



# Briton Solicitors

"A Law Firm You can trust"



**INNOVATOR**  
FOUNDER VISA

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## INNOVATOR FOUNDER VISA

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The Innovator Founder visa is designed for individuals who are either start-up entrepreneurs or experienced business persons and are interested in establishing a business in the UK.

Although there is no fixed amount of investment required to apply for this visa, applicants must present a business plan that is supported by an endorsing body and demonstrates a practical, innovative, and scalable business idea.

To qualify for an Innovator Founder visa, applicants must have either developed or significantly contributed to their business idea. Furthermore, they must also demonstrate that they intend to play a pivotal role in the daily management and growth of their business.

The Innovator Founder visa is valid for three years and has the potential to lead to indefinite leave to remain in the UK upon completion of this period.

Additionally, Innovator Founders can bring their partner and children under the age of 18 with them to the UK.



## Conditions to qualify for an Innovator Founder Visa

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### Initial applications for an Innovator Founder visa:

To qualify for an Innovator Founder visa, there are several requirements that you must meet to satisfy UK Visas and Immigration:

1. You must be at least 18 years of age.
2. You must possess a letter of endorsement from a UK endorsing body that is approved by the government.
3. The endorsement letter must be issued within three months of your visa application.
4. You must have a proficient understanding of the English language, at least to the CEFR Level B2 (equivalent to an IELTS score of 5.5 in reading, writing, listening, and speaking).
5. If you are currently outside the UK or have been in the UK for less than 12 months, you must demonstrate that you have adequate financial resources to support yourself and any dependents. The minimum requirement is £1270 for yourself, £285 for a dependent partner, £315 for a first child, and £200 for each additional child.
6. You must provide a valid certificate for a tuberculosis (TB) test if it is required.

### Is there an investment funds requirement?

Unlike other UK visas, there is no fixed investment funds requirement for Innovator Founder visa applicants. However, to establish a viable and scalable business idea, you must demonstrate that you have sufficient investment funds to support the setup and growth of your proposed business. Therefore, the investment funds requirement for an Innovator Founder visa is flexible and can be met by individuals who possess a legitimate plan for an innovative business and have access to an appropriate level of funds that meet their business's specific financial needs.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Briton Solicitors, is a trusted introducer to endorsing bodies, providing direct access to investment panel members and a transparent decision-making process for UK visa applications. Our expertise and network can help clients applying for the Innovator Founder visa to obtain an endorsement letter and succeed in their application.





## Criteria for endorsement of an Innovator Founder Visa

Initial applications for an Innovator Founder visa based on a new business

To obtain endorsement for your business proposal under the Innovator Founder route, you must meet specific criteria established by an authorized endorsing body, which includes:

- Demonstrating that you are a suitable and trustworthy individual for endorsement.
- Evidencing that there are no concerns regarding the source of investment funds.
- Proving that your business or its operations do not involve illicit or unexplained wealth.
- Providing a business plan that showcases innovative and significant ideas.
- Committing to taking an active role in carrying out the business plan.
- Engaging in regular Contact point meetings with the endorsing body.
- Being either the sole founder or an instrumental member of the founding team.
- Having an innovative, viable, and scalable business venture.



## Innovative, Viable and Scalable Business Venture Requirement

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To fulfill the requirements of an Innovator Founder visa, your business idea must meet specific criteria. The following conditions must be met:

- **Innovation:** Your business plan must be original, meet market needs, and/or create a competitive edge.
- **Viability:** Your business plan must be realistic and feasible with the resources you have. You must have, or be actively developing, the necessary skills, knowledge, experience, and market awareness to run your business effectively.
- **Scalability:** There must be evidence of structured planning and potential for job creation and growth into national and international markets. Additionally, the endorsing body must be satisfied that you have either generated or made a significant contribution to the ideas in your business plan and that you will have a day-to-day role in executing the business plan.



## Innovator Founder visa applications for a common business endeavour

If you have previously had your business idea assessed by a Home Office approved endorsing body while on the Innovator, Innovator Founder, Start-up, or Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) route, you may be eligible to apply for a further endorsement as an Innovator Founder. This can be useful if you want to switch to the Innovator Founder route or apply for an extension of stay as an Innovator Founder.

To qualify for an endorsement based on a previously assessed business, you must demonstrate to a Home Office approved endorsing body that:

- Your business is registered with Companies House and you are listed as a director or member of the business.
- Your business is actively trading and sustainable.
- You have made significant progress towards achieving the objectives outlined in your business plan.
- You are actively involved in the day-to-day management and development of your business.

Additionally, if you previously held permission as an Innovator or Innovator Founder, you must provide evidence of



attending at least two Contact point meetings with your endorsing body (or similar checkpoints with a legacy endorsing body) at regular intervals during your permission period. You must also confirm that you will continue to have at least two Contact point meetings with the endorsing body at regular intervals during your period of permission.



## Permanent residency status for an Innovator Founder

To be eligible for indefinite leave to remain as an Innovator Founder in the UK, you must meet the following requirements:

- You must have been endorsed by an approved UK endorsing body that is satisfied with your significant achievements in relation to the business plan that was assessed in your previous endorsement. You must also be registered as a director or Member of your business with Companies House, and your business must be active, trading, and appear sustainable for at least the next 12 months. Additionally, you must have played an active key role in the day-to-day management and development of the business.
- You must satisfy at least two of the following:
  1. At least £50,000 has been invested into the business, and the investment has been actively spent to further your business.
  2. The business has created the equivalent of at least 5 full-time jobs for settled workers, with an average salary of at least £25,000 per year;
  3. The business has created the equivalent of at least 10 full-time jobs for resident workers with no average salary requirement.
  4. The number of customers has at least doubled within the most recent 3 years and is currently higher than the mean number of customers for other UK businesses offering comparable main products or services.

5. The business has engaged in significant research and development activity and has applied for intellectual property protection in the UK.

6. The business has generated a minimum annual gross revenue of £1 million in the last full year covered by its accounts.

7. The business has generated a minimum annual gross revenue of £500,000 in the last full year covered by its accounts, with at least £100,000 from exporting overseas.

- You must not have spent more than 180 days outside the UK in any rolling 12 month period during the 3 years prior to the date of your application.
- You must have sufficient knowledge of the English language and Life in the UK.

### OUR COMMITMENTS TO OUR CLIENTS INCLUDE:

Briton Solicitors, committed to providing clients with the following Quality services:

- Immediate access to experienced immigration barristers.
- In-depth understanding of immigration law and procedures.
- Transparent and impartial legal advice.
- A reliable, prompt, and professional service with fast response times
- Cost-effective and pragmatic immigration solutions.
- A proven track record of success and favourable client testimonials.



# The process to obtain British citizenship within 5 years

To be eligible for an Innovator Founder Visa, you must meet the following requirements for the initial application:

- You must be at least 18 years old.
- No specific amount of investment funds is required.
- You must be endorsed by an approved UK endorsing body.
- The endorsement letter should be issued within the last 3 months.
- You must meet the English language proficiency requirements.
- You must meet the maintenance funds requirement.

**Three  
years  
granted**

If you are applying for settlement under the Innovator Founder Visa, you must fulfill the following requirements:

- You must have been endorsed by an approved UK endorsing body.
- You must satisfy at least two of the specified business criteria, which include investments made in the business, job creation for UK residents, revenue generated by the business, and other factors.
- You must have resided in the UK for a specific period of time as per the visa requirements.
- You must meet the English language requirement.
- You must fulfill the Life in the UK requirement.

**Indefinite  
leave to  
remain  
granted**

## Naturalisation Application

- Meet the immigration status requirement (e.g., permanent residency, indefinite leave to remain)
- Satisfy the residence requirement by having lived in the UK for a specified period of time (usually 5 years, or 3 years if married to a British citizen)
- Meet the good character requirement by providing evidence of a clean criminal record and good conduct
- Meet the English language requirement by passing an approved language test or providing evidence of a recognized qualification, and pass the Life in the UK test.

**British  
citizenship  
granted**

An Innovator Founder who has been granted ILR after 3 years can apply for naturalisation as a British citizen after 5 years of residence in the UK, unless they are married to a British citizen, in which case they can apply immediately after obtaining ILR. The naturalisation application will require the applicant to meet the immigration status and residence requirements, demonstrate good character, and meet the English language and Life in the UK requirements.

# Frequently Asked Question

## INNOVATOR FOUNDER VISA

### Is there an investment funds requirement for an Innovator Founder visa?

Although there is no set amount of funds that Innovator Founder visa applicants need to show, they must have a viable and scalable business idea, which means they should demonstrate access to sufficient investment funds to establish and expand their business. The investment funds requirement is flexible and can be met by individuals who have a genuine proposal for an innovative business and the necessary funds to implement it, based on the specific financial requirements of their business.

### Where can I find out more about Innovator Founder visa endorsing bodies?

The Home Office maintains a list of endorsing bodies for Innovator Founder visa applications. This comprehensive list includes all the currently approved endorsing bodies for the Innovator visa, along with links to their websites and details of their endorsement criteria and application processes, where available. Our team of immigration barristers can provide expert guidance on selecting the most suitable endorsing body for your Innovator Founder visa application.

### ADVANTAGES OF LIVING AND WORKING IN THE UK:

Here, are some of the factors that make the UK an attractive destination for investors, entrepreneurs and individuals seeking to relocate. Other factors that could be added to the list include:

- A diversified economy with opportunities in various sectors.
- Access to a large and diverse talent pool.
- A well-developed infrastructure including transportation and communication networks.
- A vibrant cultural scene and a rich historical heritage.
- A welcoming and tolerant society with a tradition of hospitality;
- A strategic location with easy access to European and international markets.

Overall, the UK offers a combination of economic, social, cultural and political factors that make it a compelling destination for many people.

### Which endorsing body should I apply to?

Choosing the appropriate endorsing body for your Innovator Founder visa application is crucial, as it can have a significant impact on the success of your application. The right endorsing body for your application will depend on your unique circumstances and requirements, such as the industry in which your business will operate, the timing of your application, the location of your business, and the level of support your business may need.



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It is therefore important to carefully consider and research the different endorsing bodies available and their respective criteria before making a decision. Our immigration barristers have extensive knowledge and experience in this area and can provide you with tailored advice on the most suitable endorsing body for your specific situation, ensuring the highest chance of a successful application.

### **How can Briton Solicitors help with securing an Innovator Founder visa endorsement?**

Briton Solicitors, can offer more than just advice on the appropriate endorsing body for your Innovator Founder visa application. As a trusted introducer to endorsing bodies, our barristers can facilitate direct contact with investment panel members, providing eligible clients with a transparent and timely decision-making process. This added level of support ensures that our clients have the best possible chance of success in their application for an Innovator Founder visa.

### **Can Innovator Founder visa applicants join an existing business?**

The Innovator Founder visa category is specifically designed for entrepreneurs, both new and experienced, who are seeking to establish an innovative, viable, and scalable business in the UK. To qualify for this visa, applicants must present a new and original business idea.

Typically, the business idea should be for a new venture that does not already exist in the UK. However, if the business already exists, it should not have fully commenced trading. This requirement is intended to encourage the introduction of new and innovative business ideas to the UK market, and to promote entrepreneurship and economic growth.





### **Can I apply for an Innovator Founder visa as part of a team?**

Applicants for the Innovator Founder visa category are not required to be the sole founder of their proposed business. It is possible to apply as part of a founding team, provided that each applicant is an instrumental member of the team and is individually endorsed by an approved endorsing body.

### **What is the role of the endorsing body once I have my Innovator Founder visa?**

As an Innovator Founder Visa holder, you are required to have at least two contact point meetings with your endorsing body at regular intervals throughout your stay in the UK. These meetings serve as checkpoints to assess your progress against your business plan.

During the meetings, your endorsing body will need to be satisfied that you are making reasonable progress in relation to your business venture and that your business idea remains innovative, scalable, and viable. If you fail to attend a contact point meeting or are deemed to have made insufficient progress, your Innovator Founder Visa may be cancelled.

### **How long is an Innovator Founder visa valid for?**

Your initial Innovator Founder Visa will be valid for 3 years.

### **Are there any restrictions on the type of business I can set up?**

Yes, that's correct. While the main business idea is the primary focus of the application, applicants can also develop other businesses alongside it. The key requirement is that the business idea is innovative, viable, and scalable, regardless of the sector it operates in. This allows for a diverse range of business ideas to be considered for the Innovator Founder visa.

### **Will I be able to extend my Innovator Founder visa and apply for ILR?**

Innovator Founder visa holders may apply for an extension of their visa for a period of three years at a time, provided they continue to meet the requirements of the visa, including having ongoing endorsement from an approved endorsing body. There is no limit to the number of extensions that can be granted, but applicants must continue to meet the criteria and be endorsed for each extension application.

After spending a total of three years in the Innovator Founder visa category, the visa holder may be eligible to apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain (settlement) in the UK, provided they meet the relevant criteria, such as satisfying the residency requirements and passing the Life in the UK and English language tests.

### **Can I switch into the Innovator Founder visa category?**

Applications for the Innovator Founder visa can be made from outside the UK as well as from within the UK, subject to certain conditions. If you are already in the UK, you can switch to the

## INNOVATOR FOUNDER VISA

Innovator Founder visa category provided that you do not have, or were not last granted, permission as a Visitor, Short-term Student, Parent of a Child Student, Seasonal Worker, Domestic Worker in a Private Household or outside the Immigration Rules.

### **Does the Innovator Founder visa have a residence requirement?**

Yes, One of the requirements for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) as an Innovator Founder is that the applicant must not have been absent from the UK for more than 180 days in any 12-month period during the qualifying period, which is the 3 years immediately preceding the application for ILR. This requirement is known as the continuous residence requirement.

### **Will I be able to undertake other work?**

Yes, Innovator Founder visa holders are permitted to take on employment outside of their business, provided that the employment is in a skilled role at RQF Level 3 or above. This is known as "secondary employment" and it must not interfere with the running and development of the Innovator's main business.



## Case Study

Our business immigration team has helped many entrepreneurs and their families to immigrate to the UK on the Innovator Visa route.

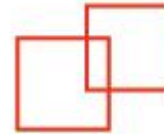
*Briton Solicitors is widely recognized as a premier law firm, and its impressive client list speaks to the quality of its services. The firm has represented some of the biggest names in the industry, including Yell.com, Facebook, Google, Trustpilot, and FreeIndex. These clients have chosen Briton Solicitors for its outstanding reputation and proven track record in providing exceptional legal services.*

*The firm's immigration team, comprising of experienced immigration barristers, has a wealth of knowledge and experience in business immigration. They have a proven track record of helping entrepreneurs and their families to successfully relocate to the UK under various visa routes, including the Innovator, Start-up, Entrepreneur visa categories.*

*The firm's approach is centered around building strong and enduring relationships with their clients. They take the time to understand each client's goals, priorities, and challenges to create tailored solutions that best suit their needs. This client-centric approach, coupled with their expertise, sets Briton Solicitors apart and ensures that their clients receive the highest quality of service and legal representation.*



## Our Services



- **Immigration Law**

At Briton solicitors we offer a wide range of UK and international immigration services. We have specialist immigration working on your cases on one to one basis. Our lawyers have been trained to provide you with the most effective and specialist service.

- **Commissioner for Oaths**

A Commissioner for Oaths is a person who is authorized to verify affidavits and other legal documents, it is a power granted by the Chief justice. It allows us to verify affidavits, certify documents, witness signatures and statutory declarations.

- **Civil Litigation**

This is the legal solution to disputes between parties regarding civil matters (non-criminal). Litigation in courts will be our last resort as our aim is to provide our clients the best possible service by aiming to conclude disputes by dispute resolution or negotiation.

- **Road Traffic Offences**

Road Traffic Offences comprises of wide range of allegation related to traffic & driving. It includes but not limited to penalty points, tickets and disqualifications. Some offences directly disqualify a person to drive a vehicle.

- **Family Law**

We enter marriages in the hope that the last a lifetime, however we always need to be

prepared for the future as early as possible as anything may happen that we may have not have expected. A pre- and post- nuptial agreement are vital legal.

- **Corporate Law**

Corporate law is the body of laws, rules, regulations and practices that govern the formation and operation of corporations.

- **Commercial Property**

Commercial conveyancing is when someone buys or sells a commercial property or land and the transaction is carried out by a commercial property.

- **Personal Injury**

We're help assist you in personal injury claims. Whether it be a road traffic accident or other, our team will be there to listen to you and assist you to gain the compensation.

- **Wills & Probate**

Wills & Probate is related to matters after someone die. It is for the legal right to deal with property, wealth and other possessions left by departure soul.

- **Landlord & Tenant**

Disputes may arise between landlords and tenants, whether commercial or residential, if you are a Landlord who needs assistance with a troubling.

## Our Fees

At Briton Solicitor, we pride ourselves on offering a transparent and predictable fee structure. We work on a fixed fee basis, meaning that there are no hourly rates or hidden fees to worry about. Once we have assessed your case and determined the level of service you require, we will provide you with a range of fixed fee options to choose from.

Our fees are inclusive of all work set out in the 'Our Services' section of this brochure, including the visa application process. We would like to mention that the minimum fee for an Innovator Founder Visa application is 5000GBP, which includes all the necessary processes for the visa application.

Factors that may affect our fee quote include the seniority of the barrister you wish to instruct, the complexity of the issues in your case, the number of applicants, the volume of supporting documents, and the timeframe for completing the application. However, we assure you that all expenses associated with running a law firm such as telephone calls, photocopying, printing, stationery, document storage, postage, and travel are included in our fee quote.

Please note that our fees do not include costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as Home Office fees and translation/interpretation fees. Where such costs arise, you will be responsible for these,

so that you always know exactly what is being paid and to whom. All fees quoted are exclusive of VAT, and VAT will be added at 20% where this is required by law. However, if you normally reside outside the UK, VAT will not be added.

At Briton Solicitor, we typically work on the basis of payment of our professional fees in two instalments, with 50% due upon commencement and 50% just prior to submission of the application. However, we are also open to alternative instalment plans to suit your needs.

### Briton Solicitors offers

In summary, our services come with the following benefits:

- Fixed fees
- No hourly rates
- All-inclusive service
- Transparent pricing options
- Most expenses included
- Payment by instalments



## Testimonials

Briton Solicitors immigration lawyers have a proven track record of success with entrepreneurs looking to set up businesses in UK.

Mafaz Musthakeem - *"I was literally dealing with MR.ALI AND MR. AHMED from Britain solicitor, regarding my case. I honestly had to say, that the comfort and the friendly manner he dealt with is really impressive. He always went extra miles for my case to make it stronger and stable. Very clear communication always available. I am really pleased with his service."*

Raheel Anjum - *"Muhammad Ali and Ahmad are prompt and friendly. They always went extra mile for my case to make it stronger. Thank you for your timely and promptly response"*

Maaz Riz - *"What can I say about this firm they went above and beyond to resolve my immigration case and thankfully I got my visa. Hats off to Ali one of the best solicitor at this firm he helped me & guided me through out till the day you got my visa I will use them again in future highly recommended."*  
Rizwan Shaukat.

Imran Khan - *"Thanks mr Ahmad and ali got my wife visa you done perfect job we are so happy. Quick service and well response and in futures we will come back inshallah"*

Ramatu Thomas - *"Mr Muhammad Ali and Mr Ahmed have been great in dealing with my sister's immigration matter. They have been very helpful and patient when it comes reassuring us and explaining the procedure. Thank you! Highly recommend Briton Solicitors"*

UK Loafer - *"Mr Muhammad Ali and Mr Ahmed here solicitors are really great! i was recommended by my korean friend and was successfully done! reasonable price and quality! brilliant job! thanks so much and i want to put even 10 stars and i will continue to introduce you to all my friends! appreciate indeed!"*

Rashed U - *"Very Profesional and great communication. Have been twice to Mr Muhammad Shoaib Briton Goodmayes Branch and all my cases have dealt perfectly and swiftly. He is his staff are professional and knowledgeable."*

Adnan Nadeem - *"Adnan Nadeem really happy and satisfied with this firm especially mr Rizwan Ali sort out my complicated case in a very professional manner. Really good in their work and not really expensive aswell. I highly recommend mr Rizwan Ali Briton solicitors. Thanks and best of luck all"*

Ruhul Amin - *"Mr Muhammad Ali is good lawyer and honest person, efficient and got my leave to remain very quickly. Mr Shikeb also worker on my file and answers all my questions properly and explained in details."*

Mameh Sowa - *"Mr Muhammed Ali and Ahmed thank you so much for your excellent professional service, best Lawyers. I will definitely recommend Briton Solicitors to people who have difficulties with immigration matters. Me and my family are very grateful."*







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