



Home Office

Global Talent Guidance

Version 2/20

**To be used for all Global Talent applications
submitted on or after 20 February 2020**

This guidance must be read in conjunction with the Global Talent Immigration Rules. Information contained in the Immigration Rules is not duplicated within this document.

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Changes from last version of this guidance

This is the first version of this guidance created following the introduction of the Global Talent category. Amendments made to this guidance in future updates will be noted here.

About this guidance

This guidance is for individuals who are considering applying under the Global Talent category, and those who are extending or applying for settlement in this category. Global Talent is for talented and promising individuals in the fields of science, engineering, medicine, humanities, digital technology and arts and culture (including film and television, fashion design and architecture) wishing to work in the UK. Applicants will be leaders in their field, or have the potential to be leaders, as determined by an endorsing body that is approved by the Home Office.

This guidance does not duplicate information contained within the Global Talent Immigration Rules in Appendix W. This guidance must be read in conjunction with all of the relevant information in [Appendix W: Immigration Rules for Workers](#).

Details of service standards, application fees and links to the relevant application forms are available at www.gov.uk/global-talent.

The guidance is subject to change and you should check the version number to make sure you have the latest version. The latest version is always available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applications-under-global-talent

Application process

Initial applicants

If you are an initial applicant (someone who has not previously held leave in this category, or its predecessor Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent)), there are two applications stages:

- at **stage 1**, an endorsing body assesses your skills, abilities and achievements, and advises the Home Office of their decision on whether you should be endorsed; and
- at **stage 2**, the Home Office considers immigration aspects, such as whether general grounds for refusal apply and, if you are already in the UK, whether you are able to switch into the Global Talent category.

The initial application requirements appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.2. The endorsement requirements appear in part W7.

As stage 1 is an application for endorsement, and not a visa decision, it does not affect any current immigration leave you hold in the UK. **Please note** this means that if you are in the UK and your immigration leave expires whilst your stage 1 application is under consideration, you will be 'overstaying' in the UK. Overstaying is very likely to negatively affect any future applications for leave in the UK. However, a stage 2 application will extend existing leave while under consideration, so you may wish to consider this if your leave is due to expire.

If you want to submit both stage 1 and stage 2 at the same time, you must tick the relevant box on the stage 2 form to confirm this. If you tick this box, your stage 2 application will be placed on hold until the outcome of your stage 1 application is confirmed by the relevant endorsing body.

If you submit stage 1 and stage 2 applications at the same time, and your stage 1 endorsement application is unsuccessful then both applications will be refused. If your stage 1 endorsement application is refused, you can make another application, but your stage 2 application will not be placed on hold while the new stage 1 endorsement application is submitted.

Please note: Stage 2 applications cannot be placed on hold if you make a [priority application](#).

Although stage 1, the endorsement application, is considered and decided by the relevant endorsing body, the application is submitted to the Home Office. Questions about outstanding applications should therefore be directed to the Home Office, not the endorsing body.

The Home Office cannot advise you on which endorsing body is best placed to consider your skill set. The disciplines each endorsing body consider are listed in this guidance, and you should use this to identify an appropriate endorsing body.

You will only be granted your entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain (as applicable) if you are successful at both stages.

Extension and settlement applicants

The extension and settlement requirements appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.3 of the Immigration Rules.

If you currently hold leave under Global Talent and wish to extend this, you are not required to submit a new application (stage 1) to the endorsing body. Your existing endorsement will be sufficient, so long as this has not been withdrawn by the endorsing body. This means at the extension stage, you only need to submit a single application form and single fee. The same principle also applies to settlement applications. Only initial applicants go through the two-stage process.

Extending your existing immigration leave

If you are already in the UK and wish to extend your leave, you should apply before your current leave to remain expires. However, we will grant the period of leave you request from the date we make the decision, meaning if you apply too early, you may not be granted enough leave to qualify for settlement.

Applicants who currently hold Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) leave and wish to extend this leave must do so under the Global Talent Category.

Applying for settlement

Applicants who currently hold Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) leave and wish to apply for settlement must do so as a Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) migrant. Further details are available at www.gov.uk/tier-1-exceptional-talent

Further details about evidential requirements for extension and settlement can be found [later](#) in this document.

Making priority applications

You may be able to pay for a faster decision on a visa or settlement ('indefinite leave to remain') application.

You cannot submit a priority application for endorsement (stage 1) regardless of whether you are inside or outside of the UK.

Priority applications from inside the UK

If you are inside the UK, you can submit your immigration leave application (stage 2) as a super priority application, but should only do so if you have received your successful endorsement (stage 1) decision. Super priority applications (stage 2) cannot be held awaiting the outcome of a stage 1 application.

Applications to extend your Global Talent leave or to apply for settlement may also be submitted as super priority applications within the UK.

Applications submitted under a super priority service are subject to additional fees. More details on fees can be found on the relevant form available on GOV.UK.

Priority applications from outside the UK

If you are outside the UK, you may be able to submit your entry clearance application (stage 2) using a priority service or super priority service, depending on options available in the country where you apply. Again, you should only apply for stage 2 if you have received your endorsement (stage 1) decision.

Applications to extend your Global Talent leave outside of the UK may also be submitted via priority services where applicable.

Applications submitted under a priority service are subject to additional fees. More details of the available options in each country are available at www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre.

Applications made outside of the UK

Stage 2 and extension applications can be submitted overseas in any country if you can demonstrate to the Entry Clearance Officer that you have authority to be living in that country or territory and that this authority was given for a period of more than 6 months.

Travelling during your application process

You can travel while your stage 1 application is outstanding. However, **please note** that if you have submitted a stage 2, extension or settlement application, travelling outside of the Common Travel Area will mean that your application is automatically withdrawn.

Date of application

Your date of application for the stage 2 visa application will vary depending on where your application was submitted:

If you are outside the UK	If you are inside the UK
The date of application is the date that you pay your application fee , which is the date shown on your payment receipt.	The date of application is the date the online application is submitted .

Endorsing bodies

Arts and culture applicants (Arts Council England and its associated bodies)

The endorsement requirements for arts and culture applicants appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.5.

Disciplines covered by Arts Council England or its associated bodies

Arts Council England cover the disciplines listed below for the whole of the UK. Where appropriate, they will liaise with the three national arts bodies covering Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Exceptional Talent and Exceptional Promise applications	Exceptional Talent applications
<p>Considered by Arts Council England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dance• Music• Theatre• Visual arts (including museums and galleries)• Literature• Combined arts <p>For a more comprehensive list of disciplines covered by Arts Council England see their Guide for Global Talent Applicants.</p> <p>Considered by the British Fashion Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fashion design <p>Considered by the Royal Institute of British Architects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Architecture	<p>Considered by the Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Film• Television• Animation• Post-production• Visual effects

Arts Council England accept applications on behalf of the Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television (PACT), the British Fashion Council (BFC) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). If your discipline is covered by PACT, BFC or RIBA, your application will be transferred by Arts Council England to the relevant organisation for a specialist assessment.

Digital technology applicants (Tech Nation)

The endorsement requirements for digital technology applicants appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.6.

Technical or business skills covered by Tech Nation

Tech Nation’s criteria are designed for applicants with technical and business skills in the digital technology sector. Suitable skill types are listed below; however, **please note** that this list is not exhaustive and provides an indication of the typical applicants assessed by Tech Nation.

Technical skills	Business skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DevOps / SysOps engineers • Principal software engineers/developers • Experienced data scientists/data engineers • Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning experts (AI, NLP, ML) • Cybersecurity experts • Hardware engineers • Experienced front-end developers • Operating systems engineers • Experienced video game developers • Experienced UX/UI designers • Experienced Mobile App developers • Experienced back end developers leading development of or contributing heavily to major new technologies or open source projects (e.g. blockchain, Scala, Golang, Elasticsearch etc) • CTO or VP engineering experience managing teams of in-house employees at a growing digital business • Virtual and augmented reality developers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of leading substantial VC investment over £25m GBP • Experience as a commercial / business lead (P&L, growth, sales and distribution strategy) in a digital business • Experience of expanding or growing a significant product-led digital technology business • Sector-specific experience e.g. payment infrastructure in FinTech / international expansion in EdTech etc. • Solution sales experts • Experienced Product Manager • SaaS or enterprise sales leadership for digital services • Solution sales skills performed for a growing B2B digital business (i.e. not big-company experience) • Performance marketing experts, performed in house for digital businesses • Experienced and senior VC or PE analysts with track records of leading investments in digital businesses • Experience as C Suite in a SMEs + (CEO, CMO, CIO) or head of operations for a digital business
<p>Please note the following specialisms are not considered suitable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Delivery, Process Delivery, Outsourcing, Consultancy / ERP Consultancy, Systems Admin and all related fields. • Corporate roles or experience of managing large corporate teams. • Junior investors / analysts. Such specialisms must be supported by an investment track record made at a senior level and are not suitable for Exceptional Promise. <p>Business skills apply to in-house work within product-led digital technology companies, not tech-enabled or service companies such as agencies, outsourcers, marketing firms etc.</p>	

Digital technology applicants – fast-track route

If you are applying as a digital technology applicant, you may be able to take advantage of Tech Nation's fast-track option. In practice, this enables your application to be processed by Tech Nation approximately one to two weeks faster.

Please note, this option does not affect Home Office visa processing times. Applicants will not be informed if their application is being processed under fast-track. Applications which are not accepted under this fast-track process will still be processed within the usual processing timescales.

Whether your application is eligible to be fast tracked will be at the discretion of Tech Nation. The qualifying criteria for Tech Nation's fast-track option are the same as for a standard consideration, as are shown in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.6.

If you can provide evidence of being accepted onto one of the recognised UK accelerator programmes listed below, Tech Nation will fast-track your endorsement application. The evidence in your endorsement application should provide clear details regarding your plans in the UK, outside of your involvement in the accelerator programme.

The following listed accelerators are currently eligible for this fast-track route (this includes any active programmes run by these accelerators throughout the UK):

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

To apply under the fast-track option, you must confirm this on the [Tech Nation application form](#).

Digital technology applicants – Examples of relevant evidence

The digital technology endorsement requirements appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.6.

The following examples indicate the type of evidence that could be assessed by Tech Nation when considering the key and qualifying criteria for either Exceptional Talent or Exceptional Promise. These examples are not exhaustive and alternative relevant evidence can be supplied to demonstrate you meet the relevant criteria.

Wherever possible, you should provide financial documentation and proof of earnings to enable Tech Nation to assess the strength of your application (for example, where evidence relates to business ownership, commercial contracts, employment contracts, revenue history, product/market traction, or financing history in the case of investments or funds. For work within a start-up, the company's capital raised and revenues should be provided.

Any statements regarding your previous or future impact on the UK digital technology sector should be supported by relevant evidence where possible.

How do I demonstrate that I have a proven track record or examples of innovation in the digital technology sector as a director / founder of a product-led digital technology sector company or an employee working in a new digital field or concept?

You can demonstrate this by providing evidence of any genuine and significant product-led digital technology businesses you have established as a founder or director which is currently active or has been dissolved in the last five years. Any company provided as evidence should demonstrate a level of income beyond solely covering the applicant's salary.

Examples of relevant evidence include:

- Evidence of innovation / product development, proof of product in market and associated traction through revenue.
- Evidence for each business should include your last set of audited accounts, projections for current financial year and articles of association.
- Evidence of domestic and/or international sales should show customer numbers for each country in which the company is operating, including a ranking of your distribution channels with a breakdown of when these sales were achieved for each channel (i.e. online, physical retail, 3rd party distributors, resellers etc.).
- Evidence of employment contract with salary information including any bonus and equity options and history of earnings.

If you are an employee working in a new digital field or concept, this must be clearly demonstrated, for example by providing a patent application (patent should include verifiable ID on Google Patents).

How do I demonstrate that I have been recognised for my work outside of my immediate occupation that contributed to the advancement of the sector?

You can demonstrate this by providing evidence that you have gone beyond your day-to-day profession to engage in an activity that contributes to the advancement of the sector. Examples may include mentoring, advising, organising interest groups, leading on policy, teaching at a university or participating in clubs or societies for the furthering of the field.

Examples of relevant evidence include:

- Evidence of contributions to an Open Source project;
- Your GitHub profile demonstrating active participation in a collaborative project;
- Your Stack Overflow profile showing significant contribution to discussions around code
- A link to one or more videos of talks or conferences that have had a significant viewership;
- An op-ed or news article that exemplifies thought leadership, evidence of mentorship.
- Evidence of mentorship (i.e. the sharing or teaching of skills and knowledge). Mentorship should have been done within an organised, structured and recognised mentoring scheme, which can be clearly demonstrated through evidence. Training a colleague or simply providing support or advice is not considered sufficient evidence for these criteria.

How do I demonstrate that I have made a significant technical, commercial, or entrepreneurial contribution in the digital technology sector either as a founder, entrepreneur or employee of a product-led digital technology company?

Tech Nation will distinguish whether you are a technical applicant (whether your occupation requires you to write code or manage developers) or whether you are a business applicant (any occupation within a product-led digital technology company that doesn't require you to write code):

Please note that the term 'significant contribution', in this criterion, requires you to demonstrate impact, not necessarily innovation. This is different to Key Criteria 1 where you are required to demonstrate high levels of innovation, not necessarily impact. If these are your chosen criteria, then your evidence should clearly demonstrate this differentiation. Submitting the same evidence for both criteria may not be sufficient if it does not meet these different requirements.

Technical examples of a "significant contribution" include:

- Having led in the development of high-impact digital products or services;
- Starting or contributing to open source projects in a way that has been acknowledged by peers as advancing the field;
- Having worked as a key engineer in the core product of a start-up, showing evidence as to how you have contributed to its success.

Documents that will be considered as acceptable evidence include (please provide more than one piece of evidence. The list below contains suggestions – other types of documents can be submitted):

- Employment contract with salary information including any bonus and equity options (although you will have to demonstrate how you have gone beyond your day-to-day activities to demonstrate that you have made a significant impact in the sector);
- Letter from an employer wherever applicable. This is in addition to the required letters of endorsement and should be written by another individual;
- Documentation on product designs or architecture diagram clearly showing your contribution. Please ensure this evidence is no more than two A4 pages long and demonstrates your personal work, not that of the company or team of individuals;
- GitHub account that contains lines of code clearly showing your continuing contribution.

Business examples of a "significant contribution" include:

- Having led or played a key role in the growth of a product-led digital technology company, such as influencing investment and strategy or delivering major products or releases;
- Having founded a successful product-led digital technology company or other organisation and leading it.

Documents that will be considered as acceptable evidence include (please provide more than one piece of evidence. The list below contains suggestions – other types of documents can be submitted):

- Employment contract containing salary information including any bonus and equity options;
- Letter from an employer, wherever applicable. This is in addition to the required letters of endorsement and should be written by another individual;

- Documents detailing your significant contribution towards commercial success (such as evidence of sales pipeline built and delivered, growth generated, leads generated, processes developed and implemented).

How do I demonstrate that I have been (or have the potential to be) recognised as a leading talent in the digital technology sector?

Any activity you are providing as evidence of recognition should have occurred within the past 5 years.

Examples of relevant evidence include:

- You have authored a well-reviewed book on digital technology or on programming or published material in a professional or major trade publication. You must include the title, date and evidence that you are the author of such published material and any necessary translation;
- You led the growth of a product-led digital technology company or product, as evidenced by a letter from a leading industry expert describing your work, or as evidenced by news clippings, lines of code or similar evidence of your choice.

Please note that evidence of media recognition should include details about the publication and target audience. LinkedIn is not considered sufficient as a trade publication. Evidence of recognition provided by a colleague, friend or manager is not sufficient for meeting this criterion.

How do I demonstrate continuous learning / mastery of new commercial or technical digital skills throughout my career?

Continuous learning is defined as being able to show a record of consistent and frequent patterns of study, ranging over an extended period of time (e.g. the past 5 years). Each course should have required at least 20 hours to complete and you should evidence the hours required for each course. Short courses (less than 20 hours) would not be considered sufficiently strong evidence.

Examples of relevant evidence include:

- Evidence of having continuously updated technical or commercial skills showing clear progression and achievement. This can be in the form of various projects or courses completed (whether at university or independently), which demonstrate a clear progression either in depth or breadth;
- Evidence of learning processes or tool such as Agile or Scrum or experimenting with new technologies, coding libraries or languages, or tools, as evidenced for example on your GitHub or Stack Overflow profile;
- Evidence of expertise and maintaining up-to-date knowledge of your sector trends, as shown for example by a relevant qualification, or by a talk in a prestigious conference (you should provide conference details and number of actual attendees, not registrants)

Please note that internal company awards, training or certificates would not be considered as sufficiently strong evidence to meet this requirement.

How do I demonstrate that I have exceptional ability in the field by making academic contributions through research?

Examples of relevant evidence include:

- Evidence of at least one significant contribution to the field in the form of a paper published in a top-tier peer-reviewed journal. Research undertaken as part of an undergraduate or MSc thesis does not qualify for this criterion;
- Evidence of awards received for outstanding applied work, supported by excellent academic achievement (a first-class degree or distinction);
- A letter of support from a research supervisor or other expert in your area of expertise affirming their potential world-class standard. This is in addition to the required letters of recommendation and must be written by another individual;
- Evidence of an award that has been granted by an organisation of a similar standing and distinction to the Royal Society in the UK, as well as the selection criteria for this award.

Please note that awards must be of merit and not solely monetary (e.g. grants, bursaries or scholarships).

Digital technology applications – Further Information

Further information on digital technology applications is available on the Tech Nation website at: <https://technation.io/visa/>

Science, engineering, humanities and medicine applicants

The endorsement requirements for the endorsing bodies for science, engineering, humanities and medicine, including their fast-track routes, appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.7.

Disciplines covered by the endorsing bodies for science, engineering, humanities and medicine

The endorsing bodies for science, engineering, humanities and medicine cover a range of disciplines for active researchers in academic, industry or government research institutions.

For the endorsed funder fast-track route, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) can endorse applicants from any research field or discipline within the scope and remit of the endorsed funder. For all other applications within this field, you should use the list below to decide which endorsing body, if any, covers your particular area of discipline.

The British Academy	
<p>Classical Antiquity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latin language and literature • Ancient Greek language and literature • Classical studies • Ancient history 	<p>Theology and Religious Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theology • Biblical studies • Comparative religion • Religious studies
<p>African, Asian and the Middle East Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient oriental languages • Chinese language and literature • Japanese language and literature • Other Asian languages and literature • Modern Middle Eastern languages and literature • African language and literature • Ancient Middle Eastern/Central Asian languages and literature 	<p>Linguistics and Philology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linguistics • Sociolinguistics • Philology • Cognitive science • Psycholinguistics
<p>Early Modern Languages and Literature: From 1500 - 1830</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language and literature from 1500 - 1830 • Celtic languages and literature from 1500 - 1830 • European languages and literature from 1500-1830 • Slavonic and East European languages and literature from 1500-1830 • Other languages and literature from 1500-1830 	<p>Modern Languages, Literatures and other Media: From 1830 to present day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative literature from 1830 to present day • English language and literature from 1830 to present day • Celtic languages and literature from 1830 to present day • European languages and literature from 1830 to present day Slavonic and East European languages and literature from 1830 to present day • Other languages and literature from 1830 to present day • Drama, theatre and film studies

- Library and information sciences
- Cultural studies
- Communications and media studies

History of Art and Music

- History of art
- History of music
- Architecture
- Ethnomusicology

Archaeology

- Prehistory
- Medieval and post-medieval archaeology
- Classical archaeology

Medieval Studies: History and Literature:

From 400-1500

- Medieval history
- English language and literature from 400 - 1500
- Celtic languages and literature from 400-1500
- European languages and literature from 400-1500
- Slavonic and East European languages and literature from 400 - 1500
- Other languages and literature from 400 - 1500

Early Modern History to c1850

- Early modern history
- Social history - to c1850
- History of science and ideas - to c1850

Modern History from c1850

- Modern history
- Social history - from 1850
- History of science and ideas - from 1850

Philosophy

- Political philosophy
- Economic philosophy
- Logics
- Metaphysics
- Ethics

Economics and Economic History

- Economics
- Economic history
- Business and management studies
- Econometrics
- Agricultural economics

Anthropology and Geography

- Anthropology
- Human geography
- Economic geography
- Cultural studies - anthropology
- Historical geography

Sociology, Demography and Social Statistics

- Sociology
- Social policy and administration
- Demography
- Education
- Cultural studies - social science

Political Studies: Political Theory, Government and International Relations

- Political theory
- International relations
- Government
- Political economy
- Comparative politics
- Development studies
- Parliamentary studies

Psychology

- Psychology - social science
- Cognitive science - social science
- Behavioural science - social science
- Educational psychology
- Social psychology

Law

- Law
- Socio-legal studies
- European law
- Jurisprudence
- Theory of law

Management and Business Studies:

- Management studies
- Business studies

Culture, Media and Performance Studies:

- Cultural studies
- Film studies
- Media studies
- New media and digital culture studies
- Performance studies
- Cultural geography
- Cultural sociology
- Visual culture studies
- Photographic studies
- Sound studies
- Areas of the digital humanities

Education:

- Children and childhood
- Human development, cognition and learning
- Learning difficulties and developmental disorders
- Language, linguistics, language processing, literacy and bilingualism
- School organisation and effectiveness
- Curriculum, teachers and teaching
- Media and communication
- Parenting, families and youth culture
- Gender, ethnicity, class and identity
- The growth of mass education
- Educational systems, demography, statistics, policy and governance
- Economics, employment, poverty, wealth, social mobility and education
- Education and international development

The Royal Academy of Engineering

Aerospace

- Aerospace manufacturing
- Turbomachinery and aerothermal engineering
- Avionics
- Radar Systems
- Antennae
- Satellite Systems
- Autonomous systems
- Airlines
- Materials for aerospace

Chemical and Process

- Hydrogen
- Carbon
- Clean technology
- Catalysis
- Combustion
- Food processing
- Chemical
- Pharmaceuticals
- Coal and gas technologies
- Nanotechnology
- Petroleum geoscience
- Earth Science – Petroleum engineering

Biomedical and Medical

- Medical devices
- Medical imaging
- Medical physics
- Biomaterials
- Medical robotics
- Optoelectronics
- Bionanotechnology
- Drug delivery
- Rehabilitation
- Systems/synthetic biology
- Neuroscience
- Forensics
- Orthotics

Computing and Communications

- Imaging
- Informatics
- Algorithms
- Web and data science
- Software engineering
- Signal processing
- H-CI/C-HI
- Computer vision
- Image processing
- Artificial intelligence
- Data science
- Telecommunications

Civil, Construction & built environment

- Environmental engineering
- Infrastructure
- Contamination
- Numerical modelling
- Climate change and sustainability
- Fire
- Waste Management
- Offshore and coastal engineering
- Geotechnical engineering
- Engineering design
- Building engineering physics

Materials and Mining

- Metallurgy
- Structural integrity
- Materials science
- Plastics and composites
- Materials performance
- Structural materials
- Welding and joining technologies

Electrical and Electronic

- Wireless
- Signal Processing
- Semiconductor
- Nanotechnology
- Networks
- Optoelectronics
- Electromagnetic
- Electronic devices
- Electrical materials
- Sensors
- Microsystems
- Acoustics
- Lasers
- Control
- Power

Transport and Mechanical

- Automotive
- Rail and Marine engineering
- Transportation infrastructure
- Turbomachinery
- Mechatronics
- Acoustics and vibrations
- Ultrasonics
- Heat and Thermodynamics
- Fluid Dynamics

<p>Energy and Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy • Transmission and Distribution • Energy Infrastructure • Hydrogen Power • Fuel cells • Energy conservation • Energy conversion technologies • Nuclear energy 	<p>Special (including emerging or multi-disciplinary areas of engineering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantum computing • Agricultural engineering • Engineering project management • Leadership or management of engineering business • Engineering biology • Machine learning • Neurotechnology • Quantum technologies • Regenerative medicine/engineering • Robotics
<p>Innovation & Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business • Innovation • Entrepreneurship • IP • Knowledge transfer • Design • Ethics • Education • Law • Public engagement • Regulations • Policy • Risk • Sustainability 	

The Royal Society	
<p>Pure and Applied Mathematics, Computer Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanics (Theoretical and Applied) • Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics • Pure Mathematics • Statistics and Operational Research 	<p>Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Theoretical Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry, general • Chemistry, organic • Chemistry, inorganic • Chemistry, physical • Chemistry, applied • Chemistry, theoretical • Chemistry, biological • Chemistry, materials
<p>Computer Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems, including networking • Artificial Intelligence • Machine Learning • Vision • Databases • Programming Languages and Verification • Numerical Computing • Human-computing interaction 	

- New computational paradigms (quantum, biological)
- Security and privacy

Astronomy and Physics, Theoretical Physics, and Applied Physics

- Astronomy
- Astrophysics
- Biophysics
- Computational Physics
- Condensed Matter (including softmatter, liquids and nano-materials)
- Cosmic Radiation
- Cosmology
- Crystallography
- Elementary Particle Physics
- Gravitation
- Interstellar Medium
- Lasers and Optoelectronics
- Low temperature physics
- Magnetism
- Mathematical and theoretical physics
- Mathematical Astronomy
- Mathematical Astrophysics
- Mathematical Cosmology
- Mathematical Gravitation
- Nuclear Atomic and Molecular Physics
- Planetary Science
- Plasma Physics
- Quantum Theory
- Semi-conductors
- Solar Physics
- Statistical
- Physics (Applied)
- Physics (Experimental)

Engineering, Technology, Instrumentation, Materials Science, Experimental Fluid Dynamics

- General
- Civil
- Structural
- Environmental
- Mechanical
- Chemical
- Aeronautical
- Electrical
- Electronics
- Opto-electronic (including lasers, optical microscopy, optical imaging, fibre optic components and optical computing devices)
- Semi-conductors
- Space Technology
- Communications (including information theory)
- Computer engineering (including software)
- Control (including robotics)
- Medical
- Nuclear Technology
- Fluid Dynamics
- Materials Science (including materials engineering)
- Instrumentation
- Electric power

Earth Sciences and Environmental Physical Sciences

- Archaeology
- Mineralogy
- Physical Geography
- Atmospheric Physics and Meteorology
- Atmospheric Chemistry
- Climate Sciences
- Hydrology
- Physical Oceanography
- Chemical Oceanography
- Limnology
- Geology
- Geodesy

Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Cell Biology

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Biophysics and Structural Biology
- Molecular Immunology
- Molecular Microbiology
- Cell Biology (including molecular cell biology)

Developmental Biology, Genetics (excluding population genetics), Immunology and Microbiology (except medical microbiology)

- Developmental biology

- Geochemistry
- Geophysics
- Seismology

- General Microbiology (including bacteriology and virology)
- Cellular and Humoral Immunology
- Cellular Pathology
- Genetics (excluding population genetics)
- Cytogenetics
- Immunology
- Epidemiology (non-clinical)

Anatomy, Physiology, Neurosciences, Health and Human Sciences

- Animal and Human Physiology and Anatomy
- Physiology and Medicine (non-clinical)
- Pharmacology (non-clinical)
- Physiology (non-clinical) (including biophysics of cells)
- Endocrinology and Reproduction (non-clinical)
- Experimental Psychology
- Behavioural Neuroscience
- Development and Control of Behaviour
- Cellular Neuroscience

Health and Human Sciences

- Molecular Medicine
- Medical Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Medical Statistics and Demography
- Medical Instrumentation

Those conducting Clinical research to include the following disciplines:

- Anaesthetics
- Emergency Medicine
- Infection/Microbiology
- Medical Education
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Occupational Medicine
- Oncology
- Paediatrics and Child Health
- Pathology
- Physicians/Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Public Health and Epidemiology
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Cardiology
- Dental
- Dermatology

Organismal, Evolutionary and Ecological Science, including soils and agriculture

- Organismal Animal Biology (including invertebrate and vertebrate zoology)
- Plant Sciences / Botany
- Ethology
- Evolution
- Ecology (including behavioural ecology)
- Taxonomy and Systematics
- Population Genetics
- Agricultural Science
- Environmental Biology
- Biological Modelling
- Biological Statistics
- Soil Science
- Entomology
- Palaeozoology
- Parasitology

- Endocrinology
- General Practice
- Gastroenterology
- Hepatology
- Genetics (related to Human Health)
- Haematology
- Histopathology
- Immunology (related to Human Health)
- Infectious diseases and Tropical Medicine
- Microbiology (related to Human Health)
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Medicine
- Pharmacology
- Respiratory
- Rheumatology
- Urology
- Virology
- Medical Statistics

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)

The endorsed funder route managed by UKRI is for applicants in all disciplines in science, engineering, humanities and medicine who meet the requirements in Paragraph W7.7.3.

Fast-Track – Fellowships and Senior Appointment

The fast-track criteria for applicants who hold a specific peer-reviewed research fellowship or who have been appointed to an eligible senior academic or research position at an approved UK Higher Education Institution or research institute appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.7.1 and W7.7.2.

The lists of approved peer-reviewed research fellowships and approved UK Higher Education Institutions or research institutes appear online at <https://royalsociety.org/global-talent-visa>.

Full Peer Review – Assessment Process

The full peer review application criteria appear in [Appendix W](#) in paragraph W7.7.4.

For full peer review applications, the endorsing bodies for science, engineering, humanities and medicines assess applications in two steps. An initial eligibility check is completed to check you meet mandatory (and, for Exceptional Talent applicants only, qualifying) criteria. You will only be eligible for full assessment if you pass this first step.

If you meet these eligibility criteria, your application will immediately go forward for a full assessment which will look at the strength of the evidence you provide. Meeting the mandatory and qualifying eligibility criteria where applicable does not mean you will be endorsed, it only

means your application can proceed to a full assessment. If you have passed the first step, the relevant endorsing body will assign experts in your field to assess the strength of your application, in particular the requirements at W7.7.4(c).

Evidential requirements for Global Talent Stage 1 applications

Paragraph W7.4 of Appendix W contains general evidential requirements for stage 1 (endorsement) applications. Specific requirements for each endorsing bodies' requirements can be found in paragraphs W7.5 to W7.7.

The Global Talent application form directs Tech Nation applicants to upload their evidential requirements directly to the Tech Nation platform and therefore no evidence is sent to the Home Office for consideration.

If you are applying to be considered by any other endorsing body, you will be directed to send the required evidence to the Home Office once you have completed the Global Talent application form. You must only provide photocopies of these documents unless the Home Office specifically request originals. The Home Office will not take responsibility for irreplaceable and/or valuable items provided as part of an application. Applicants who choose to send original documents, which were not specifically requested by the Home Office, will only have these documents returned if they provide a suitable pre-paid return delivery envelope.

Endorsement Review

What is an endorsement review?

This is the mechanism for reviewing unsuccessful stage 1 endorsement decisions made under Global Talent, where an applicant believes an error has been made in the decision. The endorsement review is only available for a Global Talent endorsement application. It is free of charge.

An endorsement review request must be made within 28 calendar days from the date the Home Office sends you the refusal email.

The endorsement review is a non-statutory scheme; there is no legislation setting out what it covers or who is eligible to apply. The entirety of the policy is contained within this guidance. You must fully read this guidance before deciding whether submitting an endorsement review request is appropriate in your circumstances.

Who can apply for endorsement review?

If you have been refused an endorsement under the Global Talent category, and believe this is because incorrect procedures have been followed, you can apply to the Home Office for an endorsement review.

What if the endorsement review request refers to matters outside the scope of the endorsement review?

Where this occurs, the matters should be dealt with under the normal Home Office complaints procedure. In such cases, you will be advised in writing.

Who conducts the endorsement review?

Once a request for an endorsement review is received, the Home Office will forward this to the relevant endorsing body that considered your original application. The Home Office will provide a response following this consultation, setting out the decision from the endorsing body.

How does the applicant apply?

Applicants should apply using the endorsement review request form, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/global-talent-and-tier-1-exceptional-talent-endorsement-review-form>

What is the deadline for applying for endorsement review?

You have 28 calendar days from the date of receipt of the refusal email, to submit your request for endorsement review.

What if an application is submitted late?

Where an endorsement review request is received outside the 28 calendar-day period, the Home Office will consider if there are exceptional circumstances to accept the application outside of the deadline.

If the endorsement review request is late and the endorsement reviewer decides not to perform the endorsement review, the Home Office will email you with an explanation of why it is not being accepted.

How many times can you request an endorsement review?

You may request only one endorsement review per refusal decision. Any further review requests received for the same refusal decision will not be accepted. They will be returned to you.

If you have new or further information, documents or other paperwork that you failed to submit with your original application, you will need to make a new application and pay the appropriate fee.

How long will the endorsement review take?

The review will be completed, and you will be notified in writing of the decision within 28 calendar days from the date of receipt of the endorsement review request form.

If, in exceptional circumstances, where it is not possible to complete the review within the 28 calendar days, the Home Office will notify you in writing as to when to expect a decision.

Please note that an endorsement review will not extend your immigration leave while a decision is being made. This is because your endorsement application is not a valid leave application for immigration purposes. This means that if you are already inside the UK and your leave is expiring while your endorsement review is under consideration, you will be considered to be overstaying in the UK.

What will the endorsement reviewer look at?

The Home Office will only examine the original application to confirm that the correct procedures were followed when deciding your application. You must not resubmit information and you are

not able to provide new evidence as part of the review.

Any new evidence you submit will be returned to you together with the outcome of the endorsement review.

If you believe your application would be successful were you were to submit additional evidence, you should submit a new stage 1 endorsement application with the appropriate fee for consideration.

How are endorsement review decisions made?

The Home Office will focus on the areas which you have asked to be reviewed. They will check that documents have been correctly passed on to the endorsing body, and that the correct processes have been used.

The endorsement reviewer may recommend that the refusal should be reconsidered if they find that the Home Office:

- failed properly to pass on evidence submitted with the original application;
- made a mistake in processing the application;
- failed to pass on correctly the reasons for refusing the endorsement.

In this case, the endorsement reviewer will recommend serving a new refusal letter giving a full explanation for the refusal.

Where the endorsement reviewer recommends in line with the above, that the reasons for refusal are incorrect, you may still be refused but with new grounds for refusal.

The endorsement reviewer will not recommend that the original decision is overturned simply because you claim there is a fault with the Home Office's underlying processes or policies.

How are you informed of the result of the endorsement review?

If the decision is upheld and the reasons for refusal remain the same:

- the Home Office will notify you by email. You will not be entitled to a further endorsement review as the grounds for refusal has not changed.

If the decision is upheld, but with revised reasons for refusal:

- a new refusal letter will be served along with the endorsement review letter from the endorsement reviewer stating why the refusal has still been upheld. If there are fresh reasons for refusal which were not notified originally, you will be able to submit a further endorsement review request limited to those fresh reasons.

If the decision is overturned and the endorsement is issued:

- the Home Office will notify you by email.

Evidential Requirements for Stage 2 applications

Paragraph W7.2 of Appendix W requires you to have obtained an endorsement to be granted entry clearance or leave to remain.

There is no requirement within the Immigration Rules to provide a copy of your endorsement letter when you apply for stage 2; however, it may speed up the consideration of your visa application if you do so.

Evidential requirements for Global Talent Extensions and Settlement applications

Paragraphs W7.3(a)(i) and W7.3(b) of [Appendix W](#) require you to provide evidence to show you have earned money in the UK linked to your expert field, during your most recent grant of Global Talent leave. However, there is no minimum level of earnings needed to meet this requirement.

The Immigration Rules do not specify which documents should be provided. This guidance gives some examples of the type of information that may be acceptable to meet this requirement. It is not exhaustive: if you have evidence from an independent source and which can be verified if required, a caseworker may choose to accept this as an alternative.

Examples of evidence that could be provided if you are a salaried employee or a director of a limited company are as follows:

- Payslips showing your employer's name
- A letter from your employer confirming your earnings
- Personal bank or building society statements clearly showing the payments made to you from your employer or a limited company of which you are a director
- A document produced by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) that shows details of declarable taxable income on which tax has been paid or will be paid in a tax year (for example, a tax refund letter or tax demand)
- A document produced by an employer as an official return to HMRC, showing details of earnings on which tax has been paid in a tax year (for example, a P60)
- A document produced by a person, business, or company as an official return to HMRC, showing details of earnings on which tax has been paid or will be paid in a tax year. The document must have been approved, registered, or stamped by HMRC.
- Dividend vouchers showing the amount of money paid by the company to you.

Examples of evidence that could be provided if you have worked in a self-employed capacity are as follows:

- A letter from a fully qualified chartered accountant or certified accountant who is a member of a registered body in the UK, confirming the amount you have earned. If your earnings are a share of the net profit of the company, the letter should also explain this.
- Company or business financial accounts which meet statutory requirements and clearly show the net profit made.

Examples of evidence that could be provided if you have worked as a researcher are as follows:

- Details of the funding provided by an institution. The institution does not need to be based in the UK. The evidence can be in the form of a letter confirming the details of the funding and should include all of the following:

- Your name
- The name of the host institution where you are based
- The title of the post
- Details of the funding provided, including the amount of funding.

Where your evidence of earnings does not clearly show they were for work in the field for which you were endorsed, example evidence you can provide includes:

- A contract of service or hosting agreement between you and a UK employer/institution which indicates your field of work;
- A letter from your UK employer/institution confirming that you have earned money in your field.

Settlement – Qualifying periods

Paragraph W2.1(a) of Appendix W explains that main applicants endorsed by one of the four Science bodies qualify for accelerated settlement in 3 years instead of 5 years.

Your biometric residence permit does not confirm which Global Talent criteria you were considered under, and therefore will not help you confirm whether you qualify for accelerated settlement. Your stage 1 endorsement letter will name the endorsing body who endorsed your application and state whether you were granted under ‘talent’, ‘promise’ or UKRI’s endorsed funder fast track route.

If you are not sure which criteria you were granted leave under, and you no longer hold a copy of your stage 1 endorsement letter, you can check this by emailing:

GlobalTalentEndorsements@homeoffice.gov.uk

Settlement - Global Talent Dependants

The qualifying period for a partner of a Global Talent applicant is 5 years regardless of whether the main applicant is eligible for accelerated settlement.

Dependent children can qualify for settlement if both parents are settled or are applying for settlement at the same time. Dependent children can also qualify if they are applying at the same time as the main applicant, if the main applicant has sole responsibility for the child.

More details about the requirements for Global Talent Dependants can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-dependants-of-uk-visa-applicants-tiers-1-2-4-5.

Change of circumstances

If your application has been decided but your circumstances change, you may need to take further action. If:

- your contact details change
- your legal representative’s details change
- dependent family members’ details change
- if you separate from your partner
- if you get a criminal conviction

- if any of your children stop living with you

you should complete a change of circumstances form. Further details are available at www.gov.uk/change-circumstances-visa-brp.

If:

- your name changes, for example if you have got married
- your nationality changes
- your facial appearance changes
- your gender changes

a new application must be sent to amend the details on your biometric residence permit. Further details are available at www.gov.uk/transfer-visa.

If your application is still outstanding and you need to inform us of a change in your circumstances, you should complete a change of circumstances form.

Isle of Man Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent)

The Isle of Man has separate Immigration Rules and a separate immigration service. It operates a Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) route which is broadly similar to the UK's Global Talent category. Part of the application process is managed by the UK. However, there are some differences that applicants should be aware of.

How do I apply for endorsement (stage 1)?

Applying for stage 1 is identical regardless of whether you are applying under the UK's Global Talent or Isle of Man's Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) rules. The application is handled in the UK. Isle of Man applicants would use the Global Talent (stage 1) application form

How do I apply for entry clearance (stage 2)?

Applications for entry clearance are made online via Visas4UK using the Global Talent (stage 2) application form, in the same way as for UK entry clearance. However, your case is considered by an Isle of Man caseworker.

How do I apply if I am already in the Isle of Man? Can I switch?

For details on how to make an application from inside the Isle of Man or for specific details on the Isle of Man Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) requirements, please see the Isle of Man Government website: www.gov.im/categories/travel-traffic-and-motoring/immigration/.

I have a question about the Isle of Man's Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) route. Who should I contact?

You should contact the Isle of Man's Immigration Services: www.gov.im/categories/travel-traffic-and-motoring/immigration/contact-us/.