



SINCERE  
IMMIGRATION

# CORPORATE IMMIGRATION & EDUCATION





## Why invest in the UK?

The UK is one of the leading business countries in the world. It has one of the world's most open economies and boasts a stable business and political environment. With a GDP of around US\$2.44 trillion, the UK is the sixth largest economy in world on the World Economic League Table.

The UK is also the number one destination for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Europe. Global investors rank the UK highly for many reasons, such as quality of life, culture and diversity, education, stability of social climate, telecoms infrastructure and skilled talent.

With a rich and diverse market in world-class industries including life sciences, ICT, creative, financial and professional business services, aerospace and automotive engineering, the UK offers an attractive location for your business, with easy access to customers, product innovators, suppliers and business partners.

Whether you are a start-up, a medium-sized or a family business, a corporate or an institutional investor, the UK is the best place in the world to start, finance and grow a business.

### OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The UK offers a welcoming environment to international investors. It has a low entry barrier and a reputation for business-friendly regulation and enforcement.

The World Bank rates the UK tax system as more business-friendly than any other major world economy, and ranks the UK among the top countries for ease of doing business.

The tax rate imposed on businesses in the UK is relatively low – the UK's corporation tax is one of the lowest in the EU's five big economies (France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK). Businesses can benefit from the favourable tax environment, especially in London, a city which has a reputation for being welcoming of international businesses.

The process of setting up a business in the UK is also a simple one, requiring as little as 13 days, compared to the European average of 32 days. The UK is ranked first in Europe and sixth in the world for ease of setting up a business. The Department for International Trade (DIT) has helped thousands of businesses locate and expand in the UK.





### INTERNATIONAL OWNERSHIP OF BRITISH BRANDS

Today, many well-known British brands are owned by international companies. Some examples include the British department store group House of Fraser, the famous breakfast cereal Weetabix and Britain's most iconic toy store Hamleys, all of which are owned by Chinese corporations Sanpower, Bright Food and C Banner International respectively. British car manufacturer Jaguar and Tetley tea, with its decades long English heritage, are both owned by India's Tata Group.

This is a demonstration that the UK is 'open for business' and a great place to start and establish a business.

### LEADING FINANCIAL CAPITAL

London has one of the most advanced financial markets in the world next to New York, rendering the securities market a very stable and flexible one for investors seeking exposure outside of the United States. London is highly regarded by investors because of its solid regulatory, legal and tax environment.

### WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

If education is one of the primary factors for consideration, then the UK presents as one of the best choices. The UK has sophisticated world-leading institutions and a global reputation for quality assured education.

### 'NON-DOMICILE' RESIDENT

In most countries, you would normally be subject to taxation on all income and capital gains earned in the country where you are resident, as well as overseas. Under UK law, however, if you are resident in the UK but are domiciled outside the UK (i.e. you are permanently resident outside of the UK), you are considered to be a 'non-domiciled' resident. As a UK non-domiciled resident, special rules on taxation apply, where you may not have to pay UK tax on income or capital gains made overseas. After residing in the UK for 15 out of 20 continuous tax years, you will no longer be entitled to UK non-domiciliary status.





## Your UK Corporate Immigration Solution

The UK is one of the most welcoming countries for international investors and entities, encouraging relocation to the country. All of the visa categories below lead to settlement for you and your family.

### START-UP VISA

- Ideal for entrepreneurs still in their early stages of business development.
- No funding requirements.
- Must have a good business idea that is innovative, scalable and viable.
- Perfect starting point to get a business ready for the Innovator visa application process.
- Does not allow a direct application for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR).

### TIER 1 (INVESTOR)

- Minimum of £2M cash investment into an active and trading UK company.
- Eligible for Indefinite Leave to Remain after 5 years of continuous residency.
- May be eligible to apply for settlement earlier subject to higher investments.

### INNOVATOR VISA

- Ideal for entrepreneurs looking to grow and expand their business.
- Minimum funding of £50,000.
- Business must demonstrate innovation, scalability and viability.
- Eligible to apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain after 3 years.

### SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF AN OVERSEAS BUSINESS

- Ideal for existing overseas businesses wishing to open a branch or subsidiary in the UK.
- Requires the overseas business to show that they are actively trading and are able to send a representative to the UK to set up a branch or subsidiary.
- The representative can receive their salary in the UK or overseas.
- Sole representatives are eligible for Indefinite Leave to Remain after 5 years of continuous residency.



The Start-up visa is designed for individuals who are looking to start a business, for the first time, in the UK. No demonstration that initial funding is secured is needed.

Once successful, an Applicant will receive a visa which is valid for no more than 2 years. It is expected that a Start Up visa holder will convert into the Innovator visa category before the 2 years are over.

## BASIC REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must be at least 18 years old.

## CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

For all applications

- The Applicant must genuinely intend to undertake, and is capable of undertaking, any work or business activity in the UK as stated in their application.
- The Applicant must not intend to work in the UK in breach of their conditions .
- Any money that the Applicant is claiming to be available must be genuinely available as described, and the Applicant must intend to use such funds for the purposes described in the application.

UKVI may request additional information from yourself, or your endorsing body, and can also request an interview.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

There are 4 ways in which you can show you meet the English language requirement.

These include:

1. Being a national of a majority English speaking country; or
2. Passing an English language test at the required level having taken the test at a Secure English Language Test centre – please note that you must have achieved the required scores in all relevant component in a single sitting; or
3. Holding a degree that was taught in English and is equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree or above.
4. Where you have previously been granted entry clearance or leave to remain in any of the following categories:
  - Start-Up
  - Innovator
  - Tier 1 (General)
  - Tier 1 (Post-Study Work)

- Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) under the rules in place before 13 December 2012
- Tier 2 (Minister of Religion)
- Tier 4 (General), supported by a CAS assigned on or after 21 April 2011

## MAINTENANCE

In order to qualify for entry clearance or leave to remain under the Start-Up visa, you must show that you have enough money to support yourself (and any dependants). The maintenance requirements are detailed below:

- You must have at least £945 of personal savings.
- If your family members/dependants are applying at the same time as you, the maintenance funds must total the necessary amount for you and your family members.

## ENDORSEMENT

Applicants wishes to apply under this category must be endorsed by an endorsing body listed on the gov.uk website. The endorsement letter must confirm both of the following:

- a. The applicant's business venture meets all of the requirements:

- **Innovation** - The applicant has a genuine, original business plan that meets new or existing market needs and/or creates a competitive advantage.
- **Viability** - The applicant has, or is actively developing, the necessary skills, knowledge, experience and market awareness to successfully run the business.
- **Scalability** - There is evidence of structured planning and of potential for job creation and growth into national markets.

- b. The endorsing body is reasonably satisfied that the applicant will spend the majority of their working time in the UK on developing business ventures.

## ENDORISING BODIES

The organisation must be one of the following:

1. An approved UK higher education institution which has established a process for identifying, nurturing and developing entrepreneurs among its undergraduate and postgraduate population; or
2. An approved organisation which has a proven track record of supporting UK entrepreneurs, including resident workers.

The Innovator visa is designed for individuals who have had prior business experience and are looking to establish a business in the UK. Applicants of this category must have an innovative, viable and scalable business idea supported by an endorsing body.

The applicant can run the business alone or as part of an entrepreneurial team.

If you are applying for an Innovator visa for the first time, you must ensure that you have at least £50,000 funds available OR already invested into your business.

Once successful, an applicant will receive a visa which is valid for no more than 3 years. Once the 3 years are over, an applicant may apply for an extension of a further 3 years.

## BASIC REQUIREMENTS

The Applicant must be at least 18 years old.

## CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

For all applications:

- The Applicant must genuinely intend to undertake, and is capable of undertaking, any work or business activity in the UK as stated in their application
- The Applicant must not intend to work in the UK in breach of their visa conditions
- Any money that the Applicant is claiming to be available is genuinely available as described, and the Applicant must intend to use it for the purposes described in their application.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

There are 4 ways in which you can show you meet the English language requirement. These include:

1. Being a national of a majority English speaking country; or
2. Passing an English language test at the required level having taken the test at a Secure English Language Test centre – please note that you must have achieved the required

scores in all relevant component in a single sitting; or

3. Holding a degree that was taught in English and is equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree or above.
4. Where you have previously been granted entry clearance or leave to remain in any of the following categories:
  - Start-Up
  - Innovator
  - Tier 1 (General)
  - Tier 1 (Post-Study Work)
  - Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) under the rules in place before 13 December 2012
  - Tier 2 (Minister of Religion)
  - Tier 4 (General), supported by a CAS assigned on or after 21 April 2011

## MAINTENANCE

In order to qualify for entry clearance or leave to remain under the Innovator visa, you must show that you have enough money to support yourself (and any dependants). The maintenance requirement is detailed below:

- You must have at least £945 of personal savings in cash, held for a consecutive 90 days before the date of application;
- If your family members/dependants are applying at the same time as you, the maintenance funds must total the necessary amount for you and your family members of
- For dependant(s), each dependant will an amount of no less than £630 which has been maintained for 90 consecutive days

You may satisfy the maintenance requirement if the endorsing body produces a letter confirming that you have at least £945 in addition to the £50,000 investment funds.

## ENDORSEMENT

Applicants wishes to apply under this category must be endorsed by an endorsing body listed on the gov.uk website. The endorsement letter

must not be issued more than 3 months before the date of application.

## ENDORSEMENT – NEW BUSINESS

You may apply for an Innovator visa under the “new business” criteria if:

- a. You are applying for an Innovator visa for the first time; or
- b. You wish to extend your current Innovator visa and are pursuing a different business than that which you pursued for your initial application; or
- c. You are currently under the Tier 1 (Graduate) Migrant or Start-Up category and are pursuing the same business you pursued when you applied for your current visa.

If you fall within the “new business” category, the endorsement letter must confirm both of the following:

- a. The applicant's business venture meets all of the requirements:
  - **Innovation** - The applicant has a genuine, original business plan that meets new or existing market needs and/or creates a competitive advantage.
  - **Viability** - The applicant has the necessary skills, knowledge, experience and market awareness to successfully run the business.
  - **Scalability** - There is evidence of structured planning and of potential for job creation and growth into national and international markets.
- b. The endorsing body is reasonably satisfied that the Applicant will spend the majority of their working time in the UK on developing business ventures.

You must have at least £50,000 funds available to invest in the business. This may include funds which have already been invested into the business. Please note that if you are applying as part of an entrepreneurial team, each member seeking to apply for an Innovator visa must have at least £50,000 funds individually.

If your endorsement letter does not confirm that there at least £50,000 funds that are available or have already been invested into the business, there are several ways to show that you have these funds, including:

1. Bank statements covering a consecutive 3 months before the date of application, showing that the funds are held in the UK in an institution regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority; or
2. A bank letter, dating no earlier than 1 month before the date of application, confirming that the funds are held in regulated financial institutions and, where applicable, are transferrable to the UK; or
3. Business accounts demonstrating that the funds have already been invested into the applicant's business; or
4. Business bank statements demonstrating that the funds have already been invested into the Applicant's business.

## ENDORSEMENT – “Same business”

You may apply for an Innovator visa under the “same business” criteria if:

- a. You are currently under the Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur), Start-up or Innovator category and are pursuing the same business you pursued when you applied for your current visa.

If you fall within the “same business” category, you will only need to obtain an endorsement letter that has not been issued more than 3 months before the date of application.

## ENDORISING BODIES

The endorsing organisation must be one of the following:

1. An approved UK higher education institution which has established a process for identifying, nurturing and developing entrepreneurs among its undergraduate and postgraduate population; or
2. An approved organisation which has a proven track record of supporting UK entrepreneurs, including resident workers

The UK Tier 1 Investor Visa is one of the fastest and simplest ways to obtain UK settlement. Under this route, you will not be required to meet any English language or maintenance requirements. Once granted entry clearance, your stay in the UK will be for a maximum of 3 years and 4 months. You can apply to extend this visa for another 2 years closer to the end date of the initial period of leave granted.

### INITIAL APPLICATION (FROM 29 MARCH 2019)

You must hold in your own name, under your control, in a regulated financial institution and disposable in the UK which amounts to no less than £2 million. You must show that you are able to make an investment of £2 million or more in the UK. This money may be held overseas at the time of application, or it may already be in the UK.

The money must:

- be held in a regulated financial institution;
- be disposable in the UK; and
- amount to £2 million or more

### ABOUT YOUR FUNDING

#### Money held in your name

You may rely on money that is owned either jointly with, or solely by, your husband, wife, civil partner, unmarried or same-sex partner.

#### Previous investment

As evidence of funds, you may use investments made in the UK within the 12 months immediately before the date of the application, provided they are held in a UK regulated financial institution.

#### Source of your funds

If you have not held the required £2 million funds for 2 consecutive years before the date of the application, you must also provide evidence of the source of the funds.

The source of funds can be from:

- a gift;
- deed of sale;
- evidence from a business;
- a will;
- a divorce settlement; or
- awards or winnings.

You must provide the official documents to evidence the source of funds.

### OVERSEAS CRIMINAL RECORD CERTIFICATES

If you are applying for entry clearance as a Tier 1 (Investor) immigrant or are an adult dependant (over 18 years old), you must provide an overseas criminal record certificate for any country you have resided in continuously or cumulatively for 12 months or more in the 10 years prior to your application.

### EXTENSION APPLICATIONS – IF YOU WERE GRANTED INITIAL TIER 1 (INVESTOR) ON OR AFTER 29 MARCH 2019

If you applied for leave to enter or leave to remain as a Tier 1 (Investor) on or after 29 March 2019, to extend your leave in the same category, you must have invested no less than £2 million in the UK by way of UK share capital or loan capital in active and trading UK registered companies.

The investment referred to above must have been made:

- Within 3 months of your entry to the UK, if you were granted entry clearance as a Tier 1 (Investor) Migrant, or
- Within 3 months of the date of the grant of entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 1 (Investor) Migrant, or
- Where the investment was made prior to the first grant of leave as a Tier 1 (Investor), no earlier than 12 months before the date of the application which led to the first grant of leave as a Tier 1 (Investor) Migrant, and, in each case, the level of investment must have at least been maintained for the whole of the remaining period of that leave

### SETTLEMENT (INDEFINITE LEAVE TO REMAIN)

You can apply for settlement under Tier 1 (Investor) route once you have lived in the UK for 5 continuous years. However, if you meet additional criteria (explained below), you may apply for accelerated ILR after a continuous period of either 2 years or 3 years:

- If you invested £5 million, you can apply for settlement under the Tier 1 (Investor) route once you have lived in the UK for 3 continuous years
- If you invested £10 million, you can apply for settlement under the Tier 1 (Investor) route once you have lived in the UK for 2 consecutive years

When you apply for settlement you are required to show that you have knowledge of life and language in the United Kingdom, respectively (unless you fall under an exemption). You

can demonstrate the former by passing the Life in the UK test and the latter by obtaining an English speaking and listening qualification at level B1 or above.

### ABSENCES WHEN YOU APPLY FOR SETTLEMENT

You cannot have had more than a total of 180 days of absence from the United Kingdom during each 12 month duration of the continuous period.

You will need to list details of your absences from the United Kingdom, including the reasons for those absences on the form, but you will not need to provide any specific evidence to prove these absences.

### YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS

Your family members/dependants (including your spouse and any children under 18) can join you in the UK. The dependants of a Tier 1 (Investor) migrant will have the right to work in the UK, but cannot work as a Trainee Doctor/Dentist or professional sportsperson or sports coach.

Before 11 January 2018, the absences requirement (180 days of absence during each 12 month duration) only applied to the main applicant. However, from 11 of January 2018 onwards, the same requirement applies to any spouse dependants.

At the stage of initial application, the dependant spouse of a Tier 1 (Investor) Applicant will have to prove that they are in subsisting relationships with the Applicant.





## TIMELINES (per application)

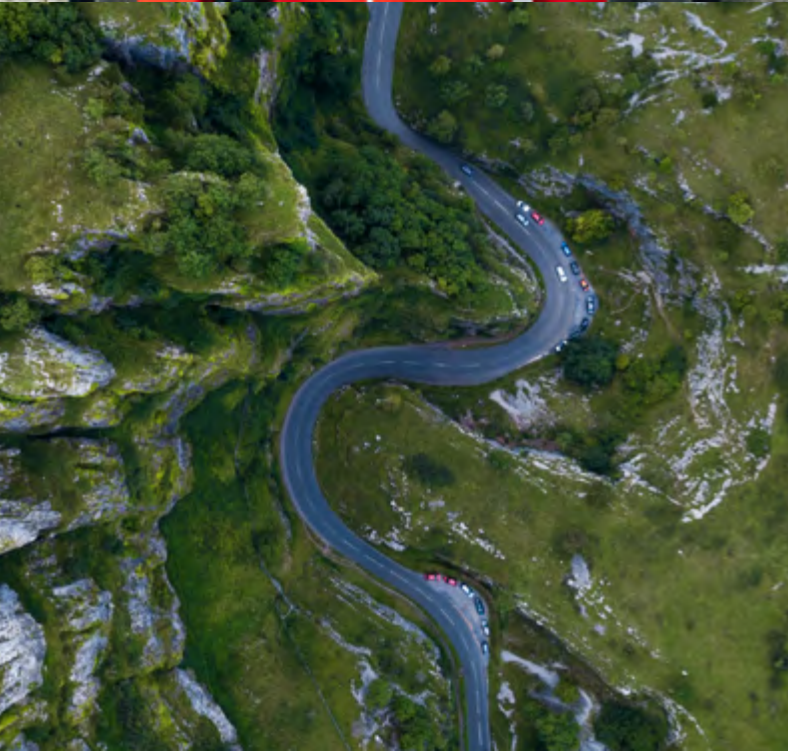






SINCERE  
EDUCATION





## Summary

The UK has always been one of the first choices for students looking to study overseas, at the same time it has been one of the most popular countries amongst parents looking to send their child abroad. The reason behind the UK's popularity is, of course, not without reason.

Since the establishment of the Nobel Prize, 131 out of the 860 awardees have studied abroad; and of these 131, 38% have studied in the UK.

Of the world's Top 100 authors, 32 are British; according to Wikipedia, 14 of the 100 influencers of world history are British; and British universities occupy the 6 positions in the world's top 100 universities. These figures clearly demonstrate that the UK has a long strong history of achieving very significant results in the field of education.

British education is world-famous, with many world-class higher education institutions. Among the 300+ higher education institutions, in addition to the famous Oxbridge universities, there are many other quality universities, such as Imperial College London, the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), Durham University, University College London (UCL) etc. Every year, these institutions cultivate a significant number of experts who excel and contribute to their respective fields of study.

The British place much importance on the education of their children. In relation to education

of children aged 5 and below, the UK government provides each family with a EYFS outline which sets out stages and goals of learning and development as well as any corresponding support which should be provided for the achievement of such targets. Primary schools in the UK are divided into state (public) schools and independent (private) schools, the latter of which includes the Preparatory School known as the "Grammar School Feeder". Secondary schools in the UK are also split into public and private schools, with the latter including "Oxbridge Feeder" public schools, such as Westminster School and Eton College.

As a whole, the British education system is quite similar to that of China. Similarly, a child's progression is from kindergarten, to primary school, secondary school, then university. However, there are also markable differences between the two systems. The table below illustrates the discrepancies that exist between the two systems and the differences between UK public and private schools.

Parents who have had experience with sending their children to study abroad with the UK will already have encountered the complexities involved in application procedures, the multiplicity and ever-evolving nature of entrance examination content, and the difficulties involved with juggling different school policies. In order to successfully admit a child into a quality UK school requires a fair amount of preparation; it is essentially an uphill battle.



## Our Service

The education team at Sincere Immigration is committed to creating a reputable overseas education brand in London, providing efficient, practical and tailored services to each international student and their parents.

### CONSULTATION

#### 1. Basic assessment

Applicants can submit a "Student Assessment Form" on our website, which will provide our education consultants with a basic understanding of the student and the wishes of their parents.

#### 2. Interview consultation

Professional UK education consultants will conduct hour long consultations with students and parents to further understand the student's standards and abilities. At the same time, consultants can also answer any queries that parents may have.

#### 3. Basic planning

Professional UK education consultants will design basic study abroad programmes and specific basic service frameworks based on the interviews.

### APPLICATION

#### 1. Overall process

The education team will assist students in collecting information about their indicated schools of interest; assist students in the preparation of materials necessary for school applications and registration; review and submit materials to schools on behalf of students.

#### 2. Personalisation

Intensive, personalised English training programmes will be devised for students. This includes the provision of school-specific professional guidance, conducting school-specific mock interviews, applying for open and trial days, and assisting students in the preparation of school-specific entrance exams.

#### 3. Providing advice throughout the process

Throughout the entire admissions process, from visiting schools, to submitting applications, sitting admission tests and any other admissions-related stages, a full and complete service will be provided by the consultants on the education team.

### SUPPORT

#### 1. Visa application

A dedicated team of UK lawyers will identify and provide professional legal services for various UK visas in accordance with the needs of different applicants. This includes the completion and submission of application forms, and assisting applicants in preparing the documents necessary for their visa applications.

The team can also assist Tier 1 applicants in their applications for UK business approval letters, provide business consultation services and assist in the formulation and creation of business plans.

#### 2. Tracking academic progress

The education team mainly aims to assist primary school students overseas (aged 4-16) who are looking to study in the UK. Once students are enrolled in UK schools, our education team will devise learning plans for students to ensure swift adaptations to the UK education system.

Various academic progress tracking services can also be provided and tailored to students. Services include schoolwork support and tutoring, Chinese and English language education, and assisting in the applications for extracurricular classes and activities.

#### 3. Accommodation

Information and queries on accommodation concerns can be provided and answered. For example, renting and home purchase advice, especially for properties surrounding the student's intended school of choice, can be provided.

#### 4. Plane tickets and pick-ups from airports

Services relating to booking and ordering plane tickets and booking transportation from the airport are available.

#### 5. General enquiries

For students and their families to adapt to life in the UK as seamlessly and as soon as possible, we provide a series of related support services, such as assistance NHS registration, assistance with police registration, assisting in students' school registration, providing information about life in the UK in general etc.

The professional teams at Sincere Immigration will accompany you throughout the entire process of applying to study abroad and applying for the relevant UK visas to ensure as smooth and stress-free an experience as possible.



