



## Long term visas

### **Long term visas.....long term advantages**

We want our most valued customers to keep coming to the UK as the destination of choice and are keen to make it as quick and easy as possible for them to do so. Long term visit visas are perfect for regular business visitors, family visitors or holidaymakers.

With effect from 6 April 2009, the following long term visas are available:

<u>Duration</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2 year:	£215
5 year:	£400
10 year:	£500

### **Why apply for a long term visa?**

- *Flexibility* – they offer multiple visits to the UK within the long validity of the visa.
- *Convenience* - one visa application and one visit to a visa application centre to provide your biometric data for the entire validity of the visa.
- *Value for money* – as a very regular traveller to the UK, it will be cheaper to hold a long term visa than a succession of short term visas.

### **Do I qualify?**

If you are a frequent traveller to the UK or are the spouse or dependant child of someone who is, then you should consider applying for one of UK Border Agency long term visas.

It is important that you are able to demonstrate that:

- you have travelled frequently to the UK and / or other premium destinations, such as Australia, Canada or US, over a long period of time;

- you have a continuing need to travel to the UK, such as family links or an established business connection;
- your personal circumstances are unlikely to change significantly during the validity of the visa and
- you have not been refused a visa, refused entry or been removed from a country on your last visit.

**Please note the following before applying for a long term visa:**

- Your application for a long term visa does not guarantee that you will be issued with the visa you have requested. But if you meet the qualifying criteria above, our staff will normally issue you with the visa for which you have asked.
- UK Border Agency reserves the right to issue visas of shorter validity when they consider this to be appropriate.
- If you are applying for a UK visa for the first time, you will not normally qualify for a long term visa and you would be expected to apply for a standard 6 month visa. A 5 or 10 year visa would normally be issued to a customer with an extensive immigration history. A successful 10 year visa applicant would usually have held a 5 or 10 year UK visa previously.
- In the event that you are not issued with the length of visa requested you will not be refunded the difference in fees. Please do not apply for a longer term visa unless you are confident that you qualify.
- A long term visa granted to a minor will expire 6 months after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. For example: if a 14 year old applies for a 5 or 10 year long term visa the UK Border Agency may only grant a visa valid until 6 months past their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. No refund will be given if you apply for a longer visa than can be issued.