



# UNITED KINGDOM

TIER I INVESTOR VISA

World-class education and lifestyle

Investment from £ 2,000,000

Recoverable investment

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

The UK Tier I Investor Visa offers temporary residence status leading to permanent residency and potentially citizenship for high net worth individuals and all immediate family members, including spouse and children under the age of 18. The law governing Tier I applications has been incorporated into Part 6A, Paragraph 245B-245FC and Appendix A of the UK Immigration Rules of the UK Immigration and Nationality Directorate.

The investor category is designed to allow wealthy individuals to make a substantial financial investment in the UK. To obtain permission from the UK to enter as an investor under the Tier I category, the applicant must invest a minimum of £2 million in the UK. The Tier I Investor category has the shortest Investor Immigration application processing time amongst the G8 countries and has very objective entry criteria with a predictable outcome..

## COUNTRY FACTS

The UK is a member state of the EU, but it opted out of the European Monetary Union and continues to use the pound sterling as its currency. It has the most respected system of law and robust regulatory frameworks and institutions.

It is renowned for having some of the best educational institutions in the world and London is the most influential financial centre across the globe.

## KEY BENEFITS

### Freedom of movement

Grants visa-free travel within the whole Common Travel Area (UK, Ireland, Isle of Man, Guernsey, Jersey).

### Residence for family members

Grants residence rights in the country for main applicant and family members.

### Exceptionally fast processing

Approval in principal is given in as little as 3 weeks or 24 hours under Super Premium Service.

### Naturalisation process

Applicants are eligible for citizenship following six years of continuous residence.

### Recoverable investment option

Bond investments are recoverable following a five-year or less holding period, during which time it can produce income.

### No residential requirements

Applicants are not required to be physically present in the UK after approval.

### Accelerated permanent residence

Applicants have the option to increase their investment in order to accelerate their eligibility to indefinite leave to remain.

### Democratic country

The country has a stable political environment with a democratically elected government and a common law legal system.

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VERICA OFFERS RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS TAILORED TO TODAY'S GLOBAL CITIZENS.

Our international team guides high-net-worth individuals through the immigration process of acquiring residency or citizenship by investment.

## INVESTMENT OPTIONS



£ 2 million  
Investment in shares  
or government bonds

or



£ 5 million  
Investment in shares  
or government bonds

or



£ 10 million  
Investment in shares  
or government bonds

## ACCELERATED ROUTE TO PERMANENT RESIDENCE BY INCREASED INVESTMENT

On April 6, 2011, the Government announced new rules which provide the ability to achieve Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK (ILR), which is permanent residence, through an accelerated route. The new requirement is an increased investment. An investment of £10 million or more will provide for settlement after two years, and an investment of £5 million or more will provide for settlement after three years, instead of the usual five years. It is important to know that only the main applicant will have his/her route to permanent residence fast tracked through higher level of investment; their dependents (spouse and children) can only apply for permanent residence after living for 5 years in UK.

- Investment of £2 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 5 years in the UK
- Investment of £5 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 3 years in the UK
- Investment of £10 million – eligibility for indefinite leave to remain after 2 years in the UK

After having spent 6 years in the country (5 years for investors of £5 million and £10 million), the applicant can apply for British citizenship, but they must not have spent more than 450 days out of the UK during the 5 year qualifying period, and no more than 90 days during the final 12 months of this.

## REQUIREMENTS

The criteria specifies that the applicant must show that they have money of their own under their control in a UK-regulated bank amounting to no less than £2 million.

The individual must invest for five years in the UK by way of UK government bonds, share capital or loan capital in active and trading UK-registered companies (other than those principally engaged in property investment). Investment in offshore companies is not permitted.

There are no additional qualifying requirements, so the applicant is not required to show business experience, ability to speak English or undergo any interviews. Some nationals (China, Russia, Nigeria among them) are required to undertake a TB test before submitting their application. Investors are permitted to be gainfully employed under this visa or undertake a course of study in the UK.

The UK expects the investor to intend to make the UK their main home by spending more time in the UK than elsewhere, meaning that they are required to spend at least 50% of their time in the UK.

The applicant will initially obtain the Tier 1 visa for 40 months. Within three months of entry into the UK, they are required to make the investment of £2 million which must be maintained throughout the period of leave.

At the expiry of the initial 40 month period, the investor must apply for an 'extension of stay'. The UK government will grant a two year extension of stay to the whole family if the investor has satisfied the requirements for leave to enter, i.e. maintained the investment at excess of £2 million and adhered to the other general conditions for leave to enter.

Once citizenship and a UK passport have been granted, there is no restriction on the time that must be spent in the UK.

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