

A blurred background image showing two people working at desks. One person is a woman in a white shirt, and the other is a man in a light-colored shirt and glasses. They are both looking at laptops. There are coffee cups on the desks. The overall atmosphere is professional and focused.

# Immigration Specialists for Every Journey

Guidance Document: Global Talent

# Global Talent

*"I have to be very honest I have been travelling all around the world and working with many different departments. I haven't seen this precise services!!! They care about every detail, they reply really fast, they're up to date with you about all the steps. They're fast in the process in general, we are very happy to have chooses to work with them."*

*SA, Skilled Worker visa applicant*

## Global Talent Visa

The Global Talent visa is for leading professionals and emerging talents in the fields of the Arts, Scientific Research and Development and Product-led Digital Technology. No longer restricted by a cap on endorsements, the Global Talent visa route is a 3-year route to indefinite leave to remain with no restrictions with regards employment, making it the UK's most flexible and valued visa route.

### What is the Global Talent Visa?

The Global Talent visa route relies on endorsement from a UK governing body that is relevant to a particular field. Candidates submit a thorough application for endorsement for review to the governing body who then endorse the individual by letter. This letter is then used to complete a visa application to the Home Office. The Global Talent visa route covers the Arts: from artists to professionals working in film and television. It covers an incredible wide range of scientific disciplines, for those working in research to those working in industry. It also includes both technical and business development professionals working with product-led digital technologies. These professionals are either at the start of a bright career or those well established as leaders in their field, both of whom are lauded by UK-based institutions or winners of prestigious awards. The Global Talent is a visa route that does not require visa sponsorship, such as the Skilled Worker visa route and allows visa holders to take employment or to establish themselves as self-employed or company directors in the UK.

### Who Can Apply for the Global Talent Visa?

Applicants for the Global Talent visa need to be in the fields of the Arts and Culture, Architecture, Fashion Design, Film and Television, Digital Technology and Science, Engineering, Humanities, Social Science and Medicine. Each of these fields has its own endorsing body to whom to apply. Applicants will either be those who have been recognised as an exceptional talent or someone with exceptional promise in the field, which is usually assessed by whether the person is in the first five years of their career or more established.

# Global Talent

*"Have had a wonderful experience dealing with Migrate UK twice over. I got prompt and clear answers to all my queries and constant support from all levels in the organisation"*

*SB, UK Ancestry Visa Applicant*

## How to Apply for a Global Talent Visa

### Step 1: Apply for Endorsement

The most difficult but most important part of the process is the application for endorsement to the governing body. Each governing body follows the rules in Appendix Global Talent and their own guidance to assess the endorsement applications. An estimated 5000 applications are made each year for endorsement, so it is important to stand out from the other endorsement applications.

### Step 2: Prepare Visa Application

A visa application can be submitted simultaneously with the endorsement application, or following endorsement, which is recommended. The application is made online and in accordance with all of the eligibility and suitability requirements of Appendix Global Talent. Dependent applications can be submitted at the same time for dependent partners and minor children.

### Step 3: Submit Visa Application

The application is submitted, and fees are paid for the visa processing and Immigration Health Surcharge. Biometrics can be submitted via the convenience of a Home Office mobile app. Global Talent applicants can request their visa length up to 5 years, which impacts on the cost of the visa as some of the costs are made per year that a person holds the visa. Currently, Global Talent applicants can make an application for indefinite leave to remain after three years of being on the visa, including any time spent on the Skilled Worker visa beforehand.

### Step 4: Decision

The Home Office will process the application and provide the confirmation of a visa grant by email.

# Global Talent

*"I highly recommend Migrate UK! From start to finish, the entire visa application process was incredibly smooth and stress-free, all thanks to their expert guidance. Dealing with visa applications can be confusing and overwhelming, but the team at Migrate UK made it feel completely manageable. They were thorough, professional, and exceptionally responsive to all my questions, often getting back to me within the hour."*

*MK, Skilled Worker visa applicant*

## Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

On the surface, the eligibility criteria for the Global Talent visa looks very accessible but the threshold for eligibility is unclear. The strength of any application is on the evidence in the public realm and the impressibility of those supporting the endorsement application.

For those winning academy awards, selling out arena concerts and founding Silicon Valley giants, the evidence is readily available, and the path is clear. Most Global Talent applicants are not household names, however, and their successes are impressive but lesser publicised. It is the applicant's responsibility to sing their own praises and present themselves as strongly as possible with evidence and testimonies.

For some, the Global Talent route might not be the best option for them to start their UK business, but the Skilled Worker visa route might be the best option.

## After You're Approved

The Global Talent visa can be issued for up to five years.

The Global Talent visa allows the holder to gain employment, to become self-employed, to study, to volunteer – there are no employment restrictions. There will just be a need at the date of application for indefinite leave to remain to evidence having made an income from the relevant professional field.

At present, a Global Talent visa holder can apply for indefinite leave to remain after three years, which includes any time spent on a Skilled Worker visa beforehand. In some cases, those who have been on the Skilled Worker visa route for three years have been able to subsequently apply for indefinite leave to remain as soon as their Global Talent visa has been approved.

# Global Talent

*“Amazing Team, seamless  
experience.”*

*SP, GBM Visa Applicant*

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **1. What is the Global Talent Visa?**

It's a UK immigration route for highly skilled individuals in academia/research, arts and culture, or digital technology who are recognized as leaders or potential leaders.

### **2. Do I need a job offer to apply?**

No. The Global Talent visa does not require a job offer. Applicants instead need an endorsement from an approved body or apply based on a qualifying award.

### **3. How do I get endorsed?**

You submit evidence of your achievements to an approved endorsing body (e.g., Tech Nation's successor bodies, Arts Council England, UKRI). They assess whether you qualify as a Leader or Emerging Leader.

### **4. How long is the visa valid for?**

You can choose between 1 and 5 years, and it is fully extendable. Time on this visa counts toward Indefinite Leave to Remain.

### **5. Can my family join me?**

Yes. Partners and dependent children can apply as dependants and enjoy work and study rights in the UK.

# About us

*"We are a fast-growing SME in the utilities and property tech sector, and we've been delighted to work with Migrate UK to support members of our team transitioning from graduate visas into longer-term roles. From the very beginning, they have been professional, transparent, and an absolute pleasure to work with. Communication has been clear and supportive throughout, which made what could have been a complex process feel seamless."*

Skilled Worker Sponsor

We are very proud of our heritage and our successes. Here are some of our headlines:

22

Years of providing immigration advice, making us one of the longest serving specialist immigration law firms in the UK

9000+

Applications processed

50+

Years of combined immigration experience in our team

5

Star rating on [Google](#) and [Trustist](#)

Read more about us online via our [website](#), [LinkedIn](#), and via [HR Ninjas](#)