

Hiring options

There are 3 main options for employing graduate international workers:

1

Student visas

Students have permission to work in the UK without sponsorship

Businesses may sponsor students after course completion

Category includes bachelor's, master's and PhD students

2

Graduate visas

Allow recent graduates to remain in the UK after course finishes

Free to work in the UK in any role, for any business

No need for sponsorship – student secures the visa

3

Skilled Worker route

Option for students and graduates from inside and outside the UK

Minimum skill and salary requirements

Requires sponsorship

Sponsorship fees – Comparison of routes

	Student visa to skilled worker in UK	Graduate visa to Skilled Worker in UK	Student and Graduates Out of Country
Certificate of Sponsorship	£239	£239	£239
Immigration Skills Surcharge	£0	£3,000	£3,000
Application fee	£827	£827	£719
Immigration Health Surcharge	£3,105	£3,105	£3,105
Priority service, if applicable	£500	£500	£500
TOTAL	£4,671	£7,671	£7,563

Assuming 3-year sponsorship and upcoming increase in Home Office fees



- Youth Mobility Visa (Australia, NZ, Canada, South Korea, Japan etc)
- Indian Young professionals Scheme visa
- International "Remote" Working
- Non-sponsored routes - Spouse, UK Ancestry etc
- Irish Ancestry