

Act Now and Register as a Tier 2 Sponsor FOR FREE!

Tier 2 sponsorship is an opportunity for practices that are having difficulty recruiting to vacant GP posts, to employ international doctors who will generally have completed their training in the UK. It doesn't guarantee that you will fill your vacancy, but it opens a new pool of doctors who are then able to apply for your vacancies.

What is Tier 2?

- Tier 2 is an immigration route for non-European Economic Area (EEA) doctors who wish to work in the UK. These doctors must be sponsored by an organisation or company that holds a Tier 2 licence. A licence is a permission given to an organisation to sponsor workers in its business. The organisation is known as a sponsor.
- Trainees are sponsored by HEE, but that sponsorship ends when they complete training and so must find employment with a new sponsoring organisation or must return to their home country.

Reimbursement Process (until 31 January 2020)

NHS England is currently reimbursing costs relating to tier 2 visa sponsorship and employment:

- Relocation costs for the sponsored GP and immediate family up to £5000 (from outside the UK only).
- Tier 2 visa application costs for the sponsored GP and their family
- Application costs for a Tier 2 Sponsorship Licence.
- The first 2 years of the Immigration Skills Charge for any GP employed /sponsored on a Tier 2 Visa.

In order to apply for reimbursement, please contact the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG: **Janet Nix** on **07943 594 604** or janet.nix@nhs.net.

How To Become a Sponsor?

To become a sponsor you will need to:

- Complete an online application – slide pack is available from NHE England along with support.
- Pay a fee (this can be reimbursed by NHS England until 31 Jan 2020).
- Identify key personnel in your organisation to have Tier 2 responsibilities.
- Send specific documents within 5 days of making your application.
- Before you can offer a Certificate of Sponsorship to a doctor you must demonstrate that you have a genuine vacancy which cannot be filled by the settled workforce (the resident labour market test).

Now That My Practice is a Sponsor

Once you are a sponsor you will need to:

- Keep records/documents for each sponsored doctor (this is normal employee information).
- Report a doctor's non-attendance, non-compliance or disappearance.
- Maintain your organisation information online.

The maximum time that a Tier 2 doctor may be in the UK under a Tier 2 visa is 6 years. After 5 years, the doctor may apply for settlement (indefinite leave to remain). An international Tier 2 doctor who has also trained in the UK will have already been in the UK under Tier 2 for a few years and so the period of sponsorship may be limited before indefinite leave to remain may be granted.

Key Contact

We would be more than happy to guide you through the application and reimbursement processes – even come out and visit the practice!

If you have any questions or would like some support, please contact our IGPR Project Support – **Janet Nix on 07943 594 604 or janet.nix@nhs.net**.

Further Information

- The latest information regarding Tier 2 sponsorship can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sponsorship-information-for-employers-and-educators>
- The link to apply is here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-sponsor-licence>
- Home Office contact details – 0300 123 4699, or email BusinessHelpdesk@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk