

Moving to the UK for work – Guide for job applicants

Following the UK's exit from the EU, we have found that immigrating from the EU to the UK for work can be confusing and ambiguous. We thought we'd create a simple document for you which clearly states the different ways to remain in the UK after **30th June 2020**.

This document will help you understand the different types of statuses and pathways you can take, what you need to do, and when for.

The areas we will shed light on are **pre-settled status**, **settled status** and **sponsorship** routes.

EU Settlement Scheme:

A scheme agreed by the UK and EU allowing EEA, EU, and Swiss citizens to stay in the UK beyond 30th June 2021. You can apply for this [here](#) if you can prove you **visited or lived** in the UK 6 months before you apply. If your application is successful, you'll get either **settled** or **pre-settled** status depending on how long you have lived in the UK. The deadline for application is **30th June 2021**.

We recommend you apply as soon as possible, as the government processing can be slow. You will need your passport, a digital photo of yourself, proof of when or how long you visited the UK* and a mobile phone number. There is no cost to apply.

Pre-settled status:

If you are successful in applying for the **EU settlement scheme** and have been living in the UK before 31st December 2020, then you will receive pre-settled status. You will enjoy the rights to live, work and healthcare. After 5 years of living with pre-settled status you can then apply for settled status (the government have committed to contacting people to tell them how to apply when the time comes).

Settled status:

There are two paths to receiving settled status. The first is by receiving pre-settled status through the EU settlement scheme and spending at least 6 months of the past 5 years living in the UK. Or, if you have already spent 6 months of every year in the previous 5 years before 31st Dec 2020 in the UK you will receive pre-settled status when you apply for the EU settlement scheme.

It gives you the same rights to live, work, NHS healthcare and **welfare benefits** as British citizens. You'll be able to stay as long as you want in the UK and leave the UK for up to 5 years without losing your settled status. You can apply for British citizenship after 5 years of having settled status.

Skilled visa route:

The other main route to living and working in the UK is by getting a company to sponsor your entry to work for them. This will only last as long as you are employed. The sponsoring company has to make you a formal offer of employment with a salary of £25,600+ for this route to be an option.

The company has to have a sponsor licence and a certificate of sponsorship to sponsor you.

Either you or the sponsoring company must pay these:

- The [application fee](#) - the fee ranges from £610 to £1,408 depending length of stay.
- The [healthcare surcharge](#) - £624 per year

You must have at least £1,270 available to support yourself in the UK.

For more information on the skilled visa route, click [here](#) for a simple summary of what you/your employer needs to do.

*This proof can come in virtually ANY document form – it could be anything from a bank statement with a UK transaction, a boarding pass showing UK as the destination, a tenancy agreement, council tax bill, or gas bill.

Disclaimer: This is a brief guide for advisory purposes only and does not cover all circumstantial conditions.