





We give people a voice

Immigration

Our Services Points-Based System All Visa Types Family Settlement Visas for Partners Visas for Children and Adult Dependents **British Citizenship** Visa Overstays **Appeals Judicial Review Brexit** Fees and Funding





Duncan Lewis Solicitors serves corporate entities and private individuals in over 25 practice areas from offices throughout London and across England and Wales. Established in 1998, the firm has over 550 lawyers delivering legal services in over 60 languages. We have been recognised by independent legal directories, The Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, as a top tier firm and described as a "diligent and professional team that is prepared to go the extra mile for its clients".

Our head office is based in London, on Fenchurch Street, and we are the largest provider of publicly funded (legal aid) legal services in the country.

Our Services

We are one of the largest providers of immigration services in the UK and ranked as a top-tier firm by The Legal 500 legal directory for our specialist immigration services.

We advise on a range of immigration matters, including:

- Points-based system
- All visa types
- EU Settlement Scheme family permit
- Retained rights of residence
- Pre-settled and settled status
- Visas for partners

- Visas for children and adult dependents
- British citizenship
- Visa overstays
- Appeals
- Brexit

Points-Based System

The UK grants work visas to migrants using a points-based system (PBS). When applying for one of these visas you will be awarded points depending on your job, salary, experience, qualifications, ability to speak English, and your ability to support yourself financially.

If you are uncertain about the points-based system, a member of our highly experienced immigration team will be able to advise you and make sure that your score reflects your level of skill.

All Visa Types

We offer clear and effective advice on the different types of UK visas and assist with the preparation of visa applications, as well as providing up-to-date information on process and eligibility criteria.

We advise businesses, families and individuals coming to work or study in the UK on all types of visas:

- **Tier 1 visa:** available to prospective migrants who are of high-worth to the UK economy.
- **Skilled Worker visa:** for skilled workers to come to the UK to take up a job from an employer who will sponsor their application.
- Intra-company Transfer visa: for overseas nationals to take up a job with their employer's UK branch.
- Tier 2: Minister of Religion and Sportsperson visa: available to skilled migrants who wish to come to the UK to take up a job from an employer who will sponsor their application.
- Student visa: which provide a temporary right to live and study in the UK.
- Tier 5 visa: temporary work visas that allow the holder to live and work in the UK for a limited period.

Family Settlement

Following Brexit and the end of the implementation period, EU, EEA or Swiss citizens living in the UK by 31st December 2020 can apply for family members who are not EU, EEA or Swiss nationals to join them in the UK.

We can assist with various aspects application under the current rules relating to EU nationals and their family members including:

- EU Settlement Scheme family permit
- EU Settlement Scheme family permit: retained right of residence
- EU Settlement Scheme (settled and pre-settled status)

Visas for Partners

Our team has expertise in handling matters involving visas for partners of those with British citizenship or those with settled status. We can assist with:

- Spousal/civil partnership visa
- Fiancé, fiancée or proposed civil partner visa
- Visas for unmarried partners

Visas for Children and Adult Dependents

Our team is experienced in assisting clients with visas for children and adult dependents.

If you are a British national or are settled in the UK, any children or adults who depend upon you may be able to come to the UK to live with you. This includes children under the age of 18, adopted children, and adult dependent relatives. These applications must be made from outside the UK.

British Citizenship

You can apply for British citizenship if you have been living and working in the UK for at least five years. We advise clients throughout the process, ensuring the application process runs smoothly and efficiently.

Visa Overstays

Those who have overstayed must either re-apply for their visa within 14 days of expiry or leave the UK within 90 days. Failure to do either can result in deportation which will make re-entry into the UK extremely difficult in the future.

Our solicitors can advise on any overstay matters and the best options to take moving forward.

Appeals

We advise and assist clients whose visa applications have been unsuccessful.

If your visa application is refused you have the right to appeal. This will give you the opportunity to provide any new information that was previously unavailable to you when submitting your application.

Judicial Review

An application for judicial review can be made when authorities are believed to have acted irrationally, unlawfully or unreasonably.

Our solicitors have considerable experience in judicial review applications and will be able to advise you on your best options.

Brexit

There is no longer free movement of European nationals and their family members following the end of the Brexit implementation period on 31st December 2020.

Nationals of the EU, EEA or Swiss citizens living in the UK will now need to take steps to apply for pre-settled or settled status to continue living and working in the UK. We remain up to date with all post Brexit matters and recent EU immigration rule changes and can advise those who are concerned about how their status may be affected.

Fees and Funding

Private Funding

In all privately funded cases, our aim is to offer fair prices in exchange for the specialist services we provide. We offer competitive hourly rates and fixed fee packages. At your first meeting with us, we will discuss with you how we calculate our charges.

Public Funding (Legal Aid)

Legal aid is given to eligible individuals who cannot afford to pay for legal advice and representation. We will advise as to whether legal aid funding may apply in your case. When it does, we can assist you in making the necessary applications for funding and advise you of your financial obligations.

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