



UK Visas
& Immigration

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30 May 2024

Dear Mr Ratcliffe

Thank you for your enquiry of 30 April. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Information Requested

Can you tell me how many people have been granted high potential individual visas under the scheme that admits graduates from top 50 universities? I would like to know how many visas have been granted to each of the years of graduates allowed under the scheme - such that graduates from 2016 are eligible if under one list of universities, 2017 under another list. I would also like to know which universities the people had graduated from (that being the eligibility criterion). If the data is too small, knowing the countries of the universities that the people had graduated from would be helpful.

Response

Under Section 12(1) of the FOIA, the Home Office is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the appropriate limit.

The cost of locating and collating any relevant information and extracting the information to meet your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The £600 limit is based on work being carried out at a rate of £25 per hour, which equates to 24 hours of work per request.

Please note, we are unable to provide details of which universities each applicant attended. We do not capture the level of information required to address the points raised in your request in a readily reportable format; therefore, to extract this data, we would need to investigate each application manually.

If you were to resubmit a more specific request of narrower scope then we would reconsider it, although we cannot guarantee that any information covered by a narrower request would be disclosed.

If you refine your request, reducing the amount of information you ask for, we will consider it again. However, any request involving a significant amount of manual searching is likely to exceed the cost limit for the reasons explained in this letter.

It might be of further interest to you that the Home Office publishes data on visas in the '[Immigration System Statistics Quarterly Release](#)'. Data on the grants of High Potential Individual (HPI) visas are published in the table 'Vis_D02' of the [detailed entry clearance visas dataset](#). Information on how to use the dataset can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook. The latest data relates up to the end of March 2024.

Information on future Home Office statistical release dates can be found in the '[Research and statistics calendar](#)'.

As the High Potential Individual (HPI) visa was only introduced in 2022, the only published figures are for 2022 and 2023.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference **FOI2024/04251**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

A link to the Home Office Information Rights Privacy Notice can be found in the following link. This explains how we process your personal information:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/information-rights-privacy-notice>

Yours sincerely

J Ogburn
Customer Operations Support Services

We value your feedback, please use the link below to access a brief anonymous survey to help us improve our service to you:

<http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/108105TAZNG>