



Home Office

UK Ancestry

Version 18.0

This document provides guidance for decision makers on how to consider applications for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement on the UK Ancestry route. It is based on the [Immigration Rules: Appendix UK Ancestry](#).

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About this guidance

This guidance tells decision makers how to consider applications for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement on the UK Ancestry route.

The guidance must be read in conjunction with [Appendix UK Ancestry](#) to the Immigration Rules, and any other Rules or guidance referred to in this document.

Appendix UK Ancestry replaced the previous UK Ancestry provisions in Part 5 of the Immigration Rules and applies to all applications for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement made on or after 1 December 2020.

If you are considering an application made before 9 am on 1 December 2020, you must do so under the Rules in force on 30 November 2020. You can find these Rules, and the previous casework guidance, at the following links:

- [Archive: Immigration Rules](#)
- Guidance archive (Horizon)

There is separate guidance for considering applications from dependants on the UK Ancestry route: Family members of work and economic migrants (Horizon).

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 should contact:

- your Regional Command and Control Unit, if you are a Border Force officer – if necessary, they will contact Border Force National Command Centre
- the Economic Migration Policy Team in all other cases

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 [Guidance – making changes](#).

Publication

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

- version **18.0**
- published for Home Office staff on **29 December 2020**

Changes from last version of this guidance

This guidance has been updated to reflect the introduction of Appendix UK Ancestry on 1 December 2020 (as set out in [Statement of Changes HC 813](#)).

Related content
[Contents](#)

Key facts

This page shows you the key facts for the UK Ancestry route. Click on the links for further information.

Area	Fact
Validity requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay	<p>The applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply online on the correct specified application form on GOV.UK (see below) • pay the correct application fee and Immigration Health Charge in full • provide their biometric information • provide a passport or other travel document which satisfactorily establishes their identity and nationality • be a Commonwealth citizen • if applying for entry clearance, be aged 17 or over on the date of their intended arrival in the UK • if applying for permission to stay, have previously been granted permission on the UK Ancestry route
Suitability requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay	<p>The applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not fall for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal • if applying for permission to stay, not be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ in breach of immigration laws, unless an exception in paragraph 39E of the Immigration Rules applies ○ on immigration bail
Eligibility requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay	<p>The applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide proof they have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands • meet the financial requirement (have enough money to support and accommodate themselves and any family members in the UK) • be able to work and intend to seek and take employment in the UK • if under 18, have the consent of their parents or legal guardian to the application being made, and their living arrangements in, and travel to, the UK
Application forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry Clearance – apply online by using Access UK • Permission to stay – apply online using form FLR(IR) • Settlement – apply online using form SET(O)
Cost of application	UK visa fees
Entry clearance mandatory?	Yes

Area	Fact
Is biometric information required?	Yes
Immigration Health Charge payable?	Yes (for entry clearance and permission to stay applications)
Condition code of entry clearance or permission to stay	Code 1
Entry clearance endorsement	Main applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D: UK ANCESTRY EMPLOYMENT Dependants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D: UK ANCESTRY - Partner D: UK ANCESTRY - Child
Conditions of entry clearance or permission to stay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No access to public funds Employment permitted (including self-employment and voluntary work) Study is allowed, subject to the requirement to obtain an Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate if required by Appendix ATAS to the Immigration Rules Registration with the police, if imposed by an immigration officer
How long is entry clearance or permission to stay granted for?	5 years
Are dependants allowed?	Yes – partners and children can accompany or join the main applicant.
Work and study allowed?	Yes – see under ‘Conditions of entry clearance or permission to stay’
Is switching to this route allowed?	No – applicants must have entered the UK with a valid UK Ancestry entry clearance
Does time spent on this route lead to settlement ?	Yes, after 5 years’ continuous residence on this route. There is no qualifying period for dependants.
Is knowledge of language and life required?	Yes, unless exempt
CID or Atlas case type:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leave to remain: UK ancestry – LTR Indefinite leave to remain: UK ancestry – ILR
Immigration Rules paragraphs	Immigration Rules: Appendix UK Ancestry

Related content

[Contents](#)

Definitions

This page gives a list of terms frequently used in this guidance and their definitions.

The following definitions apply to the UK Ancestry route:

Term	Definition
Born in the UK and Islands	Means born in one of the following circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in the UK • in the Channel Islands (Bailiwick of Guernsey, Bailiwick of Jersey) • in the Isle of Man • in Ireland before 31 March 1922 • on a British-owned or registered ship or aircraft if the requirements of either section 50(7)(a) of the British Nationality Act 1981, or section 32(5) of the British Nationality Act 1948, as applicable, are met
Commonwealth citizen	A citizen of a country listed in Schedule 3 to the British Nationality Act 1981. For further information, including treatment of citizens of the Maldives, Zimbabwe, Cyprus and Malta, see the Commonwealth citizenship requirement section of this guidance.
Employment	This includes paid and unpaid employment, paid and unpaid work placements undertaken as part of a course or period of study, self-employment, and engaging in business or any professional activity,
Grandparent	This includes the applicant's blood grandparent or grandparent by reason of an adoption recognised by the laws of the UK relating to adoption.
Partner	This means a person's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spouse • civil partner • unmarried partner, where the couple have been living together in a relationship similar to marriage or a civil partnership for at least two years
Permission	This means 'permission to enter' or 'permission to stay'
Permission to enter	This has the same meaning as 'leave to enter' under the Immigration Act 1971 .
Permission to stay	This has the same meaning as 'leave to remain' under the Immigration Act 1971 (and includes a

Term	Definition
	variation of leave to enter or remain and an extension of leave to enter or remain).
Person with UK Ancestry	This means a person applying for, or granted, permission on the basis that they have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands and meet the requirements in Appendix UK Ancestry , or under paragraphs 186 to 193 in Part 5 of the Rules in force before 1 December 2020
Settlement	This has the same meaning as ‘indefinite leave to enter’ or ‘indefinite leave to remain’
UK Ancestry route	This means the route in Appendix UK Ancestry to the Immigration Rules, or paragraphs 186 to 199B in Part 5 of the Rules in force before 1 December 2020

For a full list of definitions used in the Immigration Rules, see [paragraph 6 \(the interpretation section\)](#) of the Rules.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Overview of the UK Ancestry route

This page tells you what the UK Ancestry route is and gives an overview of the qualifying requirements.

What is the UK Ancestry route?

The UK Ancestry route allows [Commonwealth citizens](#) who can prove they have a [grandparent](#) born in the [UK and Islands](#) to live and work in the UK.

Applicants must be aged at least 17 on the date of their intended arrival in the UK. There is no upper age limit for this route.

Applicants must be able to and intend to work to qualify on this route. Applicants granted permission on this route can do any kind of work, at any skill level, including full-time or part-time work, self-employment or voluntary work.

Applicants can be accompanied or joined by their [eligible dependants](#) (partner and dependent children). You must refer to separate guidance for considering applications from dependants: [Dependent family members in work routes](#).

Entry clearance on this route is granted for 5 years. At the end of the 5-year period, the applicant can apply for [settlement](#) if they meet the relevant requirements. Alternatively, they can apply for an extension of stay or new entry clearance.

Where to find the Rules

The relevant Immigration Rules are contained in [Appendix UK Ancestry](#). These replace the UK Ancestry provisions previously in Part 5 of the Rules and apply to all applications for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement submitted on or after 1 December 2020.

Time spent in the UK under the Part 5 UK Ancestry provisions counts towards the settlement requirement for this route.

Structure of Appendix UK Ancestry

Appendix UK Ancestry is divided into 4 main parts:

- entry clearance or permission to stay as a person with UK Ancestry
- settlement as a person with UK Ancestry
- entry clearance or permission to stay for dependants
- settlement for dependants

Each part is further subdivided into the following sections:

- validity requirements
- suitability requirements

- eligibility requirements
- decision (including conditions of stay)

The table below sets out the relevant paragraph numbers for each part and section of Appendix UK Ancestry:

Part	Validity	Suitability	Eligibility	Decision
Entry clearance or permission to stay	UKA 1.1 to UKA 1.6	UKA 2.1 to UKA 2.2	UKA 3.1 to UKA 7.2	UKA 8.1 to UKA 9.2
Settlement	UKA 10.1 to UKA 10.4	UKA 11.1 to UKA 11.2	UKA 12.1 to UKA 16.1	UKA 17.1 to UKA 17.2
Dependants: entry clearance or permission to stay	UKA 18.1 to UKA 18.4	UKA 19.1 to UKA 19.2	UKA 20.1 to UKA 25.3	UKA 26.1 to UKA 27.3
Dependants: settlement	UKA 28.1 to UKA 28.4	UKA 29.1 to UKA 29.2	UKA 30.1 to UKA 35.1	UKA 36.1 to UKA 36.2

Differences between Appendix UK Ancestry and the previous UK Ancestry rules

Although there are no significant policy changes between the Rules in Appendix UK Ancestry and the earlier Part 5 Rules, decision makers should be aware of the following differences:

- the following requirements, which were previously eligibility requirements, are now [validity requirements](#) – this means you may reject an application as invalid if it does not meet these requirements
 - the requirement for the applicant to be a Commonwealth citizen
 - the requirement for entry clearance applicants to be aged 17 or over on the date of their intended arrival in the UK
 - the requirement for applicants applying for permission to stay to have previously been granted permission on the UK Ancestry route
- evidence of funds to meet the financial requirement (formerly known as the maintenance and accommodation requirement) must now be dated no more than 31 days before the application for entry clearance, permission to stay, or settlement, and be as specified in [Appendix Finance](#) to the Immigration Rules
- the Rules now make clear that applicants aged under 18 must have written consent to the application, proposed living arrangements in, and travel to, the UK from their parent, parents or legal guardian – previously, this requirement was only set out in guidance

The following changes have been made for dependants:

- dependants cannot make a valid application on the UK Ancestry route if they have, or were last granted, entry clearance or permission on any of the

following routes (previously, they were only prohibited from switching from the Visitor, Short-term Student and Short-term (Child) Student routes):

- as a Visitor
- as a Short-term Student
- as a Parent of a Child Student
- as a Seasonal Worker
- as a Domestic Worker in a Private Household
- outside the Immigration Rules
- partners can now apply for entry clearance (as well as permission to stay) to join a person who has been granted settlement as a person with UK Ancestry or who has become a British Citizen having previously had permission on the UK Ancestry route (previously, only children could apply for entry clearance in these circumstances)
- both partners and children will be granted entry clearance or permission to stay for 30 months if they make a successful application as the dependant of a person who has been granted settlement on the UK Ancestry route or who has become a British Citizen having previously had permission on the UK Ancestry route (previously, partners could not apply for entry clearance on this basis, and permission to stay for partners was capped at 2 years)
- subject to limited exceptions, a child can only qualify for settlement if both parents have been granted, or are being granted at the same time, settlement on the UK Ancestry route (previously, only the person with UK Ancestry needed to have, or be eligible for, settlement)

Related content

[Contents](#)

Considering evidence submitted with applications

This page provides general guidance on considering evidence submitted with a UK Ancestry application, including when it may be appropriate to request further information, verification or translation of documents, and ensuring that a representative is qualified.

Supporting documents and information

All applicants are required to submit relevant information and supporting documents (such as evidence of their ancestry or finances) to show they meet the requirements of the route. The application form provides guidance to applicants on what evidence to submit.

You must review the information on the application form and supporting evidence before deciding whether you are satisfied on the balance of probabilities (it is more likely than not) that the applicant meets the requirements of the route.

Requesting more information

If you need more information, or clarification of certain details, to decide whether an application is valid, or if it meets the suitability and eligibility requirements, you should consider requesting more information. Where possible, you should try to identify all areas where further information is required, so it can be requested at the same time.

When you request further information, you must normally ask the applicant to provide the requested information within 10 working days. If they fail to provide the information within this timescale, and without good reason, you should consider the application on the basis of the information they have already provided.

You should not normally request further information if it is clear the application would be rejected or refused even if the applicant were to provide additional information. However, if you refuse an application in these circumstances, you must make it clear in your decision letter that you reserve the right to request further information if the applicant asks for an administrative review.

Verifying documents

You must conduct verification checks if you have any doubts about whether any supporting document an applicant has submitted is genuine.

If the application falls for refusal on other grounds, you do not need to carry out verification checks, but you must explain in your decision that you reserve the right to carry out checks in any administrative review request.

Documents not in English or Welsh

All documents submitted with an application should be in English or Welsh. If the applicant submits documents in another language and you are unable to understand or interpret the evidence, you must ask them to submit a certified translation if they have not already provided one with their application. The translation must:

- confirm that it is an accurate translation of the original document
- be dated
- include the full name and signature of the translator or an authorised official of the translation company
- include the translator or translation company's contact details
- if the applicant is applying for permission to stay or settlement, be certified by a qualified translator and include details of the translator or translation company's credentials

If the translation does not meet these requirements and you are unable to understand or interpret the document, you may disregard it as evidence. This may result in the application being refused. For example, if you are unable to understand or interpret the applicant's [evidence of ancestry](#) (and they have not provided a suitable translation), you must refuse the application on the basis that you are not satisfied that they have a UK-born grandparent. For further information, see: [Refusal wordings](#).

Translation of Welsh documents

Birth, marriage, civil partnership and death certificates issued in Wales are issued either in English only or bilingually (that is, with both Welsh and English printed on the same document). Such documents will therefore not require translation.

If you receive any supporting documentation in Welsh only (for example, an employer's covering letter), and you and your colleagues are unable to understand Welsh, you must arrange for the document to be translated into English.

Under the Home Office Welsh language scheme, customers living in Wales are entitled to correspond with the Home Office in Welsh. If an applicant writes to you in Welsh, they must receive a reply in Welsh.

The Home Office has a framework agreement with [the Big Word](#) translation company to translate material to and from Welsh. The cost of any translation must be met by your unit or directorate.

For guidance on handling correspondence in Welsh and how to procure Welsh translation services, see the 'How the Welsh language scheme affects you' page on Horizon.

Representatives

If an applicant has a UK-based representative, you must check the representative is approved to provide immigration advice with either:

- [the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner](#) (OISC)
- one of the following designated authorities:
 - the [Law Society](#)
 - the [Law Society of Scotland](#)
 - the [Law Society of Northern Ireland](#)
 - the [General Council](#) of the Bar
 - the [Chartered Institute of Legal Executives](#)
 - the [Faculty of Advocates](#)
 - the [General Council of the Bar of Northern Ireland](#)

If the representative does not have the necessary permission to provide immigration advice, you must direct all communications to the applicant instead.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Related external links

Welsh language scheme

Validity requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay

This page tells you how to assess whether an application for entry clearance or permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route is valid.

Overview

Before you consider an application for entry clearance or permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route, you must check that it meets the validity requirements in:

- paragraphs UKA 1.1 to UKA 1.5 of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#) (entry clearance or permission to stay)
- paragraphs 34 to 34G in [Part 1 of the Immigration Rules](#) (permission to stay applications only)

For guidance on assessing the validity requirements in Part 1 of the Immigration Rules, see: Applications for leave to remain: validation, variation and withdrawal.

The validity requirements in paragraphs UKA 1.1 to UKA 1.5 of Appendix UK Ancestry are that the applicant:

- has completed the specified online application form on the GOV.UK website:
 - for entry clearance, form “UK Ancestry, Right of Abode or Returning Residents visa”
 - for permission to stay, form “Application to extend stay in the UK: FLR(IR)”
- has paid in full the [application fee](#) and the [Immigration Health Charge](#)
- has given their biometric information, unless exempt – see Identity checks and biometrics
- has provided a passport or other travel document which satisfactorily establishes their identity and nationality
- is a [Commonwealth citizen](#)
- if applying for entry clearance, will be [aged 17 or over](#) on the date they intend to arrive in the UK
- if applying for permission to stay, has previously been granted permission on the [UK Ancestry route](#) as a [person with UK Ancestry](#) – see [Switching](#) below

Note that the Commonwealth citizenship, age and switching requirements are now validity requirements, rather than eligibility requirements. This means you may [reject an application](#) that does not meet these requirements, rather than consider and refuse.

Further information about these requirements is given below.

Commonwealth citizenship requirement

The applicant must be a Commonwealth citizen on the date you consider whether the application is valid. The applicant must prove this with a valid passport or travel document issued by a Commonwealth country.

The applicant does not have to have been a Commonwealth citizen from birth – they can qualify if, for example, they have recently naturalised as a Commonwealth citizen.

For the purposes of the UK Ancestry route, a Commonwealth citizens means a citizen of a country listed in [Schedule 3 to the British Nationality Act 1981](#).

See additional information below on handling applications from citizens of:

- the Maldives
- Zimbabwe
- Cyprus and Malta

Maldives

The Maldives re-joined the Commonwealth on 1 February 2020 (having previously left in October 2016). Schedule 3 to the British Nationality 1981 has not yet been updated with this change. However, for any application considered on or after 1 February 2020, a Maldives citizen will meet the Commonwealth citizenship requirement.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe officially left the Commonwealth in December 2003. However, it is the stated hope of the UK Government that Zimbabwe will one day re-join the Commonwealth. For this reason, it remains on the list of Commonwealth countries in Schedule 3 to the British Nationality Act 1981 and you must continue to accept applications on the UK Ancestry route from citizens of Zimbabwe.

Cyprus and Malta

Cyprus and Malta are Commonwealth countries, as well as being European Union (EU) Member States (since 1 May 2004).

Until now, you are unlikely to have encountered applications from nationals of Cyprus and Malta, as they have been able to rely on their EU free movement rights. With the ending of free movement between the UK and the EU at 11 pm on 31 December 2020 (the end of the implementation period), you may start to receive applications from nationals of these countries.

Subject to the exceptions below, nationals of Cyprus and Malta are eligible to apply on the UK Ancestry route.

If the application is for entry clearance, and is submitted before 11 pm on 31 December 2020, you may accept the application (provided it meets all other validity requirements). However, if you grant the application, you must ensure that the entry clearance does not take effect until 1 January 2021.

An application for permission to stay from a national of Cyprus or Malta (or any other European Economic Area (EEA) country) submitted under Appendix UK Ancestry before 11 pm on 31 December 2020 is invalid and must be rejected. In this instance, you should make the applicant aware of the [EU Settlement Scheme](#).

These restrictions are set out in the implementation section of [Statement of Changes HC 813](#).

Applications from nationals of Cyprus or Malta submitted after the end of the implementation period must generally be considered in the same way as applications from any other nationality. However, if it appears that the applicant was living in the UK before 11 pm on 31 December 2020, you should give them the option of applying under the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) instead.

Age requirement (entry clearance applications)

If the applicant is applying for entry clearance, they must be aged at least 17 on the date they intend to arrive in the UK.

If the applicant is aged under 17 on the date they apply, you must check their visa application form to see the date they have indicated they will travel to the UK. If they will be under 17 on this date, you may [reject the application](#).

If you accept an application from a person aged under 17 and grant it, you must ensure that their entry clearance is not valid before their seventeenth birthday.

In any valid application where the applicant is aged under 18, you must check they meet the [parental consent requirement](#) before you can grant it.

There is no upper age limit on the UK Ancestry route but, in all cases, the applicant must show they are [able to and intend to seek and take employment](#).

Switching (permission to stay applications)

If the applicant is applying for permission to stay, you must check that they either entered the UK with a valid UK Ancestry entry clearance, or they have previously been granted permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route. This includes permission granted under the UK Ancestry rules in force before 1 December 2020.

If the applicant does not meet this requirement (for example, if they entered as a visitor and are applying to switch), you must normally reject the application, unless discretion is justified (see [below](#)).

Note that the UK Ancestry rules do not require the applicant's most recent grant of permission to have been on the UK Ancestry route. For example, a person who

entered the UK with UK Ancestry entry clearance and switched to another immigration route would meet this validity requirement and be allowed to switch back to the UK Ancestry route.

Application does not meet all of the validity requirements

Paragraph UKA 1.6 of Appendix UK Ancestry says that if the application does not meet all of the validity requirements set out in paragraphs UKA 1.1 to UKA 1.5, the application is invalid and may be rejected and not considered. You must therefore decide whether to:

- request further information from the applicant to allow them to meet the validity requirements
- give the applicant the opportunity to vary their application if it appears they have applied on the wrong route but may qualify on another route
- allow the applicant more time to comply – for example, if they have been unable to attend a biometric appointment due to coronavirus restrictions or other medical reasons
- reject the application without further consideration and refund the application fee
- exceptionally treat the application as valid and go on to consider whether it meets the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements

An example of where it may be appropriate to consider an application which does not meet all of the validity requirements is where the applicant is applying for permission to stay, has not previously been granted on the UK Ancestry route, but is unable to travel overseas to apply for entry clearance due to restrictions related to COVID-19. For further guidance, see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents](#) on GOV.UK.

If you are considering exercising discretion in the applicant's favour, you must first discuss this with your line manager, Entry Clearance Manager, Senior Caseworker or other relevant manager.

If you reject the application, you must tell the applicant why – see [Rejection wordings](#) for examples.

If the application is valid

If the application meets all of the validity requirements, or you have otherwise decided to accept the application as valid, you must go on to consider whether it meets the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements for the UK Ancestry route.

Related content

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Suitability for the UK Ancestry route

This page tells you about the suitability requirements for the UK Ancestry route.

Relevant rules

Before you can grant an application on the UK Ancestry route, you must check that the applicant is suitable. The suitability requirements for the UK Ancestry route are set out at the following paragraphs of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#):

- UKA 2.1 – entry clearance and permission to stay
- UKA 2.2 – permission to stay
- UKA 11.1 to 11.2 – settlement

All applications

To meet paragraph UKA 2.1 (entry clearance or permission to stay) or UKA 11.1 (settlement), you must check that the applicant does not fall for refusal under any of the grounds for refusal in [Part 9 of the Immigration Rules](#).

For guidance on assessing this requirement, see Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability).

Permission to stay and settlement

If the applicant is applying for permission to stay (UKA 2.2) or settlement (UKA 11.2), they must not be:

- in the UK in breach of immigration laws, except that where [paragraph 39E](#) applies, that period of overstaying will be disregarded – see Applications from overstayers for guidance on this
- on immigration bail

Applicant is not suitable

If you are not satisfied the applicant meets the suitability requirements, you must refuse the application. You should still fully consider whether the applicant meets the eligibility requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay, or for settlement, as appropriate. If the applicant also fails under any of the eligibility criteria, you must include these in the refusal notice.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Eligibility for entry clearance or permission to stay

This page tells you about the eligibility requirements an applicant must meet to qualify for entry clearance or permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route.

The eligibility requirements for the UK Ancestry route are set out at the following paragraphs of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#):

- UKA 3.1 to UKA 3.2: [Entry requirement](#)
- UKA 4.1: [Grandparent born in the UK and Islands requirement](#)
- UKA 5.1 to UKA 5.3: [Financial requirement](#)
- UKA 6.1: [Work requirement](#)
- UKA 7.1 to UKA 7.2: [Parental consent requirement](#) (for applicants aged under 18)

Entry requirement

Under paragraph UKA 3.1, anyone seeking to enter the UK on the UK Ancestry route must have applied for, and been granted, a valid UK Ancestry entry clearance before they arrive in the UK.

If a person arrives at the UK border without the relevant entry clearance, you must [refuse permission to enter](#).

Tuberculosis certificate requirement

If the applicant is applying for entry clearance, and they have been living in a country listed in [Appendix T](#) to the Immigration Rules for more than 6 months immediately before their application, they must provide a valid medical certificate, issued by an approved medical practitioner, with their application. This certificate must confirm they have been screened for active pulmonary tuberculosis and that this tuberculosis is not present in the applicant.

If the applicant does not provide a valid certificate as described above, you should refuse the application under paragraph UKA 3.2.

For guidance on which applicants need a tuberculosis certificate, and the location of approved test centres, see [Tuberculosis tests for visa applicants](#) on GOV.UK.

UK-born grandparent requirement

The applicant must provide evidence they have a grandparent born in the [UK and Islands](#). For further information, see [UK-born grandparent requirement](#).

Work requirement

Applicants on the UK Ancestry route must show they are able to work, and intend to seek and take employment in the UK. For guidance on how to assess this requirement, see: [UK Ancestry work requirement](#).

Financial requirement

All applicants on the UK Ancestry route must meet the financial requirement.

There is no set level of funds the applicant must hold but they must show they can maintain and accommodate themselves, and any family members applying to join them in the UK, without access to public funds.

Evidence of finances must be as set out in [Appendix Finance](#) to the Immigration Rules and be dated no more than 31 days before the date of application.

Applicants can rely on credible support from a third party (for example, a relative or friend) to meet this requirement.

For further information, see the Financial requirement guidance on Horizon.

Parental consent requirement

Applicants can qualify for entry clearance on this route if they are aged 17 years or over on the date of their intended arrival in the UK (see [Age requirement](#) above).

If the applicant is aged under 18 on the date of application, they must meet the parental consent requirement of paragraphs UKA 7.1 and UKA 7.2.

To meet this requirement, the applicant must have written consent from:

- both of their parents
- one parent, if that parent has sole legal responsibility for the applicant, or
- their legal guardian

The written consent must confirm support for all of the following:

- the application
- the applicant's living and care arrangements in the UK
- if applying for entry clearance, the applicant's travel to, and reception arrangements in, the UK

Related content

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UK-born grandparent requirement

This page gives you more information about the requirement for applicants on the UK Ancestry route to have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands.

Overview

Under paragraph UKA 4.1 (entry clearance or permission to stay) and paragraph UKA 12.1 (settlement), the applicant must be able to provide proof that one of their grandparents was born in the UK and Islands.

The applicant must provide this evidence with their initial application for entry clearance and any subsequent application for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement on this route.

Under [paragraph 6 \(the interpretation section\)](#) of the Rules, “grandparent” means either the applicant’s blood grandparent, or grandparent by reason of a UK-recognised adoption.

There is no requirement for the applicant’s relevant parent or qualifying grandparent to have been married at the time of birth.

An applicant cannot qualify on this route on the basis of having a great-grandparent, or more distant ancestor, born in the UK and Islands.

Meaning of ‘born in the UK and Islands’

To meet the requirement to have been born in the UK and Islands, the applicant’s qualifying grandparent must have been born in one of the following circumstances:

- in the UK
- in the Channel Islands (Bailiwick of Guernsey or Bailiwick of Jersey)
- in the Isle of Man
- in Ireland (but only if they were born before 31 March 1922)
- on a British-owned or registered ship or aircraft if the requirements of either [section 50\(7\)\(a\)](#) of the British Nationality Act 1981, or [section 32\(5\) of the British Nationality Act 1948](#), as applicable, are met

You must refuse the application if the relevant grandparent was born anywhere else, including in a British overseas territory, former British colony or military base overseas.

If the applicant or parent was adopted

If the applicant or their parent is adopted, the applicant will meet the requirement to have a UK-born grandparent if either or both of the following apply:

- the applicant was legally adopted by someone who has a parent born in the UK and Islands
- one of the applicant's parents was legally adopted by someone born in the UK and Islands

The adoption must be through an adoption process recognised as valid for the purposes of UK law. For more information on adoption, see: [Nationality policy: adoption](#).

An applicant cannot claim UK Ancestry through step-parents where no legal adoption has taken place.

Documentary evidence of ancestry

The applicant must submit enough evidence to prove they have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands. Documentary evidence should normally include:

- the applicant's full birth certificate showing the name of both of their parents
- the full birth certificate of the parent through whom the applicant is claiming a UK ancestry link
- the birth certificate of the relevant grandparent, clearly showing that they were [born in the UK and Islands](#)
- legal adoption papers if the applicant, or the applicant's relevant parent, was adopted
- if the applicant, their parent or grandparent has changed their name since birth, suitable evidence of this – for example, a marriage or civil partnership certificate or deed poll

Since the Immigration Rules do not specify what evidence the applicant must submit, you may be able to accept alternative evidence if the applicant is unable to provide one or more of the documents above. If the applicant submits alternative evidence, you must discuss the case with your line manager or senior caseworker, who can seek policy advice if necessary.

The applicant must submit relevant evidence with each application they make on the UK Ancestry route. You must not rely on a previous grant of entry clearance or permission to stay as evidence that a person satisfies the UK-born grandparent requirement.

Check the documents

You must check that the documents are correct and genuine. You must:

- cross-check the documents to make sure all the details correspond and show a clear line from applicant to grandparent
- record the birth certificate reference numbers on Proviso (entry clearance applications) or the Case Information Database (CID) or Atlas (permission to stay or settlement applications)

- where possible, check reference numbers and details of documents sent with previous UK Ancestry applications
- search all birth certificate reference numbers in CID, Atlas and Warehouse (permission to stay and settlement applications only)
- check carefully for any signs a document has been altered

If system checks show that birth certificates bearing the same nationality and reference numbers have been used before by a different applicant, or if you otherwise have concerns about the genuineness of the documents, you must make further checks. These can include:

- asking the relevant issuing authority, such as the [General Register Office](#) or equivalent overseas department, to verify the document – for documents issued overseas, the relevant entry clearance decision-making centre in the country or region where the document was purportedly issued may be able to assist you in this
- asking the applicant for additional evidence or information – but only if this is likely to help you to resolve the case

If you are still in doubt, or if you have difficulty verifying the documents with the issuing authority, contact your local forgery unit or Immigration Enforcement International. For more information, see: Forgery.

Documents confirmed as false

If checks confirm that the applicant has submitted false documents, you must refuse the application. For information on the processes you must follow, see: Document verification.

The refusal will be under:

- if applying for entry clearance or permission to stay:
 - paragraph UKA 2.1, with reference to paragraph 9.7.1 or 9.7.2 of [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#) (grounds relating to false documents)
 - paragraph UKA 4.1 (no evidence of a UK-born grandparent)
- if applying for settlement:
 - paragraph UKA 11.1, with reference to paragraph 9.7.1 or 9.7.2 of [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#) (grounds relating to false documents)
 - paragraph UKA 12.1, with reference to UKA 4.1 (no evidence of a UK-born grandparent)

For further information, see:

- the [refusal wordings](#) section of this document
- Suitability: false representations, deception, false documents, non-disclosure of relevant facts (Horizon)

Related content

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UK Ancestry work requirement

This page tells you how to consider the work requirement for a person who applies for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement on the UK Ancestry route.

General considerations

All applicants on the UK Ancestry route must be able to work and intend to seek and take employment in the UK. This requirement is stated at the following paragraphs [Appendix UK Ancestry](#):

- paragraph UKA 6.1: entry clearance or permission to stay
- paragraph UKA 12.1: settlement

The applicant must indicate on their application form if they intend to work in the UK. If they tick 'no' to this question, you may wish to check with the applicant what their intentions are. If it is clear that they do not intend to work, you must refuse the application.

In all other cases, the applicant must provide evidence that they are either:

- already working or self-employed in the UK
- able to work and intend to seek and take employment

The applicant does not have to be working or have a confirmed job at the time they apply. They need only demonstrate they are able to work and intend to seek and take employment. Evidence of this could include, but is not limited to:

- job offers from UK employers
- evidence of previous work history (in any country) or relevant qualifications
- evidence of applications they have made to UK employers
- evidence of registration with a UK recruitment agency
- evidence of any steps they have undertaken to improve their chances of finding work – for example, relevant training courses
- a business plan or expressions of interest from potential clients (if they intend to be self-employed)

Voluntary work

The definition of 'employment' in [paragraph 6 of the Immigration Rules](#) includes "paid and unpaid employment". This means that if an applicant is undertaking, or intends to undertake, voluntary work, you may accept that they meet the work requirement for the UK Ancestry route. Since the applicant will not be earning an income, you must pay particular attention to their ability to meet the [financial requirement](#).

You must grant the application if you are satisfied that the applicant will be able to maintain and accommodate themselves (and any family members) without a regular income and there are no other reasons for refusal.

Age and disability

Although there is no upper age limit for this route, all applicants must be able and intend to work in the UK. Note that this can include part-time and voluntary work.

You must not refuse an application solely on the grounds of age or disability, unless it is clear that the applicant does not intend to work or there is no realistic prospect of their being able to work in the future.

When you assess this, it may be relevant to consider whether the applicant:

- has indicated that they have retired and have no intention of looking for any further work (including voluntary work)
- has a serious medical condition that would make it unrealistic for them to undertake any kind of employment (including voluntary work)

If you intend to refuse on these grounds, you should discuss the case with your line manager or senior caseworker first. Your line manager or senior caseworker can seek policy advice if necessary.

Permission to stay or settlement applications

A person with permission on the UK Ancestry route does not have to be continuously employed while in the UK to qualify for further permission to stay or settlement. How you consider an application will depend on whether the applicant is employed or unemployed when they apply.

Applicant employed (or self-employed) on date of application

If the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that they are employed (or self-employed) on the date of application, you must accept that they meet the work requirement, unless you have good reason to believe that they will not continue in employment.

Evidence – general considerations

The following provides guidance on the type of evidence you can accept. However, as the rules do not specify what evidence an applicant must submit, you must judge each case on its individual merits. If the applicant provides documentation not listed below and you are not sure if you can accept it, you must speak to your line manager or senior caseworker, who can seek policy advice if necessary.

You can ask for additional evidence if the evidence submitted with the application does not satisfy you that the applicant meets the requirement.

You may also use evidence of employment (such as payslips) to consider whether the applicant meets the [financial requirement](#).

Evidence of working for an employer

If the applicant is working for an employer (including as a voluntary worker) on the date of application, they should normally be able to submit both:

- a letter from their current employer which confirms how long they have been working for them and that they will continue in their current job with that employer, and
- one of the following (unless they are doing voluntary work):
 - their most recent payslip issued by the employer named on the letter
 - their most recent bank statement or building society passbook, if this clearly shows recent receipt of wages from the employer named on the letter
 - their most recent P60 (if issued within the 31 days before the application)

If the applicant has only recently started work for their employer and they have not yet been paid, the letter from the employer should confirm how much they will be paid (unless they are doing voluntary work).

Evidence of self-employment

If the applicant is self-employed on the date of application, they must send at least one recent document as evidence of this. Examples of acceptable evidence include, but are not limited to:

- their most recent tax self-assessment form (SA100) plus evidence of receipt by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
- most recent statement of account (SA300) or tax calculations (SA302) issued by HMRC
- company tax return (CT600) for the last financial year and evidence of receipt by HMRC
- evidence of payment of National Insurance Contributions as a self-employed person – if the applicant pays these by direct debit, they will show on their bank statements as 'HMRC NI-DD'
- Construction Industry Scheme (CIS) pay and deduction statements, if the applicant is a contractor or subcontractor in the construction industry
- copies of invoices and receipts of payment for recent work carried out
- most recent personal or business bank statement, if this clearly shows payments for work carried out as part of the applicant's business
- audited accounts from the last financial year
- official letter from a registered accountant which confirms the applicant's self-employment and earnings from the last financial year

This is not an exhaustive list. For further examples of documentation a self-employed applicant may submit, see Annex G of [EEA\(PR\) guidance notes](#). These guidance notes are primarily for European Economic Area (EEA) nationals applying for permanent residence documentation under the EEA Regulations but you can accept the same type of documentation in UK Ancestry cases.

Applicant unemployed on date of application

If the applicant is unemployed when they apply for further permission to stay or settlement, you must ask for [evidence](#) of their employment record throughout their previous 5 years on this route and of any attempts they have made, and are making, to find work (if they have not provided this information with their application). If the applicant has been unemployed for the entire 5 years, you must ask them to explain the reasons for this, if they have not done so on their application form.

In all cases where the applicant has had long periods of unemployment, you must give particularly careful consideration to how they have supported themselves without a regular income. See [Financial requirement](#).

You must grant the application if there is satisfactory evidence that the applicant is genuinely looking for work, is able to work, and there are no other reasons for refusal. Remember that [voluntary work](#) can meet the employment requirement. See '[general considerations](#)' above for further information.

If you are not satisfied that the applicant is able to and intends to work, you must refuse the application – see [Refusal wordings](#) for guidance.

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[Settlement requirements](#)

Conditions of stay

This page tells you about the conditions of stay a person with UK Ancestry must comply with if they are granted entry clearance or permission to stay.

If the applicant is granted entry clearance or permission to stay on UK Ancestry route, you must grant them on 'code 1' conditions. These conditions are explained below.

No access to public funds

Persons with UK Ancestry are not permitted to claim public funds. This term is defined in [paragraph 6](#) of the Immigration Rules and includes most state benefits and housing or homelessness assistance.

For detailed information, including exceptions, see the Public funds guidance on Horizon.

Police registration

Commonwealth citizens are not normally required to register with the police. However, under paragraph 325(3) in [Part 10 of the Immigration Rules](#), an immigration officer may exceptionally impose police registration if they consider it is necessary to ensure the person will comply with their conditions of stay.

See the Police registration guidance on Horizon for further information.

Employment

Persons with UK Ancestry can take any kind of employment or self-employment. The work can be full-time or part-time, paid or unpaid, does not have to be with a licensed Worker or Temporary Worker sponsor, and they do not need any additional permission or endorsement from the Home Office to work once they have been granted entry clearance or permission to stay.

Study

Subject to the ATAS condition below, persons granted on the UK Ancestry route are allowed to study in the UK. There is no limit on the number of hours they can study or level of course they can do. Study may be undertaken anywhere the person chooses and does not have to be with a licensed Student sponsor. Study should not be the main reason for the person coming to the UK on the UK Ancestry route – however, decision makers should bear in mind that gaining qualifications may enhance a person's employability in the UK.

ATAS condition

If the person intends to study a discipline listed in [Appendix ATAS to the Immigration Rules](#) and they are not a national of an exempt country, they must obtain an [Academic Technology Approval Scheme \(ATAS\) clearance certificate](#) from the Counter-Proliferation Department of the [Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office](#) in relation to this course before beginning their study.

Breach of conditions: consequences

If a person with UK Ancestry breaches their conditions of stay (for example, by claiming public funds where an exception does not apply), they may be subject to any or all of the following penalties:

- any future application for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement may be refused, or any existing permission may be cancelled, under [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#) – see Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability) for guidance
- they may be removed from the UK and subject to a re-entry ban – see
 - Liability to administrative removal (non EEA) - consideration and notification
 - Re-entry bans
- in serious cases, they may be prosecuted for an offence under [section 24\(1\)\(b\) of the Immigration Act 1971](#)

You must not normally grant permission to stay or settlement to an applicant who has breached their conditions of stay. If you are considering exercising discretion in such a case and not refusing the application, you must talk to your senior caseworker or line manager first.

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Settlement requirements

This page tells you the requirements an applicant must meet to qualify for settlement on the UK Ancestry route.

Validity requirements for settlement

Before you consider an application for settlement on the UK Ancestry route, you must check that it is valid. The validity requirements for the UK Ancestry route are set out at paragraphs UKA 10.1 to UKA 10.4 of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#) and are that the applicant:

- has completed the specified online application form on the GOV.UK website: “Settle in the UK in various immigration categories: form SET(O)”
- has paid the [application fee](#) in full
- has given their biometric information, unless exempt – see Identity checks and biometrics
- has provided a passport or other travel document which satisfactorily establishes their identity and nationality
- is in the UK at the time of application
- is a [Commonwealth citizen](#)

You must also check that the application meets the validity requirements in paragraphs 34 to 34G in [Part 1 of the Immigration Rules](#). For guidance, see Applications for leave to remain: validation, variation and withdrawal.

If the application meets all of the validity requirements, you must go on to consider whether it meets the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements for settlement.

If the application does not meet all of the validity requirements, you may reject the application and not give it substantive consideration. You should, however, normally give the applicant the opportunity to comply with the validity requirements by [requesting further information](#).

For further information on assessing validity, including when it might be appropriate to exercise discretion and treat the application as valid, see [Validity requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay](#).

Suitability requirements for settlement

The applicant must meet the suitability requirements of paragraphs UKA 11.1 and UKA 11.2. If they do not, you must refuse the application.

For further information, see [Suitability for the UK Ancestry route](#).

Eligibility requirements for settlement

An applicant for settlement on the UK Ancestry must meet all the eligibility requirements in paragraphs UKA 12.1 to UKA 16.1 of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#). They must:

- continue to meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - [grandparent born in the UK and Islands requirement](#)
 - [financial requirement](#)
 - [work requirement](#)
- have spent 5 years in the UK with permission on the UK Ancestry route as a person with UK Ancestry
- have met the continuous residence requirement in [Appendix Continuous Residence](#) throughout the 5-year period – for detailed information on this, see the Continuous residence guidance on Horizon
- show English language ability on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in speaking and listening to at least level B1, as specified in [Appendix English Language](#) – for detailed information on this, see English language requirement on Horizon
- meet the knowledge of Life in the UK requirement as specified in [Appendix KOL UK](#) – for detailed information on this, see Knowledge of language and life in the UK on Horizon

If the applicant meets all of the suitability and eligibility requirements, you must [grant the application](#). If the applicant does not meet all of these requirements, you must [refuse the application](#).

If the applicant is unemployed when they apply

If the applicant is unemployed on the date of application, you may still grant the application if you are satisfied that the applicant is able to work and intends to seek and take employment, and they otherwise meet all the suitability and eligibility requirements. See [Work requirement](#) for further information on assessing ability and intention to work.

Historical periods of permission

There is no requirement for the applicant's most recent grant of permission to have been on the UK Ancestry route – they can rely on an earlier 5-year period of permission as a person with UK Ancestry to qualify for settlement, even if they have since been granted permission on another route.

Example

The applicant entered the UK on 1 October 2014 with entry clearance on the UK Ancestry route valid from 1 October 2014 until 1 October 2019. On 24 September 2019, instead of applying for settlement on the UK Ancestry route, they applied for permission to stay as a Student and were granted until 31 October 2022. On 1 February 2021, they apply for settlement on the UK Ancestry route, relying on their earlier grant of permission as a person with UK Ancestry.

You can grant such an application, provided the applicant completed a continuous 5-year period in the UK with permission on the UK Ancestry route, and they meet all of the requirements for settlement on this route.

When calculating the continuous residence requirement in such cases, you must count backwards from the date their previous UK Ancestry permission expired. This can include permission extended by [section 3C of the Immigration Act 1971](#) while a previous in-time application, appeal or administrative review application was pending. For further information, see: [3C and 3D leave](#).

Applicant applies for further permission or entry clearance instead of settlement

Some applicants who have apparently completed 5 years in the UK on the UK Ancestry route may choose to apply for further permission to stay, or a new entry clearance from overseas, rather than settlement. This could be for a variety of reasons, including because the applicant:

- does not meet the English language or Knowledge of Life in the UK requirements
- has had excessive absences from the UK and so cannot meet the continuous residence requirement
- is outside the UK when their permission is about to expire and so needs a new entry clearance to return to the UK
- simply does not wish to apply for settlement, or is unaware that they are eligible for it

Whatever the reason, you must not treat such an application as though it were one for settlement, even if it is clear the applicant would meet the requirements. You must consider any such [valid](#) application against the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay and grant or refuse as appropriate.

There is no limit on the number of times an applicant can be granted entry clearance or permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route if they continue to meet the relevant requirements.

Period of permission

If an applicant qualifies for further permission to stay (or new entry clearance), they will be granted for 5 years in all cases, even if they only require a short extension of stay. However, the applicant can apply for settlement as soon as they can meet the relevant requirements – they do not necessarily have to wait for a further 5 years. For example, if the only reason they were not eligible for settlement was because they did not satisfy the Knowledge of Life requirement, they can apply for settlement as soon as they have passed that test (provided they meet all other requirements, including the continuous residence requirement).

Effect on continuous residence

If the applicant has had more than one grant of entry clearance or permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route, and they are looking to combine these periods to meet the 5-year continuous residence requirement, you must carefully check that continuity of residence has not been broken between these periods of permission.

Under paragraph CR 4.1(d) of [Appendix Continuous Residence](#), continuity of residence will be broken if, during the relevant 5-year period, the applicant has had any periods without permission on the UK Ancestry route. Subject to the exceptions below, 'periods without permission' means where the applicant overstayed their permission while in the UK, or their permission expired while they were outside the UK.

Continuity of residence will not be broken if any of the following apply:

- the applicant's permission was extended by [section 3C](#) of the Immigration Act 1971 (provided they were eventually granted permission in relation to that application)
- the applicant made a successful application for permission to stay under the circumstances set out in paragraph 39E of [Part 1 of the Immigration Rules](#)
- the applicant had permission when they left the UK and made a successful application for entry clearance before, or no more than 14 days after, that permission expired
- the period without permission occurred before 24 November 2016 and the applicant either:
 - made a successful application for permission (either in or outside the UK) within 28 days of the date their previous permission expired
 - had permission when they left the UK, applied for entry clearance before that permission expired and that application for entry clearance was successful

For further information, see the Continuous residence guidance on Horizon.

Liability for the Immigration Health Charge

Applicants who apply for an extension of stay or new entry clearance (instead of settlement) must pay the [Immigration Health Charge](#) for the full 5 years. This is the case even if they become eligible to apply for settlement shortly after being granted an extension or entry clearance.

There is no Immigration Health Charge for settlement applications.

Related content

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Grant or refuse entry clearance

This page explains when to grant or refuse an application for entry clearance on the UK Ancestry route.

Grant entry clearance

If the applicant meets all of the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements of Appendix UK Ancestry, you must grant entry clearance.

The endorsement is:

Category D: UK Ancestry

Work Permitted

No Public Funds

(If relevant: Register with Police in 7 days of UK entry)

Duration: 5 years from the date the applicant intends to travel to the UK

Applicant under 17 when they applied

If the applicant was aged under 17 on the date of application, but will be aged 17 on the date of their intended arrival in the UK (as stated on their application form), you must ensure that the 'valid from' date on their entry clearance is dated no earlier than their seventeenth birthday.

Applicant is a national of Cyprus or Malta

If you grant entry clearance to a national of Cyprus or Malta, the 'valid from' date must be no earlier than 1 January 2021.

Refuse entry clearance

You must refuse entry clearance if the applicant does not meet all of the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements of the UK Ancestry route.

You must quote all relevant refusal paragraphs in your decision letter. See [Refusal wordings](#) for examples.

Right to administrative review

Applicants have no right of appeal against our decision to refuse entry clearance. However, if they think the entry clearance officer has made an error in considering their application, they can apply for an administrative review. You must include details of how to make an administrative review application in your decision letter.

Related content

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Grant or refuse permission to enter

This page explains when to grant or refuse entry at a UK port on the UK Ancestry route.

Before you grant permission to enter to someone seeking entry on the UK Ancestry route, you must be satisfied that:

- the applicant has produced on arrival a valid passport or other identity document
- the applicant has valid entry clearance for entry on the UK Ancestry route
- there is no reason to believe the applicant gave false information to obtain the entry clearance or that circumstances have changed since it was issued
- none of the grounds for refusal or cancellation of entry clearance or permission in [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#) of the Immigration Rules apply

If granting permission to enter, the statistical code to record on the landing card is: UK Grandparent UKG.

If refusing permission to enter, you must refer to Border Force guidance: refusal of leave to enter for guidance on the processes to follow.

Related content

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[Refusal wordings](#)

Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability)

Related external links

[Appendix UK Ancestry](#)

Grant or refuse permission to stay

This page explains when to grant or refuse an application for permission to stay on the UK Ancestry route and the statistical information you must record on the Case Information Database.

Grant permission to stay

If the applicant meets all of the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#), you must grant permission to stay for a period of 5 years (calculated from date of decision) on [code 1 conditions](#).

You must grant 5 years in all cases, even if the applicant has requested a shorter period.

Refuse permission to stay

You must refuse permission to stay if the applicant does not meet all of the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#).

You must quote all relevant refusal paragraphs in your decision letter. See [Refusal wordings](#) for examples.

Right to administrative review

Applicants have no right of appeal against our decision to refuse. However, if they think the Home Office has made an error in considering their application, they can apply for an administrative review. You must include details of how to make an administrative review application in your decision letter.

Data requirements for extension applications

You must ensure the correct case type and statistical code are recorded on the Case Information Database (CID).

The CID case type for permission to stay is:

- UK Ancestry – LTR

The statistical code is either:

- if granting: UKA - Extension. Y1
- if refusing: UKA - Refusal. Y5

Related content

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Grant or refuse settlement

This page explains when to grant or refuse settlement on the UK Ancestry route and the statistical information you must record on the Case Information Database.

Grant settlement

If the applicant meets all of the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements for settlement on the UK Ancestry route, you must grant settlement.

Refuse settlement

You must refuse settlement if the applicant does not meet all the [suitability](#) and [eligibility](#) requirements for settlement on the UK Ancestry route.

You must quote all relevant refusal paragraphs in your decision letter. See [Refusal wordings](#) for examples.

Right to administrative review

Applicants have no right of appeal against our decision to refuse. However, if they think the Home Office has made an error in considering their application, they can apply for an administrative review. You must include details of how to make an administrative review application in your decision letter.

Data requirements for settlement applications

You must ensure that the correct case type and statistical code are recorded on the Case Information Database (CID).

The CID case type for a settlement application on the UK Ancestry route is:

- UK Ancestry – ILR

The statistical code is:

- if granting: UKA - UK Ancestry – 4/5 yrs. 2AA
- if refusing, either:
 - UKA - Refusal Not compl 4/5 yrs. Y7 (use this where the applicant has not completed the 5-year qualifying period)
 - UKA - Refusal No extn of leave granted. Y8 (use this in all other cases)

Related content

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UK Ancestry: eligible dependants

This page provides an overview of which dependants (family members) can qualify on the UK Ancestry route. You must refer to the relevant Immigration Rules and guidance for full details.

The following dependants (family members) are eligible to apply for entry clearance, permission to stay or settlement on the UK on the UK Ancestry route:

- the [partner](#) of the person with UK Ancestry
- dependent children of the person with UK Ancestry (or of that person's partner) who, on the date of application, are either:
 - aged under 18
 - aged 18 or over and were last granted permission as the dependent child of the person with UK Ancestry (or of their partner)

Dependants can qualify if the person with UK Ancestry has already been granted settlement, or is a British citizen, provided that person had permission on the UK Ancestry route before they were granted settlement.

Dependants applying for permission to stay or settlement on the UK Ancestry route must not have, or have last been granted, permission on any of the following routes:

- as a Visitor
- as a Short-term Student
- as a Parent of a Child Student
- as a Seasonal Worker
- as a Domestic Worker in a Private Household
- outside the Immigration Rules

You must normally reject an application for permission to stay or settlement from a dependant in these circumstances, unless it is appropriate to exercise discretion or give them the opportunity to vary their application if it appears they have applied on the wrong route.

Dependants can qualify for settlement on this route as soon as the person with UK Ancestry has been granted settlement – they do not have to complete a specific qualifying period on the UK Ancestry route, or even have previously been granted on this route.

For example, if a person was previously granted permission as a Student, and they subsequently marry a person who has been granted settlement on the UK Ancestry route, they may be eligible for settlement as the partner of a person with UK Ancestry (provided the relationship is genuine and all other requirements are met).

For full details of the requirements for dependants, you must refer to:

- paragraphs UKA 18.1 to UKA 36.2 of [Appendix UK Ancestry](#)

- Dependent family members in work routes

Related content

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Rejection wordings

This page provides examples of wording to use when you reject an application on the UK Ancestry route as invalid.

If you decide to reject an invalid application on the UK Ancestry route, you must tell the applicant why. For guidance on validity requirements, see:

- [validity requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay](#)
- [validity requirements for settlement](#)
- Applications for leave to remain: validation, variation and withdrawal

Invalid entry clearance or permission to stay application

Introductory wording:

'You have made an attempted application for [entry clearance / permission to stay] on the UK Ancestry route but your application is invalid for the reason(s) set out below. I am therefore rejecting your application in accordance with paragraph UKA 1.6 of Appendix UK Ancestry.'

Reason	Wording
Applicant has not completed the specified online form (entry clearance) Paragraph UKA 1.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	You have not completed the specified online application form for entry clearance on this route. The form you must complete is "UK Ancestry, Right of Abode or Returning Residents visa", which is available on the GOV.UK website.
Applicant has not completed the specified online form (permission to stay) Paragraph UKA 1.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	You have not completed the specified online application form for permission to stay on this route. The form you must complete "Application to extend stay in the UK: FLR(IR)", which is available on the GOV.UK website.
Applicant has not paid the application fee Paragraph UKA 1.2(a) of Appendix UK Ancestry	You have not paid in full the specified application fee for this route.
Applicant has not paid the Immigration Health Charge Paragraph UKA 1.2(a) of Appendix UK Ancestry	You have not paid in full the Immigration Health Charge.
Applicant has not provided required biometrics	You have not provided your biometric information.

Reason	Wording
Paragraph UKA 1.2(b) of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant has not provided a satisfactory passport or travel document	You have not provided a passport or other travel document which satisfactorily establishes your identity and nationality.
Paragraph UKA 1.2(c) of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant is not a Commonwealth citizen	Your passport shows you are a citizen of (country) and you are therefore not a Commonwealth citizen, as required by this route.
Paragraph UKA 1.3 of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant will not be aged 17 or over on arrival in the UK (entry clearance only)	You were born on (date) and you intend to arrive in the UK on (date). You will therefore not be aged 17 or over on the date of your intended arrival in the UK.
Paragraph UKA 1.4 of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant has not previously been granted permission on the UK Ancestry route (permission to stay applications only)	You entered the UK on (date) with [entry clearance / permission to enter] as a (name of route on which they entered) [and were subsequently granted permission to stay as a (name of route)]. You have therefore not previously been granted permission on the UK Ancestry route.
Paragraph UKA 1.5 of Appendix UK Ancestry	

Invalid settlement application

Introductory wording:

'You have made an attempted application for settlement on the UK Ancestry route but your application is invalid for the reason(s) set out below. I am therefore rejecting your application in accordance with paragraph UKA 10.4 of Appendix UK Ancestry.'

Reason	Wording
Applicant has not completed the specified online form	You have not completed the specified online application form for entry clearance on this route. The form you must complete is "Settle in the UK in various immigration categories: form SET(O)", which is available on the GOV.UK website.
Paragraph UKA 10.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant has not paid the application fee	You have not paid in full the specified application fee for this route.
Paragraph UKA 10.2(a) of Appendix UK Ancestry	
Applicant has not provided required biometrics	You have not provided your biometric information.

Reason	Wording
Paragraph UKA 10.2(b) of Appendix UK Ancestry	
<p>Applicant has not provided a satisfactory passport or travel document</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 10.2(c) of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>You have not provided a passport or other travel document which satisfactorily establishes your identity and nationality.</p>
<p>Applicant is not in the UK</p> <p>Paragraph 10.2(d) of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>You must be in the UK to apply for settlement on the UK Ancestry route. [You have stated on your application form that you are currently in (name of country) / I am satisfied from the available evidence that you are outside the UK] and you therefore do not meet this requirement of Appendix UK Ancestry.</p>
<p>Applicant is not a Commonwealth citizen</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 10.3 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>Your passport shows you are a citizen of (country) and you are therefore not a Commonwealth citizen, as required by this route.</p>

Related content

[Contents](#)

Refusal wordings

This page gives examples of wordings to use if you are refusing a UK Ancestry application.

This is not an exhaustive list of reasons. You must use these paragraphs along with any other appropriate paragraphs – for example, if you are also refusing on any of the grounds in [Part 9: grounds for refusal](#), [Appendix Finance](#), [Appendix English Language](#), [Appendix KOL UK](#), or [Appendix Continuous Residence](#).

You must include all relevant reasons for refusal in your decision letter.

You must adapt the wording to the specific circumstances of the case and ensure that the reasons for refusal are clear and relevant to the application. Words in square brackets in the examples below are optional.

- [Entry clearance refusal wordings](#)
- [Permission to enter refusal wordings](#)
- [Permission to stay refusal wordings](#)
- [Settlement refusal wordings](#)

Entry clearance refusal wordings

For guidance on the requirements, see:

- [Appendix UK Ancestry](#)
- [Suitability requirements](#)
- [Eligibility requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay](#)
- [Refuse entry clearance](#)

Introductory wording

‘You have applied for entry clearance to the UK on the UK Ancestry route but your application has been refused.’

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
Falls for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal Paragraph UKA 2.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry and the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Part 9: grounds for refusal	In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that you do not for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal of the Immigration Rules. See Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability) for further guidance on wording.
No valid tuberculosis test certificate Paragraph UKA 3.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry	You have applied to stay in the UK for more than 6 months. You lived in (country) for (how long) before you made your application for entry clearance.

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
	<p>Because of this, you were required to provide a valid medical certificate from an approved medical provider which confirms you have undergone screening for active pulmonary tuberculosis and this is not present in you. You have not provided such a medical certificate with your application.</p>
<p>Grandparent not born in the UK and Islands</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [your grandparent's birth certificate shows that they were born in (country)], I am not satisfied that you have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands.</p>
<p>Grandparent not a blood grandparent or grandparent by reason of UK-recognised adoption</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to paragraph 6 of the Immigration Rules</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that the grandparent through whom you are claiming UK ancestry is your blood grandparent, or grandparent by reason of an adoption recognised by the laws of the UK relating to adoption.</p>
<p>Does not meet maintenance requirement – insufficient funds</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 5.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK / any dependants applying for entry clearance with you] adequately without recourse to public funds.</p>
<p>Evidence of funds not as specified in Appendix Finance</p> <p>Paragraphs UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Appendix Finance (in the example opposite, this would be paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance)</p>	<p>(In the example below, the applicant has sought to rely on evidence of funds from an unregulated bank):</p> <p>Although you have provided bank statements issued by (bank), this financial institution is not regulated by the appropriate regulatory body for the country in which that institution is operating. In accordance with paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance, I am unable to take account of this evidence. You were asked to provide alternative evidence of funds on (date) but have failed to do so.</p> <p>In view of these facts, I am not satisfied that the evidence of funds you have submitted is as specified in Appendix Finance, and I am therefore not satisfied that you will be able to</p>

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
	maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK / any dependants applying for entry clearance with you] adequately without recourse to public funds.
<p>Promise of third-party support not credible</p> <p>Paragraphs UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.3 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that the offer of financial support from your [friend / relative] is credible and I am therefore not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK / any dependants applying for entry clearance with you] adequately without recourse to public funds.</p>
<p>Unable to work</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 6.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that you are able to work in the UK.</p>
<p>No intention to seek and take employment</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 6.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], I am not satisfied that you intend to seek and take employment in the UK.</p>
<p>Does not meet parental consent requirement (applicants aged under 18)</p> <p>Paragraphs UKA 7.1 and UKA 7.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>As you are aged under 18, you are required by paragraphs UKA 7.1 and UKA 7.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry to have the written consent of your parent(s) or legal guardian to your application, your care and living arrangements in the UK, and your travel to and reception arrangements in the UK. You were asked to provide this information on (date) but have failed to do so.</p> <p>In view of these facts, I am not satisfied that you meet the parental consent requirement of Appendix UK Ancestry.</p>

Permission to enter refusal wordings

For guidance on the requirements, see:

- [Appendix UK Ancestry](#)
- [Suitability requirements](#)
- [Eligibility requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay](#)
- [Grant or refuse permission to enter](#)

Introductory wording

'You have asked for permission to enter the UK on the UK Ancestry route...'

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
No valid entry clearance Paragraph UKA 3.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	...but you are required to apply for, and obtain, entry clearance on the UK Ancestry route before you arrive in the UK and you do not hold such an entry clearance.

Permission to stay refusal wordings

For guidance on the requirements, see:

- [Appendix UK Ancestry](#)
- [Suitability requirements](#)
- [Eligibility requirements for entry clearance or permission to stay](#)
- [Refuse permission to stay](#)

Introductory wording

'You have applied for permission to stay in the UK on the UK Ancestry route but your application has been refused.'

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
Falls for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal Paragraph UKA 2.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry and the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Part 9: grounds for refusal	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you do not for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal of the Immigration Rules. See Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability) for further guidance on wording.
In the UK in breach of immigration laws Paragraph UKA 2.2(a) of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [you made your application for permission to stay on (date) and your previous permission expired on (date)], the Secretary of State is satisfied that you are in the UK in breach of immigration laws and that none of the exceptions in paragraph 39E of the Immigration Rules apply.
On immigration bail Paragraph UKA 2.2(b) of Appendix UK Ancestry	You are currently on immigration bail and therefore do not meet the suitability requirements of the UK Ancestry route.
Grandparent not born in the UK and Islands	In view of the fact that [your grandparent's birth certificate shows that they were born in (country)], the

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
Paragraph UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands.
Grandparent not a blood grandparent or grandparent by reason of UK-recognised adoption Paragraph UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to paragraph 6 of the Immigration Rules	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the grandparent through whom you are claiming UK ancestry is your blood grandparent, or grandparent by reason of an adoption recognised by the laws of the UK relating to adoption.
Does not meet maintenance requirement – insufficient funds Paragraph UKA 5.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK] adequately without recourse to public funds.
Evidence of funds not as specified in Appendix Finance Paragraphs UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Appendix Finance (in the example opposite, this would be paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance)	(In the example below, the applicant has sought to rely on evidence of funds from an unregulated bank): Although you have provided bank statements issued by (bank), this financial institution is not regulated by the appropriate regulatory body for the country in which that institution is operating. In accordance with paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance, the Secretary of State is unable to take account of this evidence. You were asked to provide alternative evidence of funds on (date) but have failed to do so. In view of these facts, the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the evidence of funds you have submitted is as specified in Appendix Finance, and is therefore not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK] adequately without recourse to public funds.
Promise of third-party support not credible Paragraphs UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.3 of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the offer of financial support from your [friend / relative] is credible and is therefore not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK]

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
	adequately without recourse to public funds.
Unable to work Paragraph UKA 6.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you are able to work in the UK.
No intention to seek and take employment Paragraph UKA 6.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you intend to seek and take employment in the UK.

Settlement refusal wordings

For guidance on the requirements, see:

- [Appendix UK Ancestry](#)
- [Suitability requirements](#)
- [Eligibility requirements for settlement](#)
- [Refuse settlement](#)

Introductory wording

‘You have applied for settlement in the UK on the UK Ancestry route but your application has been refused.’

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
Falls for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal Paragraph UKA 11.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry and the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Part 9: grounds for refusal	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you do not for refusal under Part 9: grounds for refusal of the Immigration Rules. See Grounds for refusal and cancellation (suitability) for further guidance on wording.
In the UK in breach of immigration laws Paragraph UKA11.2(a) of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that [you made your application for settlement on (date) and your previous permission expired on (date)], the Secretary of State is satisfied that you are in the UK in breach of immigration laws and that none of the exceptions in paragraph 39E of the Immigration Rules apply.
On immigration bail Paragraph UKA 11.2(b) of Appendix UK Ancestry	You are currently on immigration bail and therefore do not meet the suitability requirements for settlement on the UK Ancestry route.

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
<p>Grandparent not born in the UK and Islands</p> <p>Paragraph 12.1 with reference to UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [your grandparent's birth certificate shows that they were born in (country)], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have a grandparent born in the UK and Islands.</p>
<p>Grandparent not a blood grandparent or grandparent by reason of UK-recognised adoption</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 12.1 with reference UKA 4.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry and paragraph 6 of the Immigration Rules</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the grandparent through whom you are claiming UK ancestry is your blood grandparent, or grandparent by reason of an adoption recognised by the laws of the UK relating to adoption.</p>
<p>Does not meet maintenance requirement – insufficient funds</p> <p>Paragraph UKA 12.1 with reference to UKA 5.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK] adequately without recourse to public funds.</p>
<p>Evidence of funds not as specified in Appendix Finance</p> <p>Paragraph 12.1 with reference to UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph or paragraphs of Appendix Finance (in the example opposite, this would be paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance)</p>	<p>(In the example below, the applicant has sought to rely on evidence of funds from an unregulated bank):</p> <p>Although you have provided bank statements issued by (bank), this financial institution is not regulated by the appropriate regulatory body for the country in which that institution is operating. In accordance with paragraph FIN 2.1(b) of Appendix Finance, the Secretary of State is unable to take account of this evidence. You were asked to provide alternative evidence of funds on (date) but have failed to do so.</p> <p>In view of these facts, the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the evidence of funds you have submitted is as specified in Appendix Finance, and is therefore not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK] adequately without recourse to public funds.</p>
<p>Promise of third-party support not credible</p>	<p>In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that the offer of financial support from your [friend / relative] is credible and is</p>

Reason and paragraph	Example wording
Paragraph UKA 12.1 with reference to UKA 5.1 and UKA 5.3 of Appendix UK Ancestry	therefore not satisfied that you will be able to maintain and accommodate yourself [and any dependants in the UK] adequately without recourse to public funds.
Not completed 5 years on the UK Ancestry route Paragraph UKA 13.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry	In view of the fact that you [were admitted to the UK on (date), with entry clearance valid from (date) to (date), and you made your application for settlement on (date)], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have spent 5 years in the UK with permission on the UK Ancestry route as a person with UK Ancestry.
Does not meet the continuous residence requirement Paragraph UKA 14.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to relevant paragraph(s) of Appendix Continuous Residence	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have met the continuous residence requirement in Appendix Continuous Residence during your period in the UK on the UK Ancestry route.
Does not meet the English language requirement Paragraph UKA 15.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph(s) of Appendix English Language	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have shown English language ability on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in speaking and listening to at least level B1.
Evidence of English language ability does not meet the requirements of Appendix English Language Paragraphs UKA 15.1 and 15.2 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph(s) of Appendix English Language	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you have shown that you meet the English language requirement for the UK Ancestry route as specified in Appendix English language.
Does not meet the knowledge of Life in the UK requirement Paragraph UKA 16.1 of Appendix UK Ancestry, with reference to the relevant paragraph(s) of Appendix KOL UK	In view of the fact that [...], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you meet the knowledge of Life in the UK requirement as specified in Appendix KOL UK.

Related content

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