

Royal Academy of Engineering

Engineering research | UK Global Talent visa endorsement

For active engineering researchers in academia, industry or government research settings.

Before you start

- ☐ Your discipline is on the GOV.UK list for the Royal Academy of Engineering.
- ☐ You are an active researcher with a PhD or equivalent research experience (at least 3 years of consolidated research time).
- ☐ You have chosen Exceptional Talent or Exceptional Promise.
- ☐ You have checked whether a fast-track route applies: a UK appointment, a listed fellowship or an endorsed funder grant.

Documents

- ☐ Application form, with your personal statement written on it.
- ☐ CV of no more than 3 sides of A4.
- ☐ Full references for your most significant publications: title, publisher and where each can be obtained.
- ☐ Full identifying references for any patents, with the countries where they are registered and valid.
- ☐ A PhD certificate only if your PhD was awarded in the 12 months before you apply.
- ☐ No copies of publications, degree certificates or award certificates. They are not needed.

Letters

- ☐ Exceptional Promise: 1 letter of personal recommendation from an eminent person resident in the UK who is familiar with your work.
- ☐ Exceptional Talent: that letter plus a second letter of objective assessment from a different person, a senior member of a reputable UK organisation in your field.
- ☐ The second letter includes a statement that it is not influenced by personal knowledge of you.
- ☐ Each letter is written for this application, signed, dated, on headed paper and up to 3 sides of A4.
- ☐ Each letter comes with the author's CV, personal email address and direct telephone number.

Fast-track routes instead of peer review

- ☐ Route 1, appointment: the job description and an HR statement of guarantee.
- ☐ Route 2, fellowship: the fellowship award letter.
- ☐ Route 3, endorsed funder: the grant award letter and a statement of guarantee.

Final checks

- ☐ Patents, licences or spinouts you rely on are referenced in full.
- ☐ The Stage 1 fee is £561 (GOV.UK, checked 16 October 2026).
- ☐ Nothing can be added after you submit, and a review cannot take new evidence.

Official sources

Royal Academy of Engineering: Route 4, peer review:

<https://raeng.org.uk/programmes-and-prizes/programmes/international-programmes/global-talent-visa/route-4/>

GOV.UK: Global Talent peer review: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent-researcher-academic/peer-review>

We are experts in the Stage 1 endorsement application for the UK Global Talent Visa. For immigration advice, please seek the services of an immigration solicitor. This checklist does not promise endorsement; the endorsing body decides.