Global Talent Visa

Guidance for current and prospective staff
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Overview of the Global Talent Visa

The Global Talent Visa route replaced the Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visa route on 20th February 2020. Those holding Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visas issued before 20th February 2020 are not required to do anything to preserve their visa status - all their existing terms, conditions and validity remain intact.

The Global Talent Visa is available for people who are internationally recognised as world leaders or potential world-leading talent in the fields of science and the arts, and who require a visa to work in the UK. The visa comes with many benefits over its counterpart, the Tier 2 ‘skilled worker’ visa:

- Greater flexibility in your employment. With a Global Talent Visa you can freely move between institutions, locations, jobs/roles. By contrast, a Tier 2 visa ‘ties’ you to a particular employer and job role, requiring you in most cases to apply for a new visa if you move jobs.

- A low cost, flat-rate visa (typically half the cost of an equivalent Tier 2 visa).

- Greater flexibility to undertake collaborations within the UK.

- Your choice in visa length (from one year to five years) with the option to retain this visa category indefinitely.

- An application for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)/settlement can be made after 3 years, which will exempt you from the requirement to hold a visa to work in the UK.

- No cap on visa numbers

Applying for a Global Talent visa is a two stage process:

For the first stage, you must apply to be endorsed by one of the Designated Competent Bodies who have been given authority by the Home Office to determine who meets the visa criteria:

- The Royal Society
- The British Academy
- The Royal Academy of Engineering
- Arts Council England
- UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)
- Tech City UK

In all cases, the endorsement costs £456 and is non-refundable.

After gaining an endorsement, you are then able to proceed to the second stage, which is the visa application itself. If you gain an endorsement, you are guaranteed a Global Talent visa (subject to normal immigration checks).
## Applying for an Endorsement (stage 1)

It is possible to apply for the endorsement from either inside or outside the UK, regardless of your visa status. However, for the visa application (stage 2), there are certain restrictions on where and how this can be submitted. Further guidance on this can be found in the ‘Applying for the visa’ section of this guidance.

There are four potential paths through which an endorsement for Global Talent can be gained:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Path</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Has the applicant been appointed to a Professorial or Reader position at the University?</td>
<td>Yes: Individual can obtain a Global Talent Visa via ‘fast track endorsement’. Requires a letter from the HR Compliance Team confirming appointment. No:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Has the applicant been awarded an Individual Fellowship from the list: <a href="https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/global-talent-visa/route-2-individual-fellowships/">link</a></td>
<td>Yes: Individual can obtain a Global Talent Visa via ‘fast track endorsement’. They must submit a copy of their award letter as part of the endorsement application. No:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Has the individual’s name or job title been listed as a ‘directly incurred cost’ on an eligible grant or award at the University?</td>
<td>Yes: Individual can obtain a Global Talent Visa via ‘fast track endorsement’. Requires a letter from the HR Compliance Team confirming appointment, and must submit a copy of the grant award letter(s) that support their work. No:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Individual may be able to secure an endorsement via a peer review of their career via the Royal Society, British Academy or Royal Academy of Engineering. Further information on this route can be found here: <a href="https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/global-talent-visa/route-4-peer-review/">link</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each path has specific application criteria and eligibility. Please see the following guidance for each path:

1. [Appointed to Professorial or Reader position](#)
2. [Awarded an eligible individual Fellowship](#)
3. [Name or job title listed as ‘directly incurred cost’ on eligible grant application](#)
4. [‘Standard’ peer review path](#)
Path 1 – Appointed to a Professorial or Reader position

Any non-EEA national appointed to a Professorial or Reader position at the University is automatically eligible to obtain a Global Talent visa.

Steps to apply:

1. Upon acceptance of a job offer for a Professorial or Reader position at the University, your department should make you aware of this path to a visa. If not, please contact the HR Immigration Compliance Team in the first instance.

2. The Immigration Team will raise a letter for you, which will form the basis of your application for an endorsement for Global Talent. A signed copy of this letter will be provided to you by email. You will not need to submit the original.

3. Once you have the letter, you can apply for endorsement online: https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement

   o On the application form, you will first be asked to enter all your personal details. Once you complete those sections, you will see the question below:

   **Entry clearance or leave to remain**

   Are you applying for entry clearance or leave to remain (stage 2) at the same time as making this application for endorsement (stage 1)?

   [ ] Yes  [ ] No

   [Save and continue]  [Cancel]

   Return to this application later
   ▶ Show and edit answers

   This question is asking if you want to apply for the visa (stage 2) at the same time as the endorsement application (stage 1). **You do not need to do so**, and is only really beneficial to you if you are currently in the UK and your current visa is about to expire. Please contact the Compliance Team if you need further advice on this issue.
For the following question, select ‘Exceptional talent’:

**Application criteria**

Are you applying under exceptional promise or exceptional talent criteria?
See Appendix W of the Immigration Rules for further details.

- Exceptional talent
- Exceptional promise
- Neither – I am applying under the UK Research and Innovation endorsed funder route

Once you reach the page which states ‘Fast Track endorsement’, provide the following answers entering the appropriate job title (the one which you have been offered) in the required box:

**Fast Track Consideration**

Are you applying for fast track consideration?
Read the guidance for the full list of fellowships that come under fast track consideration.

- I hold a fellowship named in the Global Talent policy guidance
- I have been appointed to a senior academic or research position at a UK higher education institution or research institute

What is the name of your position?

What is the name of your employing institution?
University of Cambridge
Tick the following box, and continue:

I confirm I will provide:

☐ A declaration from the director of human resources or equivalent at the employing institution, as described in the Global Talent Policy guidance

Save and continue

- After you submit the application, you can submit the HR letter (no other documents required) to the Home Office using the address on the checklist you are provided.

- The Home Office will forward the application to the Royal Society/British Academy/Royal Academy of Engineering (as applicable). Within seven days of this referral, you will receive your Global Talent endorsement confirmation via email.

- You can then apply for stage 2, which is the visa application itself. You must do so within 3 months of receipt of the endorsement confirmation. Further guidance on this can be found in the ‘Applying for the visa’ section of this guidance.
Path 2 – Awarded an eligible Individual Fellowship

Any non-EEA national awarded a specific Individual Fellowship from the list below is automatically eligible to obtain a Global Talent visa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellowships eligible under the ‘Exceptional Talent’ category for established research leaders</th>
<th>Fellowships eligible under the ‘Exceptional Promise’ category for future research leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Academy of Medical Sciences Professorship  
  • Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Leadership Fellow  
  • Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Research, Development and Engagement Fellowship  
  • British Academy Global Professorship  
  • British Academy Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowship  
  • British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship  
  • British Academy Wolfson Research Professorship  
  • British Heart Foundation Personal Chair  
  • Cancer Research UK Programme Foundation Award  
  • Cancer Research UK Senior Cancer Research Fellowship  
  • Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Professorial Fellow  
  • Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Established Fellow  
  • ERC Advanced Grant (PI only; if host organisation is located in the UK)  
  • ERC Synergy Grant (PIs only; if host organisation is located in the UK)  
  • Humboldt Foundation Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship - for experienced researchers (if host organisation is located in the UK and 12+ months only)  
  • Leverhulme Trust International Professorship  
  • Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship | • Academy of Medical Sciences Clinician Scientist Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Research UK Clinical Research Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Research UK Clinical Research Training Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Research UK Research Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Research UK Senior Research Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Society Clinician and Healthcare Professional Training Fellowship  
  • Alzheimer’s Society Research Fellowship (previously Junior Fellowship)  
  • Alzheimer’s Society Senior Fellowship  
  • Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Leadership Fellow – Early Career route  
  • Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Research, Development and Engagement Fellowship – Early Career Researcher route  
  • Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) David Phillips Fellowship  
  • Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) Discovery Fellowship  
  • Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) Future Leader Fellowship  
  • Breast Cancer Now Career Development Fellowship  
  • Breast Cancer Now Clinician Scientist Fellowship  
  • British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship |
• Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship (12+ months only)
• NIHR Research Professorship
• Royal Academy of Engineering Research Chair
• Royal Academy of Engineering Research Chair in Emerging Technologies
• Royal Academy of Engineering Senior Research Fellowship
• Royal Society Industry Fellowship
• Royal Society Research Professorship
• Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award
• Royal Society Wolfson Fellowship
• Versus Arthritis Senior Research Fellowship
• Wellcome Trust Investigator Award in Humanities and Social Science
• Wellcome Trust Investigator Award in Science
• Wellcome Trust Principal Research Fellowship
• Wellcome Trust Research Fellowship in Humanities and Social Science
• Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship in Basic Biomedical Science
• Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship in Clinical Science
• Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)

• British Heart Foundation Advanced Training Award
• British Heart Foundation Career Re-entry Research Fellowship
• British Heart Foundation Clinical Research Training Fellowship
• British Heart Foundation Immediate Postdoctoral Basic Science Research Fellowship
• British Heart Foundation Intermediate Clinical or Intermediate Basic Science Research Fellowship
• British Heart Foundation Senior Clinical or Senior Basic Science Research Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK-AACR Transatlantic Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK Advanced Clinician Scientist Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK Career Development Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK Career Establishment Award
• Cancer Research UK Clinician Scientist Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK Clinical Trial Fellowship Award
• Cancer Research UK Population Research Postdoctoral Fellowship
• Cancer Research UK Postdoctoral Research Bursary for Clinical Trainees
• Diabetes UK Harry Keen Intermediate Clinical Fellowship
• Diabetes UK RD Lawrence Fellowship
• Diabetes UK Sir George Alberti Fellowship
• Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Future Research Leader
• Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) New Investigator Grant
• EMBO Advanced Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
• EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
• EMBO Young Investigator Programme Award (if host organisation is located in the UK)
• Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Early Career Fellowship
• Engineering and Physical Sciences Research
Council (EPSRC) - Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Stephen Hawking Fellowship
- Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) UKRI Innovation Fellowship
- ERC Consolidator Grant (PI only; if host organisation is located in the UK)
- ERC Starting Grant (PI only; if host organisation is located in the UK)
- ERC Synergy Grant (PIs only; if host organisation is located in the UK)
- HEE/NIHR Clinical Lecturer
- HEE/NIHR Senior Clinical Lecturer
- Human Frontier Science Program Cross-Disciplinary Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
- Human Frontier Science Program Long-Term Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
- Humboldt Foundation Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship - for postdoctoral researchers (if host organisation is located in the UK and 12+ months only)
- IIASA - Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) Collaborative Fellowship
- Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship
- Leverhulme Trust Research Leadership Award
- Medical Research Council (MRC) Career Development Award
- Medical Research Council (MRC) Clinical Research Training Fellowship
- Medical Research Council (MRC) Clinical Scientist Fellowship
- Medical Research Council (MRC) New Investigator Research Grant
- Medical Research Council (MRC) Senior Clinical Fellowship
- Medical Research Council (MRC) Senior Non-Clinical Fellowship
- MSCA Individual Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) Independent Research Fellowship
- Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) UKRI Industrial Innovation Fellowship
- Natural Environment Research Council
(NERC) UKRI Landscape Decisions Fellowship
• NIHR Advanced Fellowship
• Parkinson’s UK Clinical Research Training Fellowship
• Parkinson’s UK Senior Research Fellowship
• Parkinson’s UK and The Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorate Joint Career Development Fellowship
• Royal Academy of Engineering Enterprise Fellowship
• Royal Academy of Engineering IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
• Royal Academy of Engineering Research Fellowship
• Royal Commission for the Exhibition 1851 Research Fellowship in Science or Engineering (if host organisation is located in the UK)
• Royal Society/British Academy/Academy of Medical Sciences Newton International Fellowship
• Royal Society-CNR/-K.C. Wong/-Kohn/-Sino British Fellowship Trust/-Shooter International Fellowship
• Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship
• Royal Society Industry Fellowship
• Royal Society University Research Fellowship
• Royal Society/Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Dale Fellowship
• Royal Society of Edinburgh Enterprise Fellowship (post-PhD only)
• Royal Society of Edinburgh Personal Research Fellowship (if host organisation is located in the UK)
• Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Ernest Rutherford Fellowship
• UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship
• Versus Arthritis Career Development Fellowship
• Versus Arthritis Clinical Research Fellowship
• Versus Arthritis Foundation Fellowship
• Wellcome Trust Career Re-entry Fellowship
• Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Development Fellowship (Stage 1)
• Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Career Development Fellowship (Stage 2)
• Wellcome Trust Investigator Award in
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Wellcome Trust Investigator Award in Humanities and Social Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wellcome Trust Research Fellowship for Healthcare Professionals (post-PhD only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wellcome Trust Research Fellowship in Humanities and Social Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Wellcome Trust University Award in Humanities and Social Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Steps to apply:**

1. You are eligible for this path as soon as you are awarded an Individual Fellowship from the above list. You can be a current or prospective employee/visitor at the University.

2. You will require a copy of your Fellowship award letter. **You will not need to submit the original.**

3. Once you have the letter, you can apply for endorsement online: [https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement](https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement)

   - On the application form, you will first be asked to enter all your personal details. Once you complete those sections, you will see the question below:

   ![Entry clearance or leave to remain](image)

   This question is asking if you want to apply for the visa (stage 2) at the same time as the endorsement application (stage 1). **You do not need to do so,** and is only really beneficial to you if you are currently in the UK and your current visa is about to expire. Please contact the [Compliance Team](mailto:compliance@university.org) if you need further advice on this issue.
For the following question, select either ‘Exceptional talent’ or ‘Exceptional Promise’ depending upon which category your Fellowship falls under (as per the table, above):

**Application criteria**

Are you applying under exceptional promise or exceptional talent criteria?
See [Appendix W of the Immigration Rules](#) for further details.

- [ ] Exceptional talent
- [ ] Exceptional promise
- [ ] Neither – I am applying under the UK Research and Innovation endorsed funder route

Once you reach the page which states ‘Fast Track endorsement’, provide the following answer **entering the name of your Fellowship**:

**Fast Track Consideration**

Are you applying for fast track consideration?
[Read the guidance](#) for the full list of fellowships that come under fast track consideration.

- [ ] I hold a fellowship named in the Global Talent policy guidance

What is the name of your fellowship?

Tick the following box, and continue:

I confirm I will provide:
- [x] Evidence from the relevant body confirming the fellowship you have been awarded
After you submit the application, you can submit the Fellowship award letter (**no other documents required**) to the Home Office using the address on the checklist you are provided.

The Home Office will forward the application to the Royal Society/British Academy/Royal Academy of Engineering (as applicable). Within **seven days** of this referral, you will receive your Global Talent endorsement confirmation via email.

You can then apply for **stage 2**, which is the visa application itself. You must do so within 3 months of receipt of the endorsement confirmation. **Further guidance on this can be found in the ‘Applying for the visa’ section** of this guidance.
Path 3 – Job title listed as ‘directly incurred cost’ on grant/award

This path is open to any non-EEA Research Assistant/Research Associate/Senior Research Associate or specialist technician at the University who meet the following criteria:

- Hold, or have been offered, a contract of employment/hosting agreement of at least two years in length; and
- Where their name or job title (as above) as listed as a ‘directly incurred cost’ on a grant/award from the list below, where the grant/award is worth a minimum of £30,000 and covers a minimum period of two years; and
- Where they are working at least 50% of time on the eligible grant/award (not 50% FTE – part time working is allowed and there are no minimum salary requirements).

**List of eligible grant/awards:**

- UK Research and Innovation, and its Councils:
- The Royal Society
- The Royal Academy of Engineering
- The British Academy
- The Academy of Medical Sciences
- Wellcome Trust
- Cancer Research UK
- British Heart Foundation
- National Institute for Health Research
- European Union Horizon 2020 programmes
- European Molecular Biology Organisation
- European Molecular Biology Laboratory
- Human Frontier Science Programme
- International Institute for Applied System Analysis and
- European Space Agency
- The National Science Foundation of the United States
- The Japan Science and Technology Agency
- The Indian Council of Medical Research
- FAPESP, the Research Council for the State of São Paulo
- Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR) Luxembourg
- Science Foundation Ireland
Steps to apply:

1. To be eligible for this path, you can be a current or prospective employee/visitor at the University. **You must meet the eligibility requirements as set out above.**

2. For documentation, you will require:
   
   a. A letter issued by HR Compliance which confirms your eligibility for the route; and
   
   b. Written confirmation of the award from the grant/award funder that confirms eligibility

3. Once you have the required letters, you can apply for endorsement online: [https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement](https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement)
   
   o On the application form, you will first be asked to enter all your personal details. Once you complete those sections, you will see the question below:

   ![Entry clearance or leave to remain](#)

   Are you applying for entry clearance or leave to remain (stage 2) at the same time as making this application for endorsement (stage 1)?

   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   ![Save and continue](#)  ![Cancel](#)

   ![Return to this application later](#)  ![Show and edit answers](#)

   This question is asking if you want to apply for the visa (stage 2) at the same time as the endorsement application (stage 1). **You do not need to do so,** and is only really beneficial to you if you are currently in the UK and your current visa is about to expire. Please contact the [Compliance Team](#) if you need further advice on this issue.
For the question below, select the following option:

**Application criteria**

Are you applying under exceptional promise or exceptional talent criteria?
See Appendix W of the Immigration Rules for further details.

- Exceptional talent
- Exceptional promise
- Neither – I am applying under the UK Research and Innovation endorsed funder route

For the following question, enter your ‘field of talent’ (which is simply your research field) and select ‘UK Research and Innovation’:

**Field of talent**

Please state your field of talent

Which endorsing body do you wish to support your application for endorsement?

- The British Academy
- The Royal Academy of Engineering
- The Royal Society
- Arts Council England
- Tech Nation
- UK Research and Innovation
For the following question, select the options below:

**Fast track consideration**

Are you applying to be considered under the UK Research and Innovation fast track option for applicants who have funding from an endorsed funder?

See [Appendix W of the Immigration Rules](#) for the requirements you need to meet as a researcher who will be hosted or employed in an approved UK research organisation and who will provide critical contributions to work supported by a substantial research grant or award from an endorsed funder.

- Yes - I have received a research grant or award from an endorsed funder
- No

I confirm I will provide:

- Written confirmation of the award from the endorsed funder
- A declaration from the director of human resources (or equivalent) of your employing or hosting organisation, explaining your role. This declaration must meet specific requirements. See the guidance for further details

Save and continue

- After you submit the application, you can submit the HR Director letter and the grant award letter (no other documents required) to the Home Office using the address on the checklist you are provided.

- The Home Office will forward the application to UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). Within [fourteen days](#) of this referral, you will receive your Global Talent endorsement confirmation via email.

- You can then apply for [stage 2](#), which is the visa application itself. You must do so within 3 months of receipt of the endorsement confirmation. [Further guidance on this can be found in the ‘Applying for the visa’ section](#) of this guidance.
Path 4 – ‘Standard’ Peer Review path

If you are ineligible for endorsement via the first three paths, you can still seek endorsement via the Royal Society/British Academy/Royal Academy of Engineering (as applicable), and they will undertake a peer-review assessment your career to determine eligibility for the visa.

Steps to apply:

1. To be eligible for this path, you can be a current or prospective employee/visitor at the University.

2. You must meet the requirements within one of the following categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCEPTIONAL PROMISE CATEGORY</th>
<th>EXCEPTIONAL TALENT CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For those at an early stage in their career:</td>
<td>For those at a more advanced stage in their career:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory Requirements:</td>
<td>Mandatory Requirements:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Is an active researcher in a relevant field, typically within a university, research institute or within industry; and</td>
<td>- Same criteria as Exceptional Promise (on the left) and, at least one of the following criteria:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Holds a PhD or equivalent research experience (including industrial or clinical research); and</td>
<td>- Is a member of their national academy or a foreign member of academies of other countries (in particular any of the UK national academies); or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Provides a dated letter of personal recommendation from an eminent person resident in the UK supporting the Tier 1 visa application, who is familiar with your work and your contribution to your field, and is qualified to assess your claim to be a leader in your field; and</td>
<td>- Has been awarded a prestigious internationally recognised prize; or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Has been awarded, holds, or has held in the past five years, a prestigious UK-based Research Fellowship, or an international Fellowship or advanced research post judged by the competent bodies to be of equivalent standing (Note: a job offer at the University in a post-doc role meets this criteria)</td>
<td>- Can provide a written recommendation from a reputable UK organisation concerned with research in their field. The dated letter must be written by an authorised senior member of the organisation, such as a Chief Executive, Vice Chancellor or similar, on official paper.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. To evidence this, you will require the following documentation:

   a. Your most recent CV; and

   b. A letter of personal recommendation from an eminent person resident in the UK supporting your application. Once completed, the letter should be sent to you for inclusion in your application pack. There are no issues with you seeing and reading the letter yourself. The letter should be dated and must include the following:

      o How the eminent person knows you;
      o Your achievements in the specialist field;
      o How in the opinion of the eminent person you exhibit Exceptional Talent;
      o How you would benefit from living in the UK; and
      o The contribution you would make to UK research excellence and to wider society.

   c. Where you are seeking endorsement as a person of ‘Exceptional Talent’ (as opposed to ‘Exceptional Promise’, where this is not required), you must also include at least one of the following:

      o Evidence of membership of a National Academy;
      o Evidence of a prestigious prize being awarded to you;
      o A written recommendation from the Vice-Chancellor (Please contact the Compliance Team directly to arrange this).

   d. Finally, within the application you will be required to write a personal statement “outlining your case for qualifying for Tier (Exceptional Talent).” It should be of about two pages and no more than 7,000 characters. There are no ‘rules’ concerning the content of the personal statement. A good structure to use is:

      - Your achievements to date
      - Your current research interests
      - Your future aspirations

4. Apply for endorsement online: https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent-endorsement

   o On the application form, you will first be asked to enter all your personal details.
Once you complete those sections, you will see the question below:

**Entry clearance or leave to remain**

Are you applying for entry clearance or leave to remain (stage 2) at the same time as making this application for endorsement (stage 1)?

- Yes
- No

This question is asking if you want to apply for the visa (stage 2) at the same time as the endorsement application (stage 1). **You do not need to do so**, and is only really beneficial to you if you are currently in the UK and your current visa is about to expire. Please contact the Compliance Team if you need further advice on this issue.

On the following question, select either ‘Exceptional talent’ or ‘Exceptional promise’ depending upon which category you fall under (as above):

**Application criteria**

Are you applying under exceptional promise or exceptional talent criteria?  
See [Appendix W of the Immigration Rules](#) for further details.

- Exceptional talent
- Exceptional promise
- Neither – I am applying under the UK Research and Innovation endorsed funder route

After you submit the application, you can submit the relevant documentation (as above in step 3) to the Home Office using the address on the checklist you are provided.

The Home Office will forward the application to the Royal Society/British Academy/Royal Academy of Engineering (as applicable). Within **4-8 weeks** of this referral, you will receive your Global Talent endorsement confirmation via email.
o You can then apply for stage 2, which is the visa application itself. You must do so within 3 months of receipt of the endorsement confirmation. Further guidance on this can be found in the ‘Applying for the visa’ section of this guidance.
Applying for the visa (stage 2)

If/when your application is endorsed you will be notified via the e-mail address you provided in your application form.

You must apply for the Global Talent Visa within three months of notification. You must submit a copy of the endorsement letter that was emailed to you when your endorsement application was approved.

How to apply depends on where you are applying from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am applying from outside the UK</th>
<th>I am applying from inside the UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You must apply online: <a href="https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/country-selection">https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/country-selection</a> You can apply from any country in the world, except Republic of Ireland, even if you are only temporarily resident there (i.e. as a visitor)</td>
<td>You must apply online: <a href="https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent?_ga=2.235586568.806586453.1582538810-429374357.1577092335">https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/global-talent?_ga=2.235586568.806586453.1582538810-429374357.1577092335</a> You can switch into Global Talent from your current visa whilst inside the UK if you hold:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A Tier 2 (General) visa; or</td>
<td>• A Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) Migrant, sponsored in the Government Authorised Exchange sub-category in an exchange scheme for sponsored researchers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If you hold any other type of leave, you are unable to switch in-country into the Global Talent category and you would instead have to apply from outside the UK (see details on the left)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

➢ For further information on how to apply, please see the published Home Office guidance: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applications-under-global-talent](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applications-under-global-talent)
How much does the application cost? (all paths)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stage 1 (Endorsement)</th>
<th>Stage 2 (Visa)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>£456</td>
<td>£152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual from Turkey / Macedonia</td>
<td>£456</td>
<td>£97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependant (per individual)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>£608</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Immigration Health Surcharge**

The payment of the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) is mandatory for all non-EEA nationals who are issued a visa of more than 6 months in length. It is an additional charge, over and above the visa fee and must be made up-front at the time of the visa application. Payment of the surcharge will ensure that you have full access to the NHS on the same terms as a permanent UK resident.

The surcharge will cost an additional £400 per person per year that your visa is valid. For example, if you apply for a three year visa, you will be charged an additional £1200. If you have dependants, the surcharge will also apply to their visa applications on the same basis. The full cost must be paid at the point of application.

If a visa application is refused or rejected the NHS Surcharge will be automatically refunded, however, there is no refund if the applicant obtains a visa and then decides not to come to the UK, if they leave the UK earlier than the end of their visa, or if their visa is curtailed by the Home Office; nor is there any refund if they do not use the National Health Service.

➢ For further guidance, please see the UKVI webpages: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-health-surcharge-information-for-migrants](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-health-surcharge-information-for-migrants).

**Tuberculosis Testing**

Individuals applying to enter the UK from one of the below countries are required to provide a valid medical certificate issued by a medical practitioner approved by the Secretary of State, confirming that they have undergone screening for active pulmonary tuberculosis and that such tuberculosis is not present in the individual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Afghanistan</th>
<th>Algeria</th>
<th>Angola</th>
<th>Armenia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Benin</td>
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<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
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<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<td>Haiti</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Kiribati</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<td>Malawi</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
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<td>Soloman Islands</td>
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<td>Suriname</td>
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<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


**Dependants**

Your dependants can apply at the same time as you to enter the UK. Alternatively, they can wait until you have entered the UK and started work before they apply. Dependants are not involved in any way with the first stage – the endorsement application.

A dependant visa provides the right to work in the UK and/or study at any private or State-funded school, Further Education College or University.

We have comprehensive guidance concerning dependants available here: [http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/hr-services/immigration/visas-and-right-work-uk/time-limited-right-work/dependant-visas](http://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/hr-services/immigration/visas-and-right-work-uk/time-limited-right-work/dependant-visas)

**On your first day of work**

Your departmental administrator will contact you in advance of your arrival to make arrangements for your first day. Under UK legislation, as an employer we are required to check that you hold permission to live and work in the UK before you start work. You can evidence this with your passport and your 30 day vignette or your BRP.

You must bring your identity documents as above to your department for copying before work commences. If you have not yet collected your BRP before your first day, you can start work on the
basis of your 30 day vignette provided it is still valid. You then must obtain your BRP from the Post Office as soon as possible and present this to your departmental administrator.

**Extension applications**

If/when you are applying for an extension of your Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visa or Global Talent visa, you only need to make a single application and you do not need to obtain a new endorsement.

You will need to pay the full Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) fee in a single payment.

To be approved you must meet the following criteria:

- The Designated Competent Body that originally endorsed your stage 1 endorsement application has not advised the Home Office that this has been withdrawn; and

- During your most recent period of leave as a Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) or Global Talent visa holder, you have earned money in the UK as a result of employment or self-employment in your field of expertise. This is the field for which the Designated Competent Body endorsed you. For practical purposes, a copy of your employment contract with University of Cambridge and your last three payslips will meet this criteria.


**Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)/Settlement**

You are eligible to apply for settlement after 3 years holding either a Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visa or Global Talent visa, regardless of the path under which you were endorsed.

The University has comprehensive guidance on making an ILR application on its webpages here: [https://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/hr-services/immigration/working-uk/unlimited-right-work/indefinite-leave-remainsettlement](https://www.hr.admin.cam.ac.uk/hr-services/immigration/working-uk/unlimited-right-work/indefinite-leave-remainsettlement)