

AN OVERVIEW OF THE TIER 5 GOVERNMENT AUTHORISED EXCHANGE VISA ROUTE

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Tier 5 GAE Visa

Overarching Bodies

Fees, Eligibility Criteria & Process

TIER 5 GOVERNMENT AUTHORISED EXCHANGE VISA

TIER 5 GAE VISA

The government authorised exchange category was set up in 2008 for people coming to the UK through approved schemes that aim to share **knowledge, experience** and **best practice**, and to experience the **social and cultural life** of the UK.

This route is designed specifically to allow graduates & postgraduates from countries outside the EEA to gain experience working in the UK for a minimum of **4 weeks** and maximum of **12-24 months**. It gives UK employers an opportunity to hire the best and the brightest talent from overseas on key initiatives to learn key skill.

In contrast to Tier 2, which requires the employer to directly sponsor migrant workers, **Tier 5 does not permit employers to sponsor migrants**; instead the sponsor has to be an overarching body.

OVERARCHING BODIES

- AIESEC - Access Tier 5
- GTI - Tier 5 International
- BUNAC - International Britain
- Fragomen - International Internship Scheme
- IASTE

DIFFERENCES

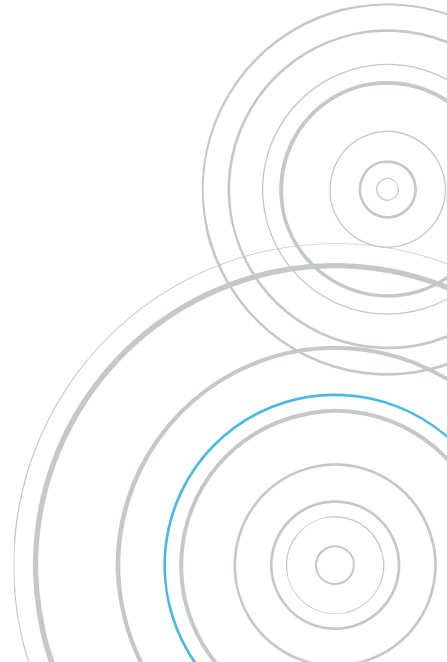
	ACCESS TIER 5	TIER 5 INTERN	INTERN IN BRITAIN	INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP SCHEME	IAESTE
FEES	£1350 - £1800	£750	£590 + Insurance	£2200	Free
COS PROCESSING TIMES	1-5 Working Days	2-5 Working Days	10 Working Days	5 Working Days	Between 2-3 Weeks
ELIGIBILITY	Least Intrusive	Requires Interview	Document Heavy	Only available to Fragomen's clients	Scotland & Northern Ireland -
DURATION	Up to 24 Months	12 Months	6 Months	12 Months	6 Months
SALARY	£16500 PA or NMW	NMW	No Salary Required or NMW	Unsure	NMW

DIFFERENCES

	ACCESS TIER 5	TIER 5 INTERN	INTERN IN BRITAIN	INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP SCHEME	IAESTE
HOURS/WEEK	Minimum 35 hours per week	Minimum 30 hours per week	Minimum 20 hours per week	Minimum 35 hours per week	Minimum 30 hours per week
EDUCATION	Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course	Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course	Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course	Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course	Science, Engineering, Technology or Applied Arts Students
	Graduated no longer than 3 years ago	Graduated no longer than 5 years ago	Graduated no longer than 1 years ago	Graduated no longer than 5 years ago	Enrolled at any HE institution in Scotland or Northern Ireland

OVERARCHING BODIES

For a full list of all the overarching bodies, please refer
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-n-authorised-exchange-schemes>



UKVI FEES

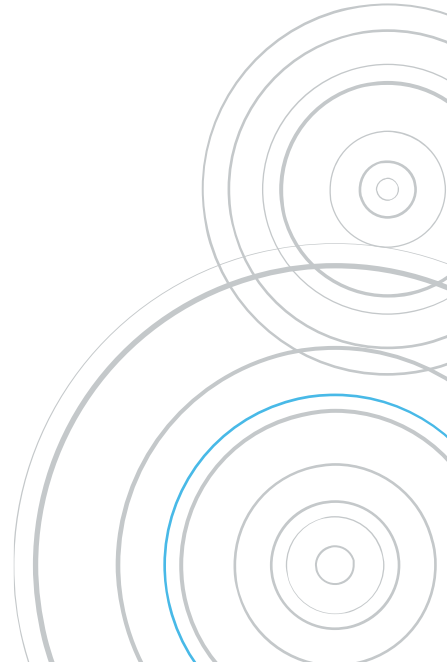
Visa Fee: £244

HIS: £400 for applications over 6 months

Priority Service (UK): £500 – 5 Working days

Super Priority (UK): £800 – 24 Hours

Priority Service (Out Country): £220 - 5 Working days



PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR A COS

Employer – Candidate identify each other

Employer completes application form and provides documents

Interview conducted by the overarching body

PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR A COS

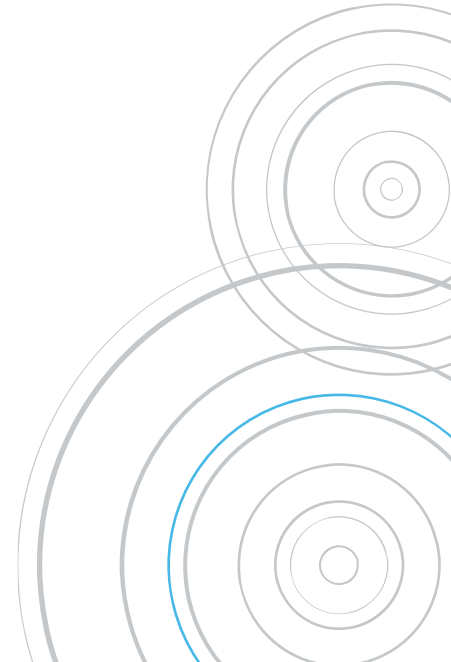
Overarching body will take
between 1-10 working days

CoS is issued

Candidate applies for the Visa

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. The maximum term of placement is **12** months at a time.
2. Minimum qualification of the candidate is that of an **undergraduate enrolled** on a course at **a NARIC listed institution**
3. The placement position must be **Supernumerary** i.e outside of the regular staffing requirements of the company and must not fit into a Tier 2 (General) occupation category; thereby not affecting the UK Resident Labour Market.
4. The placement should be a **full time placement (35- 48hrs/week)** and the condition of employment should be in line with the **National Minimum Wage Act** if outside of London or **£16500 pa** if based in London.
5. Any work that the candidate undertakes must be at a skill level of **RQF Level 3 or above**.

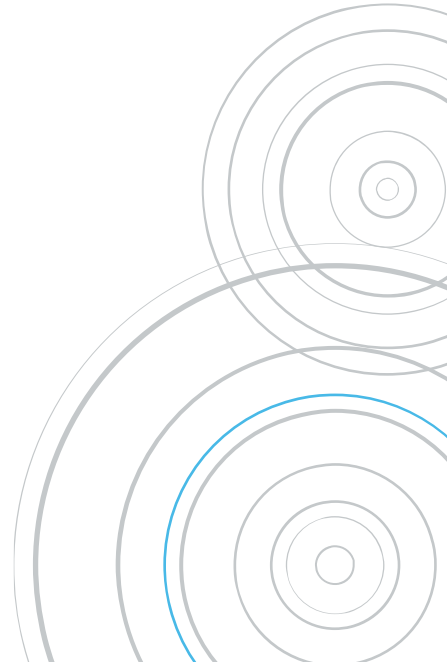


ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

6. The employer must have the **financial & personnel resources** to support the candidate through out the placement.
7. The Employer must be a **UK Registered Company, Charity or Government** department.
8. Employers are required to have a minimum of 5 full time staff members by most overarching bodies.

Exceptions to the programme:

1. This program is **not open** to employers in the **Hospitality, Care or Agriculture sector**.



BENEFITS FOR THE STUDENTS



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- The overarching bodies under this route are A rated sponsors, which means they can certify maintenance of funds for the candidates.
- Students in UK on Tier 4 can switch to Tier 5 GAE if they can find an placement that meets Home Office's criteria.
- No maximum limit applied on the salaries offered.

BENEFITS FOR THE EMPLOYERS



- The overarching body will take all the sponsorship responsibilities from the employer for the duration of the individuals placement.
- This is a great route to gauge whether there is employer candidate compatibility before both sides commit to a more permanent position under Tier 2.
- Quick turnaround times

For more information

[https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-government-
authorised-exchange/overview](https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-government-
authorised-exchange/overview)

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Any Questions?