

Immigration

Changes to Home Office fees

Q: We have heard that the Home Office are planning to increase their fees. Can you give us some more information?

A: The Home Office has published indicative fee increases for all UK immigration and nationality applications made from April 2015. Whilst some fees remain the same, for example the sponsor licence application fees, the costs associated with sponsoring a Tier 2/5 employee are expected to increase –such as for fees in assigning a Certificate of Sponsorship, out-country and in-country immigration applications. There may be a sharp increase for work-related indefinite leave to remain applications, which could be over £400. However, there is a significant reduction for sole representative in-country extension applications.

We summarise below the Home Office fees for specific applications that may affect corporate sponsors. The UKVI has indicated to us that applications submitted for out-country cases and Premium Service appointments booked for in-country cases **before** the fee increase date in April will not be subject to any fees top-up, even if the biometric appointments take place **after** the fee increase. **Sponsors looking to transfer employees from overseas or seek extension for current employees may wish to make the applications now to take advantage of the lower fees.**

Out-country			
Tier 2 General & ICT - long term staff (visa for three years or less)	£514	£564	Increase - £50
Tier 2 General & ICT - long term staff (visa for over three years)	£1,028	£1,128	Increase - £100
Representative of an overseas business	£514	£535	Increase - £21
Tier 5 temporary worker	£208	£225	Increase - £17
In-country			
Tier 2 General & ICT - long term staff (leave for three years or less)	£601	£651	Increase - £50
Tier 2 General & ICT - long term staff (leave for over three years)	£1,202	£1,302	Increase - £100
Representative of an overseas business	£1,093	£651	Decrease - £442
Indefinite leave to remain (employment-related)	£1,093	£1,500	Increase - £407
Miscellaneous			
Tier 2 CoS	£184	£199	Increase - £15
Tier 5 CoS	£14	£21	Increase - £7
Priority visa service - non settlement	£100	£120	Increase - £20
Premium same - day service	£400	Same	N/A
Priority postal	£300	Same	N/A
Super premium service	£6,000	£7,000	Increase - £1000

The above fees are subject to parliamentary approval and may only be finalised in March 2015.

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