After 5 April 2019 University of Glasgow will offer business development support and endorsements for the Start Up visa route – this will replace the Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur visa and is for prospective business founders who wish to start up a business in the UK for the first time. Your business plan must meet the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Innovation:</th>
<th>Viability:</th>
<th>Scalability:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A genuine business plan that meets new or existing market needs and/or creates a competitive advantage.</td>
<td>Applicant has the necessary skills, knowledge, experience and market awareness to successfully run the business.</td>
<td>Evidence of structured planning and of potential for job creation and growth into national and international markets.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should work closely with Student Enterprise to develop the proposal and formulate a business plan. This will then be assessed and considered by an experienced panel before to determine whether a Start-Up endorsement will be offered by University of Glasgow.

University of Glasgow have a limited number of endorsements to offer to students who successfully complete their business development and panel meeting – the endorsement will allow you make an application for the Start Up visa.

To discuss your business proposal and to make an initial appointment with the University's Enterprise Manager please e-mail: marion.anderson@glasgow.ac.uk. Once the Start Up visa has been granted, you must agree to a monitoring programme which is designed to help you develop and grow the business.

**How long will the Start Up visa be for?:** You can expect to be granted the following length of time on your Start Up visa:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of applicant:</th>
<th>Length of Start Up visa:</th>
<th>Future potential visa options:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application to switch into Start Up visa (current visa is not Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Start Up visa holders will be expected to switch into the main Innovator route after 2 years if you wish to continue developing your businesses in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application to switch into Start Up visa from a 1st year Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur visa*</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>If your Tier 1 GE visa is endorsed by UoG and the Start Up visa is also endorsed by UoG your business ideas will not need to meet new Start-up criteria for “innovation” and “scalability”.</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**When should I apply?**

- ✓ After current course has ended
- ✓ Within 3 months of the date on the endorsement letter
- ✓ On or before current visa expiry date (if applying inside UK)
- ✓ Within the 3 months before the date you will travel (if applying outside the UK)

If you apply to switch into the Start-up in the UK, so long as the application was submitted before your visa expiry date, you will be covered by Section 3C Leave until a decision is made on your application and can stay in the UK legally during this time under the conditions of your current visa.
Money required:

Immigration Health Surcharge: IHS is paid as part of submitting the online form and will cost £400 for each year of the length of Start-Up visa you will receive (£800 for the full 2-year Start-Up visa, or, £400 if switching into the Start-Up visa from a the 1st year of a Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur visa).

Visa processing fees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside the UK:</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Super Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£493 (8 weeks for decision</td>
<td>£970 (5 days for decision</td>
<td>£1103 (1 working day for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>plus 7 working days for</td>
<td>plus 7 working days for</td>
<td>decision plus 7 working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>new BRP)</td>
<td>new BRP)</td>
<td>days for new BRP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside the UK:</td>
<td>£363 (plus value added</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>services)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maintenance: £945 held for at least 90 full and consecutive days before and including the date you submit your visa application form.

Overview of documents required:

- ✓ Current visa (if applying inside the UK).
- ✓ Current passport – must have at least one blank page.
- ✓ TB screening – only for applications made outside the UK from relevant countries and if you have been outside the UK for more than 6 months.
- ✓ If sponsored for fees and living costs within last 12 months – letter of no objection from sponsor (must match Policy Guidance requirements, Annex G).
- ✓ Police Registration Certificate (if current visa says you are required to register)
- ✓ English Language: You do not need to prove your knowledge of English if you’ve already proved it to be level B2 or above in an earlier successful visa application (e.g. if you have received a qualification from studying in the UK on a Tier 4 visa at UG level or higher).
- ✓ Endorsement Letter from University of Glasgow plus any certificates stated on endorsement letter & evidence of English language ability (if you are endorsed by the same university that awarded your degree (e.g. University of Glasgow), your endorsement is the only required evidence of your qualification).
- ✓ Evidence of maintenance: You will need to prepare documents in your name showing the maintenance has been held in a “personal” bank account and not a business bank account. See Immigration Rules Part W3.9 "Maintenance Funds".
- ✓ Currency conversions: if bank statements are not in GBP they must be accompanied by currency conversions made on www.oanda.com.
- ✓ Any documents not in English must be accompanied by a fully certified translation by a professional translator / translation company. Ask the translation company to confirm in writing on the translation:
  - that it’s a ‘true and accurate translation of the original document’
  - the date of the translation
  - the full name and contact details of the translator or a representative of the translation company
When can I operate my business? You can start operating your business once you receive the Start-Up visa – remember to register with HMRC. If your Start-Up visa application is unsuccessful you must stop operating your business as soon as you are notified of this by the UKVI.

Work on a Start Up visa: you will be able to undertake employment as well as working for your business to financially support yourself. See the employment conditions in Immigration Rules Part W2.2 “Employment conditions of grant”.

Study on a Start Up visa: study is permitted – see Immigration Rules Part 15 if the study requires an ATAS certificate.

PBS Dependants: your spouse and children may be able to apply for a Dependant visa - please see the PBS Dependant Policy Guidance. Maintenance is £630 held for 90 or more consecutive days.

Students currently holding a Tier 1 Graduate Entrepreneur visa:

You will be able to switch into the new Start-up route if you have not yet extended your Tier 1 GE visa (i.e. for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year).

It is not possible to switch into the Start Up visa if you have already been granted a 2\textsuperscript{nd} year on a Tier 1 GE visa. If you have already extended your Tier 1 GE visa for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year when the Start Up route is introduced, the Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) route will be available for you to apply to switch into – please see the Tier 1 Entrepreneur Policy Guidance.

Any questions? Contact us at International Student Support:

- e-mail us at internationalstudentsupport@glasgow.ac.uk
- Book an appointment with ISS via your online My Glasgow account or by calling 0141 330 2912.
- You will need to book an ISS Adviser appointment to have your Start Up visa application form and supporting documents checked before submitting these.