

Community  
Legal Service



# COVENTRY LAW CENTRE

## IMMIGRATION

### About Visitors

**This leaflet explains what the Immigration Rules say about visitors, people coming to the United Kingdom for medical treatment and visitors on their way to another country.**

Coventry Law Centre  
The Bridge  
Broadgate  
Coventry  
CV1 1NG

Tel: 024 76223053

Registered with Charity Commission as Coventry Law Centre: 1087312  
Registered as a limited company in England & Wales: 4149673

Although every effort is made to ensure the information in this leaflet is accurate and up to date, it should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law and does not constitute legal advice - we cannot be held liable for any inaccuracies and their consequences. The information in this leaflet is written for people resident in, or affected by, the laws of United Kingdom only.

## ***How do you qualify to come to the United Kingdom as a visitor?***

You must be able to show that:

- you only want to visit the country for up to six months;
- you plan to leave the United Kingdom at the end of your visit; and
- you have enough money to support and accommodate yourself without working or help from public funds.

Remember, if you are a visa national you will need a visa to enter the United Kingdom.

## ***What are public funds?***

If you come to live or stay in the United Kingdom, you must be able to support and accommodate yourself without claiming certain state benefits. These are:

- Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA);
- housing and homelessness assistance;
- Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit;
- Working Families Tax Credit;
- a social fund payment
- Child Benefit, or
- any disability allowance.

## ***Can you extend your stay as a visitor?***

A visitor can only stay for six months. If the Home Office gave you permission to stay for less than six months, you can apply to extend your stay, up to six months in total.

## ***How to apply?***

You will need to complete an application form. Applications (except those for asylum and work permits or under European Community law) will not be valid unless they are made on the appropriate application form.

To apply for further leave to remain please use FLR(O). You may obtain this form from Coventry Law Centre.

You should send the completed form to the Immigration & Nationality Directorate by post, before your permission to stay ends. The application form will give you details of **all** the documents you will need to send with your application and where you should send it. We would advise you to send your application by recorded delivery and keep a copy of your application.

If you need to travel urgently, you can apply in person at one of the Immigration & Nationality Directorate public enquiry offices.

All documents should be originals unless you have a good reason why you cannot produce them with your application. The Home Office will not normally accept photocopies.

## ***Can you do business during your visit?***

You can do business in the United Kingdom either as a tourist or in connection with your work or business overseas.

### ***Can you work during your visit?***

You cannot:

- do paid or unpaid work;
- produce goods or provide services in the United Kingdom; or
- sell goods and services to member of the public.

You can:

- go to meetings with United Kingdom businesses or negotiate and enter into contracts with them;
- go to trade fairs, conferences and classroom training; and
- enter as a visitor if you are a sports person or entertainer coming to the United Kingdom for a trial or audition, or for a personal appearance which does not include a performance.

A visitor can only stay for six months. People who regularly visit the United Kingdom for business can apply for a multiple-entry visa as a visitor that is valid for two or five years.

### ***How do you qualify to come to the United Kingdom for private medical treatment?***

You must be able to show that:

- you have made satisfactory arrangements for the consultation or treatment you need;
- you have enough money to pay for any treatment and to support and accommodate yourself without working or help from public funds; and
- you plan to leave the United Kingdom at the end of your treatment.

### ***How do you apply to extend your stay to have, or continue to receive, private medical treatment?***

You can apply to the Immigration & Nationality Directorate or in person at one of the public enquiry offices. You should apply before the date your permission to stay ends.

You should complete application form FLR(O) and send it with:

- your passport;
- a letter from a general practitioner who is a consultant for the NHS or who is in the Specialist Register of the General Medical Council, confirming that satisfactory arrangements for private medical treatment have been made, how long the treatment will last and, if your treatment has already started, how it is progressing;
- evidence that you have paid for your treatment; and
- evidence that you have enough money to support and accommodate yourself and to pay for further treatment (such as your bank statements or savings account book).

### ***Medical Treatment on the National Health Service (NHS)***

Visitors are not allowed to enter or stay in the United Kingdom to receive free medical treatment from the National Health Service (NHS). You will be charged for any treatment you receive. You should make sure you have enough medical insurance to cover your stay.

***How do you qualify to enter the United Kingdom when travelling to another country?***

You must be able to show that:

- you are travelling to a country outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland (this is known as the Common Travel Area);
- you can continue to another country where you will be guaranteed entry;
- you have a confirmed travel ticket for your final destination; and
- you will leave for your intended destination within 48 hours of arriving in the United Kingdom.

People who live in certain countries or territories need a visa to pass through the United Kingdom.

***Do you have to register with the police?***

If you have to register with the police, the Home Office will stamp this requirement in your passport. If you have been asked to register with the police we would advise you to do so within 7 days of arriving in the UK.

Coventry Law Centre offers free legal advice and representation.

**APPEALS**

The Law Centre will advise you about appealing and may represent you at the hearing. You can contact the Law Centre for an appeal appointment or telephone our free legal advice line on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10:00am and 12:00noon on 024 76253168.