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UK START-UP
&
INNOVATOR
VISA
PROGRAM



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Start-up category is for early-stage, but high potential, less experienced entrepreneurs who are starting a business in the UK for the first time



PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Applicants must have a new, innovative, and viable business idea that is endorsed by a government-approved authorized body
- Applicants must be at least 18 years old
- No education requirement
- No investment requirement
- IELTS for UKVI with 5.5 band in each area of English language or a university degree from the UK
- No criminal records certificate

Maintenance requirements :

- Applicants need to have an equivalent of at least £1270 in their bank account in their home country for 28 consecutive days before applying for a visa. In addition to the £1,270, applicants must support themselves, their spouses, and dependent children after coming to the UK. The requirements are as follows:

- £285 for spouse
- £315 for one child
- £200 for each additional child
- Applicants must also pay government fees and medical insurance fees (Immigration health surcharge)
- Visa: £363
- Immigration health surcharge: £624/year

- No investment required
- Applicants can come to the UK, start their start-up and run it for a period of two years
- Applicants are allowed to switch to an innovator visa and eventually receive ILR (permanent immigration) of UK
- Very short processing time of few months only
- Spouse and dependent children under 18 years of age can be included in the same application
- Applicants can take up another job and also work for their own business

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must have a new and innovative business idea that is endorsed by a government-approved authorized body
- Business must be viable and have the potential for growth
- Minimum investment of £50,000+ required
- No education requirement
- Applicants must be at least 18 years old
- No criminal records certificate
- IELTS for UKVI with 5.5 bands in each area of English language or a university degree from the UK

Maintenance requirements :

- Applicants need to have an equivalent of at least £1270 in their bank account in their home country for 28 consecutive days before applying for a visa. In addition to the £1,270, applicants must support themselves, their spouses and dependent children after coming to the UK. The requirements are as follows:

- £285 for spouse
- £315 for one child
- £200 for each additional child
- Applicants must also pay government fees and medical insurance fees (Immigration health surcharge)
- Visa: £363
- Immigration health surcharge: £624/year

The Innovator category is for more experienced business people seeking to establish a business in the UK



PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Applicants can come to the UK, start their innovator business and run it for a period of three years
- Applicants can eventually receive ILR (permanent immigration of UK) after three years or apply for further visa extension
- Very short processing time of few months only
- Spouse and dependent children under 18 years of age can be included in the same application
- Applicants not allowed to work for another company
- Applicants must reside in the UK for more than 180 days in a calendar year
- Another partner can join in the business provided he/she makes a separate investment of £50,000 and meets all other program requirements

Indefinite Leave to Remain (Permanent Residence) as an Innovator

In order to qualify for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) as an Innovator, applicants need to meet at least 2 of the following criteria:

- Applicant has invested at least £50,000 into the business and actively spent it to further the business plan assessed in the previous endorsement
- The business has created the equivalent of at least 10 full-time jobs for resident workers
- The business has created the equivalent of at least 5 full-time jobs for resident workers, which have an average salary of at least £25,000 a year (gross pay, excluding any expenses)



- The number of the business's customers has at least doubled within the most recent 3 years and is currently higher than the mean number of customers for other UK businesses offering comparable main products or services
- The business has engaged in significant research and development activity and has applied for intellectual property protection in the UK
- The business has generated a minimum annual gross revenue of £1 million in the last full year covered by its accounts
- The business is generating a minimum annual gross revenue of £500,000 in the last full year covered by its accounts, with at least £100,000 from exporting overseas