

EAST MIDLANDS INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT

December 23 Update



I would like to thank everyone involved in this project for your continued support since its launch, but thanks especially go to the regions care providers and your staff for your dedication and commitment to the sector and its service users. As we head in to 2024 we will continue to support you in any way we can, especially with the pending changes in government legislation. We ask that you continue to share details of the project with your workforce and colleagues to ensure we are able to continue the success of the project to all those that may need it.

*Can I take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year - Melanie Weatherley MBE,
Regional Project Lead & Chair of Lincolnshire Care Association*

Important Information

On Monday 4th December, the Home Secretary James Cleverly MP announced a number of measures to reduce legal immigration.

The key change for our workforce is that from April 2024 Senior Care Workers and Care Workers will no longer be able to bring their families with them. This may make us less attractive as a destination for International Recruits, this does not affect existing dependents who have a valid visa and have arrived in the UK.

You may also have heard that from next spring, the government will increase the earning threshold for overseas workers by nearly 50% from its current position of £26,200 to £38,700. As you may know the earning threshold does not apply to our sector. For clarity, there is *no expectation* that recruits to the care workforce will be paid £38,700. It is expected that the minimum pay due to sponsored workers in the care sector will increase, but there has been no announcement of the new rates.

We don't know yet what impact the new measures will have on individuals who change jobs within the sector but as soon as we have further details, we will share these with you.

We would welcome any comments that you hear from your existing or potential recruits. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you want to discuss this with us. You may have experienced UKVI asking for more information about your vacancies when requesting additional Certificates of Sponsorship. We are working with DHSC and UKVI to update the guidance on what is required. If you have any examples of issues raised by UKVI please let us know.

Grant Funding



Have you held a Sponsorship Licence since 1st April 2023? Did you know you can apply for up to £2,500 to support with the cost of the licence fee and any administration costs you may have incurred?

Have you hired any international recruits since 1st April 2023? You could claim £250 per individual to directly support them with any costs they may have incurred since moving to the UK. This could include rent, utility bills, clothing, household items, travel costs to meet with family/ friends etc

Don't delay, [apply here!](#)

Workforce Development Fund



It's fantastic news that the Department of Health and Social Care has confirmed the use of the Workforce Development Fund (WDF) to support the development of internationally recruited individuals and those on Health and Social Care Visas. This acknowledgment is pivotal in aiding the growth and progress of individuals in these roles. There are two application routes to access the WDF which depends on where you're located. Through both routes you must sign up before 29th February 2024, and claims must be submitted to Skills for Care by 31st May 2024 to access the fund.

Information with regards the WDF can be found [here](#).



We will be hosting a webinar, **19th December 2023** at 2:00pm focusing on Mock Home Office Inspections with Wilkin Chapman.

During the webinar, we aim to cover any questions you might have surrounding the topic, and give providers a walk through guide on the compliance using the skills and knowledge of guest speakers Tom Martin & Emily Hand.

We will then look to send out our comprehensive support guide after the webinar.

Should you wish to attend, please register [here](#).

wilkin chapman llp
solicitors

Any questions? Email: info@eastmidscare.co.uk

Christmas Period

During the festive season, there'll be limited staff available, with priority given to urgent queries. As a heads-up, we'll pause grant application processing. To ensure timely handling, kindly submit all applications by Wednesday, December 20th, by 12 pm. This allows us to gather any needed information for processing before the shutdown. If you have any urgent matters or queries, we'll be ready to assist!



**citizens
advice**

**North East
Lincolnshire**

The Citizens Advice are available to help if you have any issues with regards to living and working in the UK. Please contact them [here](#).



After the huge success of our last conference in October!

The next in-person conference is on **4th March 2024** at:
Hilton East Midlands Airport.

This event is free for providers

Guest speakers to be announced.

— JOIN OUR —
TEAM

Do you live in Derbyshire, Leicestershire or Northamptonshire?
Are you interested in working with the International Recruitment project?
Minimum 20 hours a week, predominantly working from home.
Please get in touch for more information:
info@eastmidscare.co.uk



 **YouTube**



Stay ahead with the latest news and opportunities in international recruitment! Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and subscribe to our [YouTube](#) channel. You can also visit our [website](#) for regular updates and industry insights!

Merry Christmas
to one and all

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