can have previously used agents, such as distributors, in the UK
- Must be the same type of business as the parent company, which must still be actively trading and remain centered overseas

Procedures and time frame of the UK Overseas Business Visa

Prospective investors who are senior employees of an overseas business and would like to go to the UK to set up and run a UK branch or wholly owned subsidiary of that business may be able to submit an application for a sole representative visa. Married or unmarried partners and dependent children under 18 can apply to live in the UK along with the sole representative.


Successful applicants will be given permission to enter and remain in the UK for up to 3 years initially. Applicants from certain countries will be required to register with the police within 7 days of their arrival in the UK.

Beyond this, they will need to submit a further application for leave to remain, which would be valid for 2 years. After 5 years in the UK in the sole representative visa category, successful applicants may be granted permission to remain in the UK permanently.

Key advantages of the UK Overseas Business Visa

- International business environment — London is the financial capital of the world
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