

# How to Apply for the Skilled Worker Visa UK: A Step-by-Step Guide

The [Skilled Worker Visa UK](#) is a crucial visa category for professionals seeking to work in the United Kingdom. Introduced to replace the Tier 2 (General) Visa, it's designed to attract skilled workers from around the world who can contribute to the UK economy. This guide will walk you through the key steps and requirements to successfully apply for the Skilled Worker Visa UK.

## 1. Secure a Job Offer from a Licensed Sponsor

The first and most important step in applying for the Skilled Worker Visa UK is securing a job offer from a UK employer who is a licensed sponsor. The job you're offered must be on the list of eligible occupations, which includes roles in fields such as healthcare, engineering, IT, and more. Additionally, the salary for your job must meet the minimum threshold, which is typically £26,200 per year or the 'going rate' for your specific occupation, whichever is higher.

## 2. Obtain a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS)

Once you have a job offer, your employer will provide you with a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS). This is a digital document that includes a reference number and details about your job, such as the role, salary, and how long you'll be employed. You'll need this reference number when you apply for your visa.



### **3. Meet the English Language Requirement**

To qualify for the Skilled Worker Visa, you must demonstrate your proficiency in English. This can be done by passing an approved English language test or by holding an academic qualification that was taught in English and is recognized as equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree or higher.

### **4. Apply for the Visa Online**

With your CoS in hand, you can now apply for the Skilled Worker Visa online. The application process involves submitting various documents, including your passport, proof of English language proficiency, and financial evidence if your employer isn't covering your costs. You'll also need to pay the visa application fee, which varies based on factors like the length of your stay and whether your job is on the shortage occupation list.

### **5. Prepare for Life in the UK**

Once your visa is approved, you can move to the UK and begin working. The Skilled Worker Visa is usually granted for up to five years, with the possibility of extending it or applying for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) after five years. This visa also allows you to bring your dependents, such as your spouse or children, to live with you in the UK.

By following these steps, you can navigate the application process and start your new career in the UK with confidence.