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## HOW TO COME TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AS A VISITOR

### How you can come to the UK as a visitor

If you are a national of the European Economic Area (EEA) or a member of their family see the for European citizens section.

To come to the United Kingdom as a visitor you must be able to show that you:

- only want to visit the United Kingdom for up to six months;
- plan to leave the United Kingdom at the end of your visit;
- have enough money to support and accommodate yourself without working, help from public funds or you will be supported and accommodated by relatives or friends;
- do not intend to charge members of the public for services provided or goods received;
- do not intend to study; and
- can meet the cost of the return or onward journey.

If you want to do business during your visit you also have to show that you:

- normally live and work abroad and you have no plans to base yourself in the United Kingdom; and
- do not plan to work, produce goods or provide services in the United Kingdom.

### What documents you should have when coming to the UK as a visitor

- a letter from your employer granting leave of absence from your job for a specified period. The letter should also say how long you have been employed by that employer, in what job(s) and should indicate when you are expected back at work;
- if you are self-employed, evidence of your business activities and financial standing;
- evidence of any property you own in your home country;
- if you are a student, a letter from your school or college stating which course you are on, its start and finish dates and the dates of the holiday period during which you intend to visit the United Kingdom;
- it will also help if you can show that you have family or social ties and responsibilities to return to;
- evidence of any firm travel plans you have made;
- bank statements going back over a period of several months; and evidence of savings available to you.

You should check before you travel to see if you need a visa. If you regularly visit the United Kingdom for business you can apply for a multiple-entry visa as a visitor that is valid for two, five or 10 years. For more information on visas see the visa services website