

POPULAR VISA ROUTES IN TECH

There are a number of visa routes available to come and work in the UK. These include visas for entrepreneurs, students, skilled workers and temporary workers. Please note that the table below is a summary of the most common routes in the **digital technology sector** and does not include information about the other routes. More: https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/work-visas

	TECH NATION VISA SCHEME (No job offer required)	TIER 2 (GENERAL) (Visa depends on offer of employment)
Who this is for	Covers applicants which show exceptional talent and exceptional promise in the digital tech sector (defined as proven expertise in management or exploitation of a technology stack)	 Some tech jobs in companies of less than 250 employees are on the Tier 2 shortage occupation list No need to advertise the position if job is on shortage occupation list Applicants can apply for graduate level tech jobs
Eligibility	 Meet the mandatory and qualifying criteria for the visa route Endorsement by Tech City UK 	 A certificate of sponsorship for a specific graduate level job vacancy An appropriate salary for the job you're applying for A required intermediate level of English Maintenance funds requirement of £945
Sponsorship by a company	n/a	A-rated sponsor
How long it will take	Stage 1: endorsement by Tech City UK up to 8 weeks Stage 2: visa application up to 3 weeks out of country and 8 weeks in country	 3 weeks (out of country) once applicant is successfully sponsored 8 weeks (in country depending on mode of application)
Fees*	•£281 for stage 1 •Another £281 for stage 2	• £564 to £1,128 (out of country) • £651 to £1,302 (in country)
How long you can stay	Visa is granted up to a maximum of 5 years and 4 months	Visa is granted for up to 5 years, depending on length of sponsorship
Extension / Settlement	You can apply to extend up to another 5 years at a time You can apply for settlement once you've been in the UK for 5 years	You can apply for settlement once you've been in the UK for 5 years. (You must still be required by your sponsor)

^{*} Please note that this covers the standard application fees only. Other Home Office fees may be incurred depending on each case.

WHAT IS THE TECH NATION VISA SCHEME?

The Tech Nation Visa Scheme makes it possible for tech talent from around the world to come and work in the UK's world-class digital technology sector.

Tech City UK is the designated competent body for digital technology and has the ability to endorse applications for the Tier 1 Exceptional Talent visa. If you receive an endorsement from Tech City UK, then you will be eligible to submit your visa application to the Home Office.

This is part of Tech City UK's mission to ensure that the UK continues to maintain its position as a globally competitive digital economy.

FOR BUSINESSES TO HIRE TECH TALENT

Whether you wish to employ a cyber security specialist or an experienced scale-up professional, Tech City UK is committed to ensuring the Tech Nation Visa Scheme will enable you to access the right talent at the right time to hasten your path to success.

Furthermore, as a UK-based business you are now able to hire teams of up to 5 individuals from outside the EU, allowing you to attract high calibre and high performing teams that have a proven track record of creativity, collaboration and commercial vision.



THE TYPES OF SKILLS WE LOOK FOR

If you are an individual with the following skills or a business looking to hire individuals with these skills, then the Tech Nation Visa Scheme can help.

TECHNICAL SKILLS & ROLES

Senior DevOps / SysOps engineers Senior Systems administrators / engineers

Data scientists

Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning experts (Al, NLP, ML)

Senior cybersecurity experts

Technical analysts

Hardware engineers / RIFD / Internet of Things

Senior Front end Developers

Senior QA engineers

Compiler experts

Operating Systems engineers Kernel programmers

Graphics programmers / designers with experience in Mobile graphics engines/ DirectX and Open GL

Senior GPU developers eq. C++, CUDA

Experienced published mobile developers (Android / iOS)

Back end developers with senior experience in new technologies such as JVM, and languages such as Scala, F#, C Rust, Python, Ruby on Rails, Node.is. GoLang and Cloiure. etc.

Information Architecture strategy / Chief Technology Officer for technical or business applications with international operations (ERP, CRM, Bl,etc.)

BUSINESS SKILLS & ROLES

Experience of taking a tech company through IPO

Experience as a commercial / business lead (P&L, growth, sales and distribution strategy in a digital business)

Experience of scaling a digital product internationally

Sector-specific experience eg. payment infrastructure in FinTech / international expansion in EdTech/
AdTech / E-commerce etc.

Solution sales experts

Data and Complexity Academic

Experience as a digital product lead (head of product management / development / requirements)

SaaS or enterprise sales leadership for digital services

Performance marketing expert/ Experience in achieving significant growth for early stage digital products /startups

Track record of leading VC or PE investments in digital businesses

Experience as C suite in a SMEs + (CEO, CMO, CIO) or head of operations for a digital business

If you are looking to relocate to the UK or are already in the UK using a different visa route, you may be eligible to apply for the Tech Nation Visa Scheme. You do not need a job offer to work in the UK and you will be assessed exclusively on your skills, expertise and how you intend to benefit the UK digital technology sector.

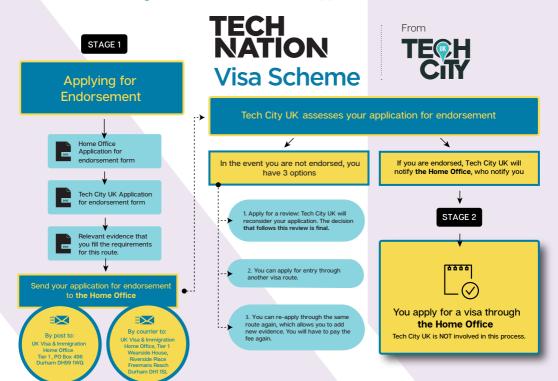
We have specific fast-track routes for:

- · Applicants with business and technical experience of scaling digital businesses
- · Applicants intending to make a contribution to one of the North's seven cities (Newcastle, Leeds, Sunderland, Hull, Liverpool, Sheffield and Manchester or the surrounding areas)
- · Entire teams who are looking to relocate to the UK

Please check out techcityuk.com/tech-nation-visa to see whether you are qualified to apply.

HOW DO I APPLY?

There are two stages to the Tech Nation Visa application



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

ANTONIA ANNI User experience designer

"It is worth applying for the visa, the benefits massively outweigh the monetary and time costs expended in the process. The entire process for me took 2 months but I have up to 5 years to benefit from it."



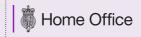
SHANNON MAHER CTO The Guardian

"Tech City UK did a great job of demystifying the criteria for certification for me, as a tech applicant. They helped with the overall process as well; with explanations on their website and in conversation. They also helped me in the processing of my visa, and in understanding its status. Thanks!"











Kindly supported by:





techcityuk.com/tech-nation-visa



