

# Tier 1 (Investor) visa

## 1. Overview

You can apply for a Tier 1 (Investor) visa if:

- you want to invest £2,000,000 or more in the UK
  - you're from outside the [European Economic Area \(EEA\)](#) and Switzerland
  - you meet the other [eligibility requirements](#)
- You must have access to at least £2,000,000 in investment funds to apply.**

## How long it will take

The earliest you can apply is 3 months before you travel.

**Example** You can apply from 16 March if you plan to travel on 15 June.

You should get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks.

Check the [guide processing times](#) to find out how long getting a visa might take in your country.

## Fees

You must pay £1,561 to apply for a Tier 1 (Investor) visa online or by post. The fee is the same if you're extending or switching visas.

You'll also have [to pay the healthcare surcharge](#) as part of your application. Check how much you'll have to pay [before you apply](#).

## Fees for applying and extending in person

You can use the [super premium service](#) to apply or extend in person.

You must pay a one-off fee of £10,500, plus £2,030 for each person applying.

You can use this service for up to 4 'main applicants' and a maximum of 10 people per visit. 'Main applicants' are the people with access to the investment funds.

## How long you can stay

You can come to the UK with a Tier 1 (Investor) visa for a maximum of 3 years and 4 months.

You can [apply to extend](#) this visa for another 2 years.

## What you can and can't do

You can:

- invest £2,000,000 or more in UK government bonds, share capital or loan capital in active and trading UK registered companies
- work or study
- apply to settle after 2 years if you invest £10 million
- apply to settle after 3 years if you invest £5 million

You can't:

- invest in companies mainly engaged in property investment, property management or property development
- work as a professional sportsperson or sports coach
- get [public funds](#)

You also can't work as a doctor or dentist in training unless one of the following applies:

- you have a primary degree at bachelors level or above in medicine or dentistry from a UK institution that holds a Tier 4 sponsor licence or is a UK recognised or listed body
- you worked as a doctor or dentist in training the last time you were in the UK
- neither of those conditions were part of the terms and conditions on a previous visa

## **2. Eligibility**

You must have at least £2,000,000 investment funds to apply for a Tier 1 (Investor) visa.

You must:

- be 18 or over to apply for this visa
- be able to prove that the money belongs to either you or your husband, wife, unmarried or same-sex partner
- have opened a UK bank account

Your funds must be:

- held in one or more regulated financial institutions
- free to spend ('disposable') in the UK

Your money can be in the UK or overseas when you apply.

## **Students with financial sponsorship**

You may be able to apply for a Tier 1 (Investor) visa if you're already in the UK and you're:

- a Tier 4 (General) visa holder
- a student nurse
- studying, writing up a thesis or re-sitting an exam
- a postgraduate doctor or dentist

- an overseas qualified nurse or midwife
- a student sabbatical officer

You must have unconditional agreement in writing from your financial sponsor to re-enter or stay in the UK if your course fees and living costs were paid by either:

- a government
- an international scholarship agency

### **3. Documents you must provide**

When you apply you'll need to provide:

- a current passport or other valid travel identification
- your [tuberculosis test results](#) if you're from a country where you have to take the test
- a [criminal record certificate](#) from any country you have lived in for 12 months or more in the last 10 years

You need a page in your passport that's blank on both sides for your visa.

### **Evidence of investment funds**

You'll need to provide evidence showing that you have the required investment funds.

#### **Your own money**

If you're using your own money to invest, you should be able to show:

- how much money you have and where it's being held
- where the money came from if you haven't had the money for at least 3 months, for example you inherited it from a relative
- that the money can be transferred to the UK and converted to sterling (if it's not already in the UK)

## Your partner's money

You'll need to provide:

- a certificate of marriage or civil partnership, or in the case of unmarried or same-sex relationships, proof that you are in a long-term relationship (at least 2 years)
- a statement from your partner confirming that they will allow you to control the funds in the UK
- a letter from a legal adviser stating that the declaration is valid

You'll need to provide [a certified translation](#) of any documents that aren't in English or Welsh.

Read the guide for a [full list of documents](#) you can provide.

You may need to provide additional documents depending on your circumstances.