



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur)

What is the Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur)?

Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) is an immigration category to allow graduates with genuine and credible business ideas and entrepreneurial skills to stay in the UK to develop their business under the supervision of their UK academic institution.

Who can apply for immigration permission as a Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur)?

In order to apply for this type of visa, you will need to meet the formal requirements. It is helpful for you to consider the eligibility requirements as two distinct processes; the first part relates to the selection of your business idea, and the second part relates to the immigration rules and therefore your visa application.

The Student and Graduate Enterprise Team will assess your business idea and, if they wish to endorse you under the scheme, the Welfare, Immigration and Funding Advisers will then assess your eligibility to apply for the visa.

If you think you might be eligible, please follow these steps:

Step One:

Contact the Student and Graduate Enterprise Team on 0191 243 7396 so that they may assess your idea by completing the Tier 1 Endorsement Application Form and sending it to: nu.enterprise@northumbria.ac.uk

Your application will be assessed based on the information you give plus, if appropriate, prior knowledge of your business idea.



Step Two:

If the Student and Graduate Enterprise Team wish to endorse your application they will provide you with an official letter of endorsement that includes a secure and unique reference number.

Step Three:

See a Welfare, Immigration and Funding Adviser who will advise you on the application process and make you an appointment to submit your application.

Step Four:

Complete an application form and supply all relevant documents, including the endorsement letter and unique reference number. A fee is payable and your application should take approximately eight weeks to process.

Step Five:

You will be issued with a contract outlining your responsibilities as a Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) visa holder and our responsibilities to you as your sponsor.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who will fund my business?

Northumbria University will not provide any funding for your business as part of our endorsement. You will need to find the money to fund your business from elsewhere.

How long can I stay in the UK with Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) immigration permission?

Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) immigration permission will be granted for one year. If your business is a success, Northumbria University may choose to provide you with a second endorsement letter and you may be able to apply for immigration permission for a second year.

If, at the end of the two years, your business continues to be a success, you may be able to apply for immigration permission as a Tier 1 (Entrepreneur). For more information, visit: www.gov.uk/tier-1-entrepreneur

How much money will I need?

If you are applying in the UK, you must have savings of at least £945 which you have held for at least 90 days before you make your application; or

If you are applying from outside the UK, you must have savings of at least £1,890 which you have held for at least 90 days before you make your application.

What are the fees?

The fee for yourself, if applying to extend your visa from within the UK, is £474. If you are applying from outside the UK the fee is £349.

What are the conditions attached to the Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) visa?

You must:

- Only start your business when you have made your application;
- Spend the majority of your time working on developing that business venture;

- Agree to maintain contact and evidence progress at regular intervals, as determined by the University;
- Adhere to the conditions set by the University, as per your contract, and the Home Office - see link below. If you breach the conditions of your leave, the University must report this to the Home Office and may withdraw its endorsement. The result could be that your immigration permission would be cut short.

For more information, visit: www.gov.uk/tier-1-graduate-entrepreneur-visa/overview

Contact the Welfare, Immigration and Funding Team

Visit us at an Ask4Help point

At City Campus

Drop in to speak to an Adviser:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
(10am – 4pm), Wednesday (1 – 4pm)
Student Central, City Campus Library

At Coach Lane Campus

Bookable Appointments:
Friday 10am – 12.30pm
Drop in: Friday 2 – 4pm
Student Central, Coach Lane Library

At London Campus

Ground Floor

At Amsterdam Campus

First Floor, Fraijlemaborg Building

Tel: 0191 227 4127

sv.welfareandinternational@northumbria.ac.uk

Current Northumbria students should make enquiries via the Student Portal:

myportal.northumbria.ac.uk



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

Visit an Ask4Help point
northumbria.ac.uk/internationalsupport

