

Title: UK Work Visa for vets looking to come from overseas

Meta title: Synergy Vets outline everything you need to know about applying for the various UK Work Visas for vets from overseas looking to work and travel in the UK.

Having a career in the veterinary industry can be like holding a passport to the rest of the world, as there are always opportunities to work overseas, especially for those looking to come work here in the UK. However, having experience in the vet industry alone isn't enough. In addition to possessing a valid passport, you'll need to sort out your visa. Getting a UK work visa for vets is simple enough, but you need to know which to apply for, as there are few different options.

Option 1 – Tier 2 (General) Visa

This is a UK Work visa for vets who have already been offered a job in the veterinary industry in the UK. You can apply if you're from outside the [European Economic Area \(EEA\) and Switzerland](#).

The process is a little more complex for a Tier 2 visa, as you'll need a [certificate of sponsorship](#) from a licensed sponsor before you can apply. Your work in the UK veterinary field must also relate to the work of this sponsor organisation.

You can apply for a visa up to 3 months before the day you're due to start work in the UK, as listed on your certificate of sponsorship. Your stay must commence no earlier than 14 days before the start date agreed on your [certificate of sponsorship](#).

The Tier 2 UK Work visa is for vets looking to stay for a maximum of 5 years and 14 days, or the time given on your certificate of sponsorship plus 1 month. It is usually whichever is shorter. You may [apply to extend](#) a Tier 2 UK Visa for vets for up to 5 years, as long as your total stay is no more than 6 years.

Option 2 – Tier 5 (Youth Mobility Scheme) Visa

This UK Visa is for Vets who:

- are aged 18 – 30
- want to live in the UK and work in the veterinary industry for up to 2 years
- have £1,890 in savings
- have certain types of British Nationality or are from other [certain countries](#)
- meet all other [eligibility requirements](#). This includes proving you do not have any dependents.

The earliest you can apply is 3 months before you travel and you should receive a decision within 3 weeks.

This type of UK Visa for vets is valid for up to 24 months. During this time, you can enter the UK at any time, or leave and come back at any time, as long as your visa is still valid. Though only eligible for 18-30 year olds, if you turn 31 whilst away you may stay as long as your visa is valid.

Option 3 – Working Holiday Visas to the UK

This kind of UK work visa for vets allows foreign nationals aged between 17 and 30 years to both work and travel in the UK. This is a 2-year visa, during which travellers must work a minimum of 12 months. Whether travellers choose to work for more than

12 out of the 24 months or not, it's the perfect way to gain more experience in the veterinary field and fund yourself while living here in the UK.

Option 4 – **UK Ancestry Visa**

This type of UK visa is for vets who:

- are [Commonwealth](#) citizens
- are applying from outside the UK
- can prove that one of their grandparents was born in the UK
- are both able and planning to work once in the UK
- meet all other [eligibility requirements](#).

The earliest you can apply is 3 months before you travel and you should get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks, when you apply from outside the UK.