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UK START-UP  
&  
INNOVATOR  
VISA  
PROGRAM



# PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- 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

*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

- 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