

UK Self Sponsorship

WorkPermitCloud Limited has received numerous queries from talented people across the globe who aspires to work in the UK but have difficulties in finding a sponsor. We would like to tell you that there's another way that you can fulfil your career in the UK without relying on others. You can be your own sponsor, sounds exciting! **All you need to do is to set up a business in the UK and apply for a sponsor license to sponsor yourself.**

WHY IS SELF SPONSORSHIP POSSIBLE?

In the past, there was a restriction of a maximum 10% shareholding of the company if you would like to apply for a Tier 2 visa. However, since the Skilled Worker Visa scheme replaced the Tier 2 visa on 1 Dec 2020, there are no restrictions on shareholdings anymore. This means you can come to the UK under a Skilled Worker even if you are the only shareholder.

WHO IS SUITABLE?

- you have a company in the UK
- Or, you've purchased a business in the UK, and you have sufficient resources (skills and financially) to support your business in the UK
- Or, you planning to set up a business in the UK, and have the financial ability to set up the business

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- First, establish a company in the UK
- Next, apply for a sponsor licence
- Last, get the licence and sponsor yourself

WHAT YOU MUST HAVE?

- you must have a **business in the UK**
- you must have the **documents** required for the **Sponsor Licence application**
- you must have an **Authorising Officer in the UK**
- you must have a robust **HR system**

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STEP BY STEP GUIDE FOR SELF-SPONSORSHIP

Step 1: Establish a UK business

To know how to start a business in the UK, please follow the UK government website www.gov.uk/set-up-business.

Step 2: Apply for a sponsor License

To apply for a sponsor license application, you'll need a minimum 4 of the following:

- **PAYE or Account Office reference letter from HMRC (PAYE reference number is mandatory)**
- Minimum 1-month business bank statement, the bank needs to be registered and regulated by the FCA and PRA, Revolut bank is not acceptable.
- Employer liability insurance certificate (minimum employee cover £5 million)
- Copy of Lease OR freehold OR Tenancy agreement
- Copy of regulatory approval, i.e. Health & Safety star rating for food business, ACCA, SRA
- VAT Certificate (if registered)
- SIGNED Annual account (if the business is over 18 months old)

Step 3: Appointing an Authorising Officer

The **Authorising Officer** needs to be your employee whom the Home Office will contact in regard to the application. (Any suitable employee for this role, such as managers/directors, or employee with good communication skills who has knowledge of this application)

The AO needs to be someone who is permanently resident in the UK.

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Step 4:
Have a robust HR system in place

It is mandatory that you have a robust HR system in place to prove that you can comply with the duties as a sponsor. WorkPermitCloud can provide you with our robust HR system to help you comply with the sponsor license guidance from the Home Office. We have hundreds of clients who have managed to comply with the rules and regulations mentioned by the immigration office.

Step 5:
Get your Sponsor License

It usually takes around 8 weeks to get a decision from the Home Office.

Step 6:
Assign CoS to a skilled worker

As there are no restrictions for the shareholdings of a skilled worker, you can assign a CoS to yourself and apply for a skilled worker visa.

WorkPermitCloud can assist you with the CoS allocation.

Step 7:
Apply for a Skilled Worker visa for yourself

Once you got a CoS, you can apply for a skilled worker visa and come to work in the UK.

WorkPermitCloud can help you with visa application, document checking.