

UK: New visa system gives priority to academics

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Academics are to be prioritised in the government's shake-up of the visa system. Under Home Office proposals, the points system for Tier 2 (skilled work) visas will be overhauled to prioritise PhD-level occupations with domestic shortages, including research and higher education teaching positions, writes Paul Jump for *Times Higher Education*.

The changes, which, subject to parliamentary approval, will be introduced on 6 April, will mean that applicants with PhDs or equivalent-level job offers will be prioritised over applicants for lower-level jobs, even if they command much higher salaries.

Imran Khan, director of the Campaign for Science and Engineering, said the new rules represented an important victory for campaigners who had long argued that the UK's international standing in science and engineering was dependent on its ability to attract global talent.

[Full report on the Times Higher Education site](#)