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ISLE OF MAN
BUSINESS MIGRANT VISA
FACT SHEET





INNOVATOR AND START-UP ROUTES

In a bid to increase its economically active population the Isle of Man Government positively welcomes applications for immigration visas. This fact sheet looks at the two options within the Isle of Man Business Migrant Visa – the Innovator or the Start-Up route.

Which one works best for you?

	INNOVATOR ROUTE	START-UP ROUTE
Which visa route is right for me?	For people starting, joining or taking over one or more businesses in the Isle of Man.	For less experienced business people without specified investment funds.
How do I apply?	Applications must be completed online and submitted via an overseas British visa application centre. If you are already in the Isle of Man or UK on a qualifying visa, you may be able to switch to this route without needing to go overseas to apply.	
What happens next?	Applications received will be processed and sent to Isle of Man Passport, Immigration and Nationality Office for a decision.	





	INNOVATOR ROUTE	START-UP ROUTE
What are the key criteria I have to demonstrate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to a minimum of £50,000 to establish, take over or join a business in the Isle of Man – another partner can provide funds or a loan • Applicants must be able to support themselves once on the Isle of Man and prove they have personal savings of at least £945 • English language requirement is level B2 CEFR • You must be endorsed by the Department for Enterprise (DfE) for the length of the visa. The DfE will have regular update meetings at least every six months • One full-time job must be created in the first 12 months and three full-time jobs, in addition to the applicant, must be created within three years • The applicant must be tax resident in the Isle of Man. A detailed business plan is required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The business must be endorsed by the Department for Enterprise (DfE). Your visa may be cut short if your endorsement from the DfE is withdrawn.
How long is an initial grant of visa for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial period is for three years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can stay on the Isle of Man for two years, four months. You cannot extend this visa.
Who will issue the visa?	<p>If you are overseas, the British visa application centre will issue your visa on behalf of the Isle of Man immigration officer. If you are already in the Isle of Man or UK, your visa will be issued directly.</p>	





	INNOVATOR ROUTE	START-UP ROUTE
Can I extend the visa and if so, for how long?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. You can apply to extend for another three years when your visa is due to expire. There is no limit on the number of times you can extend • You may be able to apply for indefinite leave to remain once you have been on the Isle of Man for three years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. This route does not give direct access to indefinite leave to remain – it allows up to two years in the Isle of Man to prove the concept of a new business. It is then possible to switch to the Business Migrant (Innovator) Visa for three further years with the option for indefinite leave to remain.
How can I qualify and apply for indefinite leave to remain in the Isle of Man?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An applicant’s business or businesses must be genuinely based in the Isle of Man and actively trading, holding all necessary registrations, approvals and permissions • An applicant’s business or businesses are compliant with all obligations to the Isle of Man Government in respect of Income Tax, National Insurance and Value Added Tax • An applicant’s business or businesses employ a minimum of three full-time, permanent employees in the Isle of Man, in addition to the migrant, at the time of applying for the Settlement Letter of Endorsement • All employees of the applicant’s business or businesses, including the applicant, are resident in the Isle of Man for the purposes of Income Tax • The applicant intends to continue to operate the business or businesses in the Isle of Man. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can only qualify for indefinite leave to remain by switching to the Innovator route or another qualifying visa. See above.





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Can I accelerate the process of gaining indefinite leave to remain?	No.	
Can I bring my family?	Yes. A spouse or partner and minor children (under 18-years-old) can move with the main applicant. Work is subject to work permits and conditions set out in the Immigration Rules.	
Do I need a work permit in addition to a visa?	The main holder of an Isle of Man Business Migrant visa is likely to be exempt from the requirement to hold a separate Isle of Man work permit. However, dependants may need a work permit.	
What assistance is available to help?	All potential applicants should read the Immigrations Rules see: https://www.gov.im/media/1374630/immigration-rules-from-01-october-2021.pdf	

ILS World has helped many international individuals and their families on all aspects of immigration successfully assisting clients from UAE, Africa, Hong Kong, India and China.





SPECIALIST SUPPORT

Our hard-working specialists understand and are experienced at dealing with the complex issues surrounding immigration and take clients through the process in the shortest possible time and with the least amount of stress.

If you are considering applying for a second residency or passport there are many factors to consider. ILS World helps determine which programme is the most beneficial for each person.

We assist with the whole process from the initial visa application, passport assistance, to the preparation and/or review of business plans, incorporating a company together with legal help for applications, leave to remain and indefinite leave to remain issues.

ILS World has a comprehensive brochure explaining what it is like living and working in the Isle of Man, highlighting its culture and unique heritage, outlining its medical and educational provision and how business is supported.

For further information on relocation, immigration as well as living and working on the Isle of Man please contact:

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