

GPs requiring visas

From 1 January 2021, international GPs requiring visas to work in the UK will only be able to progress to the supervised placement stage of the International Induction Programme (IIP) or Return to Practice Schemes (RtP) when they have secured employment at a GP practice that holds a visa sponsorship licence and is willing to sponsor their Health and Care (Tier 2) Visa whilst they complete the scheme.

International GPs requiring visas to work in the UK may undertake the schemes' assessments from their country of residency (subject to any local COVID 19 restrictions) prior to securing employment at a sponsoring practice. Progression to the next stages of the schemes will however be dependent on the international GP first securing employment in England.

Advice and support on how to find employment is offered to international GPs on the schemes however neither Health Education England (HEE) or NHS England and Improvement (NHSE&I) are able to guarantee employment to the GP after completing the assessments.

EEA nationals that are already resident in the UK before 1 January 2021 will not require a visa to join or continue with the schemes. These nationals should however ensure that they have applied for settled or pre-settled status under the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) before 30 June 2020.

Guidance for applicants

If you require a visa to work in the UK, please ensure that you tick the relevant section of the scheme's registration form indicating that a visa will be required.

You will then be contacted by NHSE&I who will provide advice on how to secure employment at a practice that holds a visa sponsorship licence.

This may involve you looking for GP vacancies on GP recruitment websites and applying directly or in some cases NHSE&I may be able to put you in touch with practices in your preferred area that are currently recruiting.

If you are successful in obtaining employment at a practice with a visa sponsorship licence then HEE will undertake an assessment to determine whether you can undertake the supervision stage of the scheme at the employing practice or whether this will need to be undertaken at a designated HEE training practice nearby.

During the supervision stage, NHSE&I will reimburse your employing practice for your salary costs. This will be equivalent to the monthly bursary currently available under the schemes. A monthly payment to support supervision will also be made to the practice where you undertake the supervision stage.

NHSE&I will reimburse you via your employing practice for the costs of your visa and the visa costs of any dependents.

Once you have completed the scheme, your employing practice will be responsible for your salary costs.

You will have an opportunity to discuss this process further at your Learning Needs Assessment with HEE after you have been approved to join the scheme.

You can also contact NHS England and Improvement if you have any questions about the visa requirements via england.intrecruitment@nhs.net.