

International Recruitment Seminar



International Recruitment Grant Process



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IR Grants



The Government has made funding available to support international recruitment into the adult social care sector during the 2023-24 financial year.

In the South-East region, this will fund a scheme to distribute grants of £1,500 to help CQC registered providers recruit and retain overseas workers.

Application Forms available to download via SESCA website (www.sesca.org.uk)

Applications must be submitted by 15 March 2024



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Eligibility



- Registered with CQC as an adult social care provider.
- Registered CQC location within South-East region's Local Authority areas.
- Overall CQC rating above 'Inadequate'
- Hold / intend to apply for Skilled Worker Visa License and plan to recruit at least one international worker between 1 April 2023, and 15 March 2024.
- Understand and comply with the provisions of the Ethical Recruitment Framework outlined in the Code of Practice.
- Provide work in accordance with the requirements of the Skilled Worker Visa for any recruited international workers.
- Complete the appropriate application form accurately and in full.



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Grant usage



Providers will need to provide evidence of obtaining a sponsorship license or recruiting overseas workers. The grant can be used for:

- Administrative tasks during the application process
- Home Office fees for obtaining a license or certificates of sponsorship
- Services of recruitment agents to find suitable overseas workers
- Legal support or specialist agency services
- Transportation services, including airport pickup
- Transport for workers, such as bicycles, scooters, or driving lessons
- Support for new workers, including admin, training, and peer support / buddying
- English language support for workers
- Support for workers' costs of coming to the UK



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Grant hubs



- Grants are being distributed via four hubs, run by Care Associations in Hampshire, Kent, **Oxfordshire** and Sussex, and providers must apply to the correct hub.

NOTE: Applications submitted to the wrong hub will be rejected and will need to be resubmitted to the correct hub.

Local Authority	Hub
Bracknell Forest	Oxfordshire
Brighton and Hove	Sussex
Buckinghamshire	Oxfordshire
East Sussex	Sussex
Hampshire	Hampshire
Isle of Wight	Hampshire
Kent	Kent
Medway	Kent
Milton Keynes	Oxfordshire
Oxfordshire	Oxfordshire
Portsmouth	Hampshire
Reading	Oxfordshire
Slough	Oxfordshire
Southampton	Hampshire
Surrey	Hampshire
West Berkshire	Oxfordshire
West Sussex	Sussex
Windsor and Maidenhead	Oxfordshire
Wokingham	Oxfordshire



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Applications



- The application form is straightforward to complete, requiring CQC registration details and information relating to previous international recruitment experience.
- Applications will be checked by the receiving hub and a response will be issued to the email address supplied within 14 days.
- If an application is rejected, providers can contact the appropriate hub to appeal. Appeals can be escalated to the central SESCO International Recruitment Project Team, who will make the final decision.
- Should a provider's circumstances change, following an unsuccessful application, they will need to submit a new application.



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Claiming



- Successful providers will be notified by email. The awarding hub will then allocate a £1500 grant to their application.
- This grant will only be issued upon the submission of a claim, with supporting evidence, prior to 15 March 2024.
- The confirmation email will provide instructions on how to make a claim.



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Evidence



- Claims must include PDF evidence of either:
- Award of a new Sponsor Licence
- Allocation of a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) to a new overseas employee
- Contact details for the designated person within the organization for banking information.
- Consent to sharing contact details with the Project Evaluation Team and acknowledgement of potential feedback requests.
- Commitment to cooperate with spot checks by the hub for compliance purposes and adherence to grant conditions.



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Timescales



- Grant claims can be submitted once the provider receives confirmation of a successful application and can provide evidence of being awarded a Sponsorship Licence or allocating a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) to an overseas worker after 31 March 2023.
- The deadline for submitting claims is midday on 15 March 2024.
- Payments will be processed within 2 to 4 weeks from the receipt of the claim, subject to scheduled payment runs.
- Any claims received after midday on 15 March 2024, will not be paid, irrespective of the cause of the delay, including Home Office processing delays.



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And lastly...



- Providers should address any questions to their local grant hub at grants@oacp.org.uk or to the central project team at grants@sesca.org.uk
- Details of the grant hubs, and of the Care Associations in the South-East region, along with their contact information, can be found on the SESCA website: www.sesca.org.uk/grant-application/



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Thank You

