

Switching Immigration category

If an individual currently has permission to stay in the UK under any of the following immigration categories, they can apply for a Tier 2 (General) visa from inside the UK:

- Any Tier 1 category
- Any Tier 2 category
- Tier 4 (General) visas, **except further education students**. The individual must either:
 - Have completed, or be applying no more than 3 months before the expected completion date for a UK bachelors or masters degree, or a UK Postgraduate Certificate in Education or Professional Graduate Diploma of Education; **or**
 - Have completed a minimum of 12 months study in the UK towards a UK PhD.
- Tier 5 (Temporary worker - creative and sporting) – note, you cannot switch from Tier 5 (GAE) into Tier 2 (General).
- Dependent partner of a Tier 4 migrant – note, whilst you can switch from this category it will be treated as a restricted CoS.