AN OVERVIEW OF THE TIER 5 GOVERNMENT AUTHORISED EXCHANGE VISA ROUTE

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Date: 26/02/2020
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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 Intern
- BUNAC - Intern in Britain
- Fragomen - International Internship Scheme
- IASTE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACCESS TIER 5</th>
<th>TIER 5 INTERN</th>
<th>INTERN IN BRITAIN</th>
<th>INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP SCHEME</th>
<th>IAESTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEES</strong></td>
<td>£1350 - £1800</td>
<td>£750</td>
<td>£590 + Insurance</td>
<td>£2200</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COS PROCESSING TIMES</strong></td>
<td>1-5 Working Days</td>
<td>2-5 Working Days</td>
<td>10 Working Days</td>
<td>5 Working Days</td>
<td>Between 2-3 Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ELIGIBILITY</strong></td>
<td>Least Intrusive</td>
<td>Requires Interview</td>
<td>Document Heavy</td>
<td>Only available to Fragomen’s clients</td>
<td>Scotland &amp; Northern Ireland -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DURATION</strong></td>
<td>Up to 24 Months</td>
<td>12 Months</td>
<td>6 Months</td>
<td>12 Months</td>
<td>6 Months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SALARY</strong></td>
<td>£16500 PA or NMW</td>
<td>NMW</td>
<td>No Salary Required or NMW</td>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>NMW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACCESS TIER 5</td>
<td>TIER 5 INTERN</td>
<td>INTERN IN BRITAIN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOURS/WEEK</td>
<td>Minimum 35 hours per week</td>
<td>Minimum 30 hours per week</td>
<td>Minimum 20 hours per week</td>
<td>Minimum 35 hours per week</td>
<td>Minimum 30 hours per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course</td>
<td>Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course</td>
<td>Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course</td>
<td>Graduate/PG or enrolled on a Degree course</td>
<td>Science, Engineering, Technology or Applied Arts Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Graduated no longer than 3 years ago</td>
<td>Graduated no longer than 5 years ago</td>
<td>Graduated no longer than 1 years ago</td>
<td>Graduated no longer than 5 years ago</td>
<td>Enrolled at any HE institution in Scotland or Northern Ireland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERARCHING BODIES

For a full list of all the overarching bodies, please refer to the following link:
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

1. Employer – Candidate identify each other
2. Employer completes application form and provides documents
3. Interview conducted by the overarching body
PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR A COS

1. Overarching body will take between 1-10 working days
2. CoS is issued
3. 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 throughout 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

- 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 a placement that meets Home Office's criteria.

- No maximum limit applied on the salaries offered.
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

BENEFITS FOR THE EMPLOYERS
For more information

https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-government-authorised-exchange/overview
CONTACT DETAILS

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Any Questions?