



Home Office

Youth Mobility Scheme

Version 16.0

Contents

Contents.....	2
About this guidance.....	3
Contacts	3
Publication.....	3
Changes from last version of this guidance	3
Validity requirements.....	4
Nationality	4
Age	5
Suitability requirements	6
Eligibility requirements	7
Entry requirement	7
Financial requirement	7
Sponsorship requirement	7
Invitation to apply arrangements	8
Annual allocations	8
Grant or refuse.....	9
Grant entry clearance	9
Length of grant.....	9
Refuse entry clearance.....	9
Conditions of leave	10
Work conditions	10

About this guidance

This guidance tells you how to consider applications from people who wish to come to the UK under the Youth Mobility Scheme route.

This route is for young people from participating countries or territories who wish to experience life in the UK.

This guidance is designed to be used alongside [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) of the Immigration Rules. The rules explain the requirements an applicant must meet, and this guidance provides additional information on how to consider their application. Paragraph references refer to [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) unless otherwise stated.

Contacts

If you have any questions about the guidance and your line manager or senior caseworker cannot help you, or you think that the guidance has factual errors, then you can email the Economic Migration Policy team.

If you notice any formatting errors in this guidance (broken links, spelling mistakes and so on) or have any comments about the layout or navigability of the guidance then you can email the Guidance Rules and Forms team.

Publication

Below is information on when this version of the guidance was published:

- version **16.0**
- published for Home Office staff on **11 October 2021**

Changes from last version of this guidance

Updated to correctly reference the new set of Immigration Rules.

For archived versions of this guidance see: YMS archive.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Validity requirements

This section tells you about the validity requirements under the Youth Mobility Scheme route.

Before considering suitability and eligibility, you must check the application is valid by referring to paragraphs YMS 1.1. to YMS 1.5 of [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#).

Before considering an application, you must check that the applicant's passport or travel document is genuine. You must do verification checks if you think any of the supporting documents an applicant has submitted are not genuine.

An application for entry clearance on the Youth Mobility Scheme route must meet all the following requirements:

- any fee and Immigration Health Charge must have been paid
- the applicant must have provided any required biometrics
- the applicant must have provided a passport or other travel document which
- satisfactorily establishes their identity and nationality
- if the applicant is a national or a citizen of a country, or the rightful holder of a passport issued by a territory, that does not have Deemed Sponsorship Status, the applicant must provide evidence of sponsorship that has been issued to them no more than 6 months before the date of application

Nationality

An applicant must be one of the following:

- a British Overseas Citizen, British Overseas Territories Citizen or British National (Overseas) as defined by the [British Nationality Act 1981](#)
- a national or citizen of a country or the holder of a passport issued by a territory, listed in [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme: eligible nationals](#)

The countries and territories listed in Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme: eligible nationals of the Immigration Rules are:

- Australia
- Canada
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Monaco
- New Zealand
- Republic of Korea
- San Marino
- Taiwan

Age

An applicant **must** be aged 30 or under on the date of application

If you are not satisfied the application meets all the validity requirements, you should consider whether to request more information, reject the application or proceed to consider.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Suitability requirements

This section tells you about the suitability requirement under Youth Mobility Scheme route.

The applicant **must not**:

- fall for refusal under [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#)

If you are not satisfied that the application meets the suitability requirement under the Youth Mobility Scheme route their application **must be refused**.

For further guidance see: Grounds for refusal

Related content

[Contents](#)

Eligibility requirements

This section tells you about the eligibility requirement under the Youth Mobility Scheme route.

Entry requirement

The applicant **must**:

- apply for and obtain an entry clearance under the Youth Mobility Scheme route before their arrival in the UK
- if [paragraph A39](#) and [Appendix T](#) of the Immigration Rules apply, provide a valid medical certificate confirming that they have undergone screening for active pulmonary tuberculosis and that this tuberculosis is not present in them
- not have previously spent time in the UK on the Youth Mobility Scheme route
- be aged 18 or over on the date their entry clearance will become valid

Financial requirement

The applicant **must**:

- have funds of £2,530 for a 28-day period and as specified in [Appendix Finance](#).
- not have any children aged under 18 who are either living with them or financially dependent upon them

For guidance explaining how to assess whether an applicant has met the financial requirements see: [Financial requirement](#).

Sponsorship requirement

Where the applicant is a national or citizen, or the rightful holder of a passport issued by:

- San Marino:
 - the applicant **must** provide evidence of sponsorship issued by, and must apply from, San Marino
- Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Japan, Monaco, Taiwan, Hong Kong, or Republic of Korea:
 - the applicant's passport **must** be provided as evidence of sponsorship and the application may be made at any post worldwide which accepts such applications

The sponsorship requirements do not apply where the applicant is a British Overseas Citizen, British Overseas Territories Citizen or British National (Overseas).

Invitation to apply arrangements

In order to effectively and efficiently manage the release of the annual quotas, the Home Office will operate invitation to apply arrangements in relation to the allocation of places available for use by nationals and citizens of the following countries, and rightful holders of passports issued by territories, with Deemed Sponsorship Status:

- Japan
- Taiwan
- Hong Kong
- Republic of Korea

Where the applicant is a national or citizen of a country, or the rightful holder of a passport issued by a territory, whose annual allocation of places available under this route is subject to invitation to apply arrangements operated in accordance with Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme: eligible nationals, the applicant must have been:

- issued with an invitation to apply
- have made their application within the period of time specified on the invitation

Invitation to apply requirements do not apply where the applicant is a British Overseas Citizen, British Overseas Territories Citizen or British National (Overseas).

Annual allocations

Each country or territory listed in [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) of the Immigration Rules has an annual total allocation of places to be used by their nationals, citizens or rightful passport holders on the Youth Mobility Scheme.

You must refuse the application if the number of places allocated to nationals or citizens of the same country, or rightful holders of a passport issued by the same territory, has exceeded the total annual allocation, even if they meet all of the other requirements of [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) of the Immigration Rules.

There is no annual allocation of places for British Overseas Citizens, British Overseas Territories Citizens and British Nationals (Overseas).

If you are not satisfied that the application meets **all** of the of the eligibility requirements set out in [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) route their application **must be refused**.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Grant or refuse

This section tells you how to grant or refuse an application for entry clearance as a Youth Mobility Scheme migrant.

Grant entry clearance

You **must grant** entry clearance if:

- the applicant meets all the requirements of [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) of the Immigration Rules
- none of the grounds for refusal in [Part 9 of the Immigration Rules](#) apply

Length of grant

Up to 2 years – no extensions allowed.

Refuse entry clearance

When the applicant has not provided the required evidence that they meet all the suitability and eligibility requirements of [Appendix Youth Mobility Scheme](#) you **must refuse** the application.

An applicant will be able to seek an Administrative Review if they feel there is an error in the decision.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Conditions of leave

This section tells you about the conditions of leave that apply to an applicant granted entry clearance as a Youth Mobility Scheme migrant.

Applicants granted entry clearance in this route are subject to the following conditions:

- no access to public funds
- work permitted (subject to the conditions below)
- study is permitted subject to the ATAS condition in [Appendix ATAS](#)
- if [Part 10 of the Immigration Rules](#) applies, the applicant will be required to register with the police

Work conditions

Work is permitted subject to the following employment conditions:

- no employment as a professional sportsperson (including as a sports coach)
- no self-employment, except where the following conditions are met:
 - the person has no premises which they own, other than their home, from which they carry out their business
 - the total value of any equipment used in the business does not exceed £5,000
 - the person has no employees

Related content

[Contents](#)