



Sponsored Research Work Permits

Guidance for Managers

The Home Office has recently introduced a new work permit category for employees who fall into the category of a Sponsored Researcher.

Who should have a sponsored researcher permit:

According to the Home Office Business and Commercial Guidance Notes (October 2005), the category of **Sponsored Researchers** includes:

- 1) Someone who has a job overseas, will be on leave from that job but is still being paid for that job, has come to the UK to undertake a period of research at an employer/host organisation and the funding for the research remains overseas.
- 2) Someone who has a job overseas, who is still being paid for that job, has come to the UK to undertake a period of research at an employer/host organisation, and the funding for that person is transferred to the UK employer or host.
- 3) Someone who has a job overseas, who is still being paid for that job, has come to the UK to undertake a period of research at an employer/host organisation, and the funding for that person is arranged and paid by the UK employer or host.
- 4) Someone who is on paid sabbatical, comes to the UK to undertake research at a UK employer/host organisation, funding is arranged and paid by the UK employer or host.
- 5) Someone who is on unpaid sabbatical but receives funding from UK employer or host.

The Home Office states that this is not an exhaustive list and the person you may wish to employ may still be able to enter through this route even though they do not appear to meet the criteria above.

If your member of staff requires a permit to be able to work in the UK, please contact the Recruitment Team in the Human Resources Division and they will advise you whether a work permit or a sponsored researcher permit is required.

Examples of LSE appointments that require a sponsored research work permit include:

British Academy Research Fellows

ESRC Postdoctoral Research Fellows

Leverhulme Postdoctoral Research Fellows

These are research positions where the researcher has been awarded a grant by the funding body and has chosen to carry out the research at the School. The School does not have funding for a vacancy.

Other Research posts may require a work permit rather than a sponsored researcher permit. The Recruitment Team in the Human Resources Division will be able to advise you.

Managers Role in the Sponsored Researcher Application Process

The information required by the Home Office for sponsored researcher applications will be the same as the information required for a work permit application.

You may be asked by the Human Resources Division to provide the following information:

- Details of why you wish to employ/ invite this person
- The main duties of the position
- The main skills/ qualifications required to enable them to carry out the position
- Details of the funding body, if appropriate, otherwise this information will be obtained from the researcher.



Applying for Entry Clearance or Leave to Remain

Please be aware that the same procedures and regulations applies for sponsored researcher permit holders, as it does for all work permit holders. For full details regarding this, please refer to the *Work Permit Guidance for Managers*.

Sponsored Researcher Permit Extension

If an extension to the permit is required, this can be applied for **no more than 3 months prior to the expiry of the current permit** and must be made before the current permit expires. For further information regarding work permit extensions please refer to the *Work Permit Guidance for Managers*.

Please read these guidance notes in conjunction with the *Work Permit Guidance for Managers*.

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