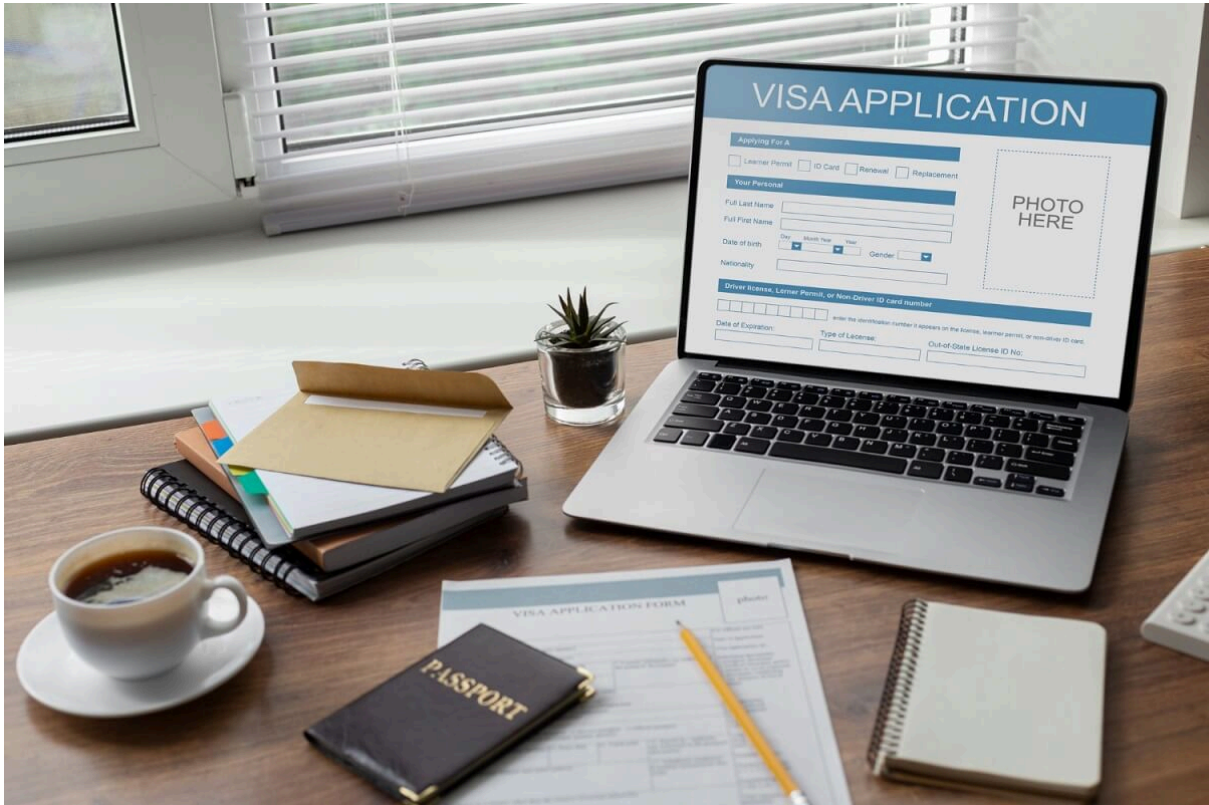


UK Home Office Visa Fees 2026: Comprehensive Pricing Guide



Navigating the UK immigration system requires careful financial planning. As of March 2026, the [Home Office](#) has implemented a series of fee adjustments affecting almost every visa category.

Effective **8 April 2026**, most visa and nationality fees are increasing by approximately 6–7%. This guide breaks down the latest costs for work, study, family, and settlement routes to help you budget for your application.

UK Visa & Immigration Fees 2026: Detailed Pricing Overview

#1 - Key Fee Increases from 8 April 2026:

The upcoming April 2026 hike pushes the cost of major milestones, such as permanent residency and citizenship, to record highs.

Application Type	Current Fee (Pre-8 April)	New Fee (From 8 April 2026)
Settlement (ILR)	£3,029	£3,226
Naturalisation (Adult)	£1,605	£1,709
Standard Visitor (6 Months)	£127	£135
Student Visa	£524	£558
Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)	£16	£20

Note: The Child Citizenship Registration fee is one of the few to decrease, dropping from £1,214 to £1,000.

In 2026, the cost of a UK Family visa ([Spouse](#), Partner, or [Fiancé](#)) depends primarily on whether you are applying from outside the UK (Entry Clearance) or inside the UK (Switching or Extending).

The Home Office has announced a fee increase effective 8 April 2026, which will raise the "Route to Settlement" application fee from £1,938 to £2,064 for overseas applicants.

Partner & Fiancé Visa Fee Breakdown (2026):

Cost Component	Applying Outside UK (Entry)	Applying Inside UK (Switch/Extend)
Visa Application Fees	£2,064 (from 8 April)	£1,321
Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS)	£3,105 (for 33 months)	£2,587.50 (for 30 months)

Also Read: [Guide to Indefinite Leave to Remain \(ILR\) After 5 Years in the UK](#)

#2 - UK Skilled Worker Visa Costs:



The [Skilled Worker visa](#) fees vary based on whether you apply from outside the UK (Entry Clearance) or switch/extend from within.

- **Entry Clearance (Outside UK):**
 - Up to 3 years: **£819** (was £769)
 - Over 3 years: **£1,618** (was £1,519)
- **In-Country (Extensions/Switching):**
 - Up to 3 years: **£943** (was £885)
 - Over 3 years: **£1,865** (was £1,751)
- **Health and Care Worker Visa:** These applicants enjoy significantly lower fees, starting at **£324** for up to 3 years.

#3 - The Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS):

Often the largest part of the "hidden" cost, the [Immigration Health Surcharge](#) must be paid upfront for most visas longer than 6 months.

- **Standard Rate (Adults):** £1,035 per year.
- **Reduced Rate (Students/Minors):** £776 per year.
- **Exemptions:** Health and Care Worker visa holders and their dependants remain exempt from paying the IHS (Immigration Health Surcharge).

#4 - Optional Priority Services:

If you need a faster decision, the Home Office Priority Services fees remain largely unchanged in this update.

- **Priority Service (5 working days):** £500.
- **Super Priority Service (24 hours):** £1,000.

#5 - Employer Sponsorship Fees:



Sponsoring international talent also becomes more expensive for businesses from 8 April 2026.

- **Large Sponsor Licence: £1,682** (up from £1,579).
- **Small/Charitable Sponsor Licence: £611** (up from £574).
- **Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS):** Remains frozen at **£525** for Skilled Workers and **£55** for Temporary Workers.

Also Read: [British Citizenship Application, Fees \(Costs\) and Process in 2026](#)

Why Hire a Law Firm Like My Legal Services for Your UK Visa?

Navigating the UK's ever-changing immigration rules is a high-stakes challenge. With Home Office fees for a single Spouse or [Skilled Worker visa](#) often exceeding £5,000 in 2026, a "DIY" mistake isn't just frustrating - it's expensive.

Hiring a specialized firm like [My Legal Services](#) provides a safety net against the complexities of the UK Immigration Rules. Here is why professional representation is a smart investment:

#1 - Navigating the "Complexity Gap":

The UK immigration system is moving toward a digital-first, "Earned Settlement" model. In 2026, rules regarding salary thresholds, English language requirements (B1 vs B2), and continuous residence are more nuanced than ever. A [qualified solicitor](#) ensures your application aligns with the exact legal "Paragraphs" of the Immigration Rules, not just general guidance.

#2 - Minimizing the Risk of Costly Refusals:

If the Home Office refuses your visa due to a missing document or a technical error, they do not refund your application fee.

The Benefit: My Legal Services performs a rigorous "Document Check." They identify weak points - such as insufficient financial evidence or gaps in your 5-year residency - before you hit submit.

#3 - Expert Handling of Complex Cases:



Not every application is straightforward. You may [need professional help](#) if you have:

- **Previous Refusals:** Explaining a past rejection is critical to avoid "General Grounds for Refusal."
- **Non-Standard Income:** If you are self-employed, a director of a limited company, or rely on cash savings, the financial evidence rules (Appendix FM) are notoriously difficult to satisfy.
- **Urgency:** Using a law firm can streamline the priority or super priority service, ensuring your Biometrics and uploads are handled correctly for a 24-hour decision.

#4 - Direct Communication with the Home Office:

As your legal representative, My Legal Services acts as the formal point of contact. If the Home Office requests further information or there is a [delay in processing](#), your solicitor can

intervene via the Home Office Resolution Centre or professional portals that aren't easily accessible to the public.

#5 - Peace of Mind in a Digital Era:

With the phase-out of physical BRP cards in favour of [eVisas](#), ensuring your digital profile is set up correctly is vital. A law firm ensures your transition to the digital system is seamless, preventing issues at the UK border or with future employers.

[My Legal Services](#) are a specialist in dealing with UK visa and Immigration applications such as spouse visa, standard visitor visa, fiance visa, skilled worker visa, Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) and etc. Contact us or book your discussion slot today with our experienced immigration solicitor in London, the UK.

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