

Mobility: Immigration alert

July 2023

United Kingdom

Visa fees and Immigration Health Surcharge set to increase

Executive summary

On 13 July 2023, the UK Prime Minister announced upcoming “significant increases” in UK visa application fees and the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) to meet the increase in public sector wages.

Key developments

According to reports, once the changes go into effect, a rise of up to 20% in visa application fees is expected, and the IHS (a levy that certain categories of visa applicants must pay to access the UK National Health Services) will increase from GBP 624 to GBP 1,035 per adult applicant per year. The IHS for children under 18, students and Youth Mobility Visa holders will also increase from GBP 470 to GBP 776 per applicant per year. These changes will apply to various categories, including the work and study visa routes.

Further details, including when the new rates will come into force and which visas will be impacted, will be issued by the UK Home Office in the coming months.

Impact on employers

The upcoming changes will increase the costs for employers that hire foreign nationals.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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EYG no. 006979-23Gbl

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