



## UK Visas – Information for Media

The United Kingdom has strict regulations about who needs a visa to enter the UK. If you are a citizen of a country that requires a UK visa (a visa national) you will NOT be allowed to enter the UK without one.

The LOC have provided UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) details of the Championships to ensure that Visa Decision Making Centres are informed about the IAAF World Indoor Championships and the visa applications they can expect to receive. All applications will be subject to the UK's Immigration Rules which are available at [www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-index](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-index).

Visa nationals and non-visa nationals can enter the UK as visitors for the purpose of taking part in sporting events, including as participants, officials, team support staff, accredited media and VIPs, as permitted by the visitor rules. You can find UK Immigration visitor rules at [www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-v-visitor-rules](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-v-visitor-rules).

### Who needs a visa?

Please refer to the table in Appendix 1 for a list of countries whose citizens are visa nationals and require visas to enter the UK. You can also check if you require a visa at [www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa](http://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa).

### What type of visa do I need?

#### Standard Visitor

This visa is suitable for applicants who will be working at the Championships and will NOT be receiving payment from a UK source for any activities undertaken in the UK, except for reasonable expenses to cover the cost of your travel and subsistence. A Standard Visitor visa is valid for six months from date of issue. You can find out more about the Standard Visitor visa at [www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/overview](http://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/overview).

#### Permitted Paid Engagement

This visa is suitable for applicants who will be working at the Championships to undertake a short term activity and will receive payment from a UK source. This visa permits the applicant to remain in the UK for a maximum of one month. You can find out more about the Permitted Paid Engagement visa at [www.gov.uk/permitted-paid-engagement-visa/overview](http://www.gov.uk/permitted-paid-engagement-visa/overview).

#### Tier 5 (Temporary Worker)

This visa is suitable for applicants who will be working at the Championships for a period of longer than one month and will receive payment from a UK source. This visa permits the applicants to remain in the UK for a maximum of 12 months. You can find out more about the Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) visa at [www.gov.uk/tier-5-temporary-worker-creative-and-sporting-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tier-5-temporary-worker-creative-and-sporting-visa).



## How do I apply for a visa?

You need to apply online for a UK visa at [www.gov.uk/apply-uk-visa](http://www.gov.uk/apply-uk-visa) and attend an appointment at a Visa Application Centre (VAC) in person to have biometric information (fingerprints and photograph) taken and to provide supporting documents in hard copy.

There are currently VACs in over 200 locations worldwide but please note that there is not a VAC in every country and you may have to travel to a neighbouring country. You can find your nearest VAC at [www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre](http://www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre).

## When should I apply for a visa?

You can apply for a UK visa a maximum of three months prior to your date of travel – from early December 2017 for the IAAF World Championships. We encourage you to apply as early as possible.

UKVI's standard service for visit visas is 15 working days to decision from providing biometrics at the VAC. Note that your passport is retained during this time. In some countries you may be able to get your visa processed more quickly for a higher fee under UKVI's priority visa scheme.

This 15 working day turnaround time cannot be guaranteed and is dependent on meeting the requirements of the UK's Immigration Rules. Failure to complete the application form correctly or to provide all the required supporting documents may result in your application being delayed or refused.

The last recommended date to provide biometrics at the VAC in order to receive your visa by **29 January 2018**

Please be aware that your nearest VAC may be busy and you may not be able to make an appointment straight away. We therefore recommend that you submit your online application by **22 January 2018**. You can cancel a VAC appointment prior to attending and the visa fee will be refunded to you.

## How much does the visa cost?

The current standard fees for UK visas are as follows. Please note that visa fees may be subject to change.

Standard Visitor	£89
Permitted Paid Engagement	£89
Tier 5 (Temporary Worker)	£235

Some VACs offer a priority service to enable you to get your visa processed more quickly. Note that the costs below are in addition to the standard fee.

Priority (3-5 working days)	£184
Super Priority (24 hours)	£919



Some VACs are User Pay and you will need to pay an additional fee of £55 to attend an appointment at these VACs.

## **Which documents do I need to support my application?**

**Passport** – You need to provide your passport details in the online application and take it with you to your appointment at the VAC. We recommend that your passport is valid for six months beyond your stay in the UK. You will need a page in your passport that is blank on both sides for your visa.

**Visa support letter** – Proof of participation in the IAAF World Indoor Championships will be supplied to you in the form of an official invitation letter from the LOC. You should take a copy of this letter with you when you attend your appointment at the VAC and have it with you to show at the UK Border on arrival in the UK. Official invitation letters will be issued once your accreditation application is approved by the IAAF.

**Financial documents** – You should provide evidence that you have sufficient funds available to support yourself during your trip, e.g. bank statements or proof of earnings from the last six months. If the cost of your trip is being covered by a third party, e.g. your employer, you should provide evidence that this organisation has sufficient funds to cover the cost of your trip.

All documents must be originals and not photocopies. If you submit a document that is not in English it must be accompanied by a full translation.

More information about supporting documents is available at the links below:  
Standard Visitor visa: [www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/documents-you-must-provide](http://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/documents-you-must-provide).  
Permitted Paid Engagement visa: <https://www.gov.uk/permitted-paid-engagement-visa/documents-you-must-provide>  
Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) visa: <https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-temporary-worker-creative-and-sporting-visa/documents-you-must-provide>

## **Any questions?**

If you have any questions relating to visas for the IAAF World Indoor Championships please contact the LOC on [Visa@Birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:Visa@Birmingham.gov.uk).



## APPENDIX 1

Citizens of the countries listed below are visa nationals and require a visa to enter the UK.

**Please note that the location of VACs is subject to change and applicants should check the latest information at [www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre](http://www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre).**

Afghanistan*	Dominican Republic	Laos	Senegal
Albania	Ecuador	Lebanon	Serbia
Algeria	Egypt	Lesotho*	Sierra Leone
Angola	Equatorial Guinea*	Liberia*	Somalia*
Armenia	Eritrea*	Libya*	South Africa
Azerbaijan	Ethiopia	FYR of Macedonia	South Sudan*
Bahrain	Fiji	Madagascar	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	Gabon*	Malawi	Sudan
Belarus	Gambia	Mali*	Suriname*
Benin*	Georgia	Mauritania*	Swaziland*
Bhutan*	Ghana	Moldova	Syria*
Bolivia	Guinea*	Mongolia	Taiwan
Bosnia Herzegovina	Guinea Bissau*	Montenegro	Tajikistan
Burkina Faso*	Guyana	Morocco	Tanzania
Burma	Haiti*	Mozambique	Thailand
Burundi*	India	Nepal	Togo*
Cambodia	Indonesia	Niger*	Tunisia
Cameroon	Iran	Nigeria	Turkey
Cape Verde*	Iraq	Oman	Turkmenistan
Central African Republic*	Ivory Coast	Pakistan	Uganda
Chad*	Jamaica	Palestine	Ukraine
People's Republic of China	Jordan	Peru	United Arab Emirates
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Philippines	Uzbekistan
Comoros*	Kenya	Qatar	Venezuela
Congo*	DPR of Korea**	Russia	Vietnam
Cuba	Kosovo	Rwanda	Yemen*
DR Congo	Kuwait	Sao Tome e Principe*	Zambia
Djibouti*	Kyrgyzstan	Saudi Arabia	Zimbabwe

- The countries marked \* do not currently have a VAC in the country.
- \*\*Applicants in DPR of Korea are not able to apply online and should download a visa application form and guidance notes at [www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/apply](http://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/apply).
- All other countries listed above currently have at least one VAC in the country. There are also VACs in other locations worldwide.