

Clintons.

Price and service transparency –
Immigration

Services

Our highly regarded Immigration team offers personalised, tailored immigration advice and assistance to both individual clients and businesses. We work with clients in all sectors and industries, ranging from high profile artists, entertainers, creative and tech start-ups and individual entrepreneurs, crossing the Atlantic in one direction or the other, to multinational publicly listed companies moving personnel to their offices in the US or the UK. We also advise individual clients who wish to visit, study or join family in either country. Additionally, we assist with a wide range of US and UK nationality matters.

Solicitors

Our team has a wealth of expertise in all aspects of US and UK immigration and nationality law. Members of the team are involved in many industry organisations including the American Immigration Lawyers Association ("AILA"), International Bar Association ("IBA"), American Bar Association ("ABA"), Immigration Law Practitioners Association ("ILPA") and British American Business ("BAB"). Diana Okoeva, admitted to the practice of law as an Attorney in New York, NY, and as a Solicitor in England and Wales, is the head of the practice and the immigration team bios are here:

- Diana Okoeva
- Natasha Hotson
- Margot Sacré

Timeframes

Timeframes in immigration matters largely depend on the complexity of each individual case and the processing times of the involved government bodies. We will always use our expertise to advise you on the anticipated timeframes for each particular matter.

Our team is able to undertake work on an expedited basis where necessary and as appropriate and is able, where the circumstances and instructions facilitate, to advise on, prepare and submit applications within tight timeframes. Fees will reflect this and will be discussed and agreed upon with you in advance.

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Clintons is a Partnership. Its only partners are Clintons LLP and C Legal LLP. Clintons is authorised and regulated as a licensed body by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (whose regulations can be found at www.rules.sra.org.uk) with number 00045165. None of our lawyers (including Principals) are partners of Clintons.

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Key Stages

It is impossible to provide an exact template of all stages involved in an immigration matter. Each application is considered and prepared on its own facts and merits and may involve more or less stages than any other application. For guidance sake, the work we undertake on your behalf may involve some or all of the following steps:

- Taking your initial instructions and discussing your circumstances in detail (including any previous immigration history).
- Considering, advising and discussing the relevant and appropriate options open to you.
- Reviewing instructions and any previous applications.
- Providing further advice with regard to specific requirements of a particular petition or application to be made.
- Advising on the criteria, processes, timeframes and documents with respect to each specific petition or application.
- Advising on, reviewing and considering the necessary supporting evidence that will need to be provided for submission with a petition or an application.
- Preparation of the petition or application and submission to the relevant government entity.
- Preparing you with respect to any interview and/or appointment.
- Attending a related appointment/interview with you.
- Monitoring of the submitted petition or application and liaising with the government in respect to it.
- Liaising with all appropriate parties at all stages of the matter by meetings, phone, email and/or correspondence.
- Follow up advice and assistance on any processed petition or application as appropriate and providing any advice as applicable on future steps and/or petitions or applications that need to be made in the future.

The number of hours that will need to be spent on any individual matter depends on the nature of the instructions given, the complexity of the application, the preparation of the petition or application and supporting documentation (including advising on missing information and/or documentation and how long it takes to obtain said supporting documents or information).

It is also difficult to guarantee at what point in your case we will be able to submit your application, as it will depend on your personal circumstances, the nature of the case and the supporting documents. However, we will process your application as swiftly and as prudently as possible, taking into account all the circumstances of your own case so as to ensure the best possible outcome in all the circumstances with all surrounding factors.

Fees

Please note that the information below is for guidance only. Each and every petition or application is different and the fees stated are provided as an average range. These quotes are not binding.

All fees quoted are exclusive of VAT and disbursements, which will be applied as appropriate.

Legal fees

Our team's hourly rates range, based on post qualification and specialist experience, between £215 per hour for legal support staff to £600 per hour for principals. This excludes VAT.

The number of hours spent on each matter will depend on, amongst other things:

- The complexity of instructions and particular circumstances of an individual case.
- Complex or adverse immigration history, including previous refusals.
- Criminal record or history of past transgressions.
- The complexity and production of supporting documentation and information.
- Whether an application requires to be expedited.
- How long it takes the relevant government body to process the application.
- The number of people being included in the petition or the application.
- The nature of the application.
- The country where the application is being processed.
- Changes in immigration laws and processes.

In certain cases, upon review of the relevant background and instructions, we may be able to offer certain fixed fees detailed below. The fee guidance below is for the main applicant only and is not binding. Fees for any dependent applications will be added separately.

US immigration petitions and applications

- USCIS petitions - £3,000 - £15,000.
- USCIS applications - £1,000 - £5,000.
- Consular applications - £1,000 - £10,000.

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UK self-sponsored applications

- Entrepreneur - £4,000 - £8,000.
- Global Talent Exceptional Talent/Exceptional Promise - £4,000 - £10,000.
- Innovator £4,000 - £8,000
- Investor - £5,000 - £12,000.

UK Skilled Worker, Global Business Mobility applications and Tier 5 Creative routes

- Visa Application (after the Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") has been assigned) - £1,600 - £2,500.

We can also assist with the CoS application and will advise as to our fees accordingly.

UK Tier 5 applications

- Creative & Sporting Visa application (after the Tier 5 Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") has been assigned) - £1,600 - £2,000
- Youth Mobility Visa application - £2,000 - £2,500
- Government Authorised Exchange Visa application (after the Tier 5 Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") - £2,000 - £2,500
- International Agreements Visa application (after the Tier 5 Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") - £2,000 - 2,500
- Charity and Religious Workers Visa application (after the Tier 5 Certificate of Sponsorship ("CoS") has been assigned) - £1,600 to £2,000

We can also assist with the CoS application and will advise as to our fees accordingly.

UK Visitor's Visa applications

- Standard Visitor Visa - £2,500 - £3,000+ - depending on the sub-category and complexity
- Marriage Visitor Visa - £2,500 - £3,000+ - depending on complexity
- Permitted Paid Engagement Visa £2,000 - £3,000+ - depending on complexity

Applications under the UK Immigration Rules

- UK Ancestry Visas - £2,500 - £3,000+ - depending on complexity
- Domestic Workers in private households - £2,500 - £3,500+ - depending on complexity
- Dependent relative - £2,000 - £3,000+ - depending on complexity
- Fiancé(e) -£3,000 - £4,000+ - depending on complexity
- Spouse, Civil Partner and Unmarried Partner - £4,000 - £8,000

- Long residence - £3,000 - £6,000+ - depending on complexity
- Applications for Indefinite Leave to Remain/Settlement - £2,500 - £4,500+ - depending on complexity
- Applications to become British by either Naturalisation or Registration - £3,000 - £6,000+ - depending on complexity

Disbursements

All fee ranges indicated above are for this firm's legal costs only. They do not include any third-party costs, known as disbursements, which will be added to the legal costs. Disbursements include, but are not limited to:

- Any fees paid to the US or the UK government for filing the relevant petition or application, including but not limited to:
 - US or UK visa fees.
 - USCIS filing and premium processing fees.
 - UK Immigration Health Surcharge fees.
 - Biometrics fees.
 - UK Premium Service or Priority fees.
- Courier fees.
- Trade union consultation or advisory fees.
- Travel costs to attend an appointment or interview with you.
- Translators' fees.
- Interpreters' fees.
- Independent expert report fees, such as for example a medical expert report.

These costs may not necessarily be incurred in your matter, but if they do need to be included, we will let you know as soon as possible if we consider that they are necessary to your case.

VAT Payable

20% at present, where applicable, on legal fees and some disbursements.

Biographies

Diana Okoeva

Dual qualified as an Attorney in New York and a Solicitor in England and Wales.

Focuses primarily on US immigration and nationality law, advising businesses expanding into the US or growing their US presence or workforce. Works with individual talent and with groups, helping them obtain the required visas to enter the US for filming or performing. Acts for entrepreneurs, seeking to start businesses in the US, investors seeking "green cards" under the investment schemes, and individuals seeking to self-petition for permanent residency in the US based on extraordinary abilities or national interest waivers.

Advises individuals requiring complex waivers of inadmissibility based on previous criminal record, as well as individuals seeking family-based immigrant and non-immigrant visas and other immigration benefits or wishing to acquire or lose US citizenship.

Wide range of clients, including start-ups, owned and managed businesses, large multinational corporations, individual talent, entrepreneurs, and high-net-worth individuals. Practice spans across sectors, with concentration in tech, media, entertainment and creative sectors, as well as oil and gas, retail, manufacturing and professional services.

Active member of and a frequent speaker at the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), and regularly volunteers her time on AILA committees, chairing the last two biennial AILA RDC/EMEA London conferences and now serving on the fall 2018 South Africa conference committee.

Before Clintons, headed the US immigration practice at Lewis Silkin, having practiced immigration law at firms in London and in the US. Before starting her career as an immigration lawyer, she worked for a number of years as an international lawyer for the Armenian government.

Enjoys travelling and gastronomic experiences and is a loyal Friend of the Royal Opera House.

Natasha Hotson

Natasha leads the firm's UK immigration practice.

Advises across the full range of UK immigration and nationality applications and specialises in both business and personal immigration. Recognised as a key lawyer in the Legal 500.

Assists businesses starting up in the UK with sponsor licence and Representatives of Overseas Business applications. Advises established businesses on recruitment into the UK, the Prevention of Illegal Working regime, sponsorship compliance and applications under the Skilled Worker, Global Business Mobility and Tier 5 Creative routes. Moves talent to the UK through the Tier 5 Creative, Exceptional Talent and Permitted Paid engagement routes. Acts for investors, entrepreneurs and innovators. Advises on family-based applications for partners and children of British nationals, settlement, European applications and applications for British citizenship.

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Conducts immigration audits to ensure that clients are not in breach of their compliance obligations and has successfully challenged Civil Penalties, succeeding in waiving fines for illegal working.

Provides bespoke training and guidance to businesses on UK immigration, the sponsorship management system and the immigration implications of Brexit.

Large breadth of clients across industry sectors encompassing talent, start-ups, SMEs, large multinational companies, entrepreneurs and high-net-worth individuals.

Active member of the Immigration Lawyers' Practitioners Association (ILPA). Consults regularly with Home Office policy makers and liaises with industry representative bodies to inform their discussions with government on immigration policy development.

Before Clintons, was a Senior Associate at Lewis Silkin, having specialised in immigration law at leading London law firms since 2004.

Avid theatregoer, occasional surfer and enjoys travel.

Margot Sacré

Margot has a number of years of experience in US immigration, having worked in practices on both sides of the pond. She works with the immigration team, assisting with a variety of US immigration and nationality matters. She works on cases that involve obtaining US visas for talent and crews in the entertainment sector, artists, sports persons, entrepreneurs and a wide spectrum of individuals relocating to the US on a temporary or permanent basis for work or for other reasons. She also assists with matters involving challenging visa refusals or findings of inadmissibility to the US, as well as various US nationality related matters.

Margot holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish with a minor in French. She recently completed the Graduate Diploma in Law at City, University of London, and aspires to become a US lawyer in the future.

Originally from Belgium, Margot speaks Flemish and French. She is also fluent in Spanish. Margot loves horse riding and played on her university polo team.

We are Clintons.

Clintons is an award-winning boutique law firm, based in St. Giles in the heart of London's West End. It is a market leader in the entertainment, digital media and creative industries and is highly regarded for its family, litigation, property and corporate work.

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