

[Tier 2 sponsorship scheme](#)

Background of the Tier 2 sponsorship scheme

In July 2019, NHS England launched an additional scheme, aimed at supporting international GP trainees to remain in the UK upon completing their training successfully, and with the next wave of trainee GPs due to complete this training over the next few months we are asking practices to get in touch with us if they would like to become a sponsoring practice.

Which organisations can apply to become Tier 2 sponsorship practice?

Any UK based organisation that wishes to employ a non-EU overseas worker in the UK on a Tier 2 (skilled worker with a job offer) visa must have a valid Tier 2 sponsorship licence.

This is especially relevant for practices who either have current vacancies and/or are in hard to recruit areas, as these GPs are not only trained in the UK, but may have a breadth of clinical experience from their often varied and extensive experience across the world.

What support is available for practices wishing to make an application for a Tier 2 licence?

The employing organisation will need to submit an online application in order to obtain this licence. NHS England has produced this [presentation](#) in order to support you in making an application for a Tier 2 licence. We recommend that you invest a minimum of **2 days** on the application process.

How long does it take for applications to be processed?

Once submitted it will take up to 8 weeks to receive a response on the application. Each licence is valid for 4 years and NHS England will reimburse the application costs and the first 2 years Immigration skills charge.

For more information, please visit the [Tier 2](#) section of the NHS Employers website or email gywccq.nwqpfvretention@nhs.net.