



UK Visas
& Immigration

UKVI New York



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Objectives

- Overview of UKVI New York covering North America and Caribbean
- Overview of visa processes for students applying to the UK in USA
- Overview of COVID related guidance
- Q&A



Overview & Background

■ Consolidation

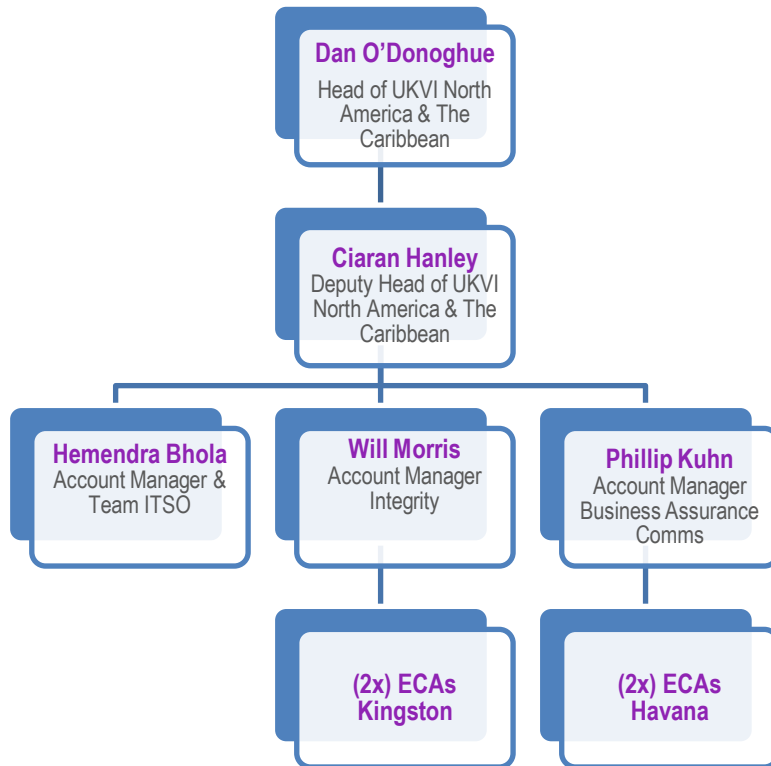
Case working consolidated from New York to thematic teams in UK

What does this mean?

- In terms of process for customers very little
- In terms of turnaround times for applications no change, same CSS apply
- Stakeholder engagement and oversight of visa service, including oversight of commercial partner, stay in region.
- On decision making this means working closely with thematic teams in UK.



Overview & Background



- UKVINewYork.DutyOfficer@fco.gov.uk



How to apply

- **By yourself (Bios taken at an ASC)**
 - ▼ • Complete application online.
 - Pay Visa fee, priority fee (if you want), and IHS fee (if applicable)
 - Select a US Application Support Centre (ASC) to enrol biometrics
 - ▼ • Attend your appointment at the ASC
 - Take your passport and appointment letter
 - ▼ • Mail in your passport and documents to VFS Scanning Hub in NYC.
 - **Always include** a UPS return shipping label. You can also use the Self-Scan option as part of your application journey.
 - If you paid for priority service – please write 'PRIORITY' on the envelope and include priority receipt.
 - ▼ • VFS will scan documents to the UK for assessment
 - Decision communicated to VFS
 - VFS ships back documents to applicant



How to apply

- **At a VFS Premium Application Centre (PAC)**
 - ▼ • Complete application online.
 - Pay Visa fee, priority fee (if you want), and IHS fee (if applicable)
 - Select a VFS Premium Application Centre (PAC) to enrol biometrics
 - ▼ • Attend your appointment at the PAC
 - Take your passport and all documents
 - ▼ • VFS PAC will scan your documents to the UK for assessment
 - You do not need to mail anything to the VFS Scanning Hub
 - PAC staff will advise on options for passport collection
 - Decision communicated to VFS
 - PAC will communicate with applicant on the return/uplift of documents

NOTE: Additional fees apply to use the Premium Application Centres.



Premium Application Centres (PACs)

- Operated by our commercial partner, VFS Global
 - Offer a range of expedited and tailored services
 - 10 locations across the USA
 - Atlanta
 - Boston
 - Chicago
 - Houston
 - Los Angeles
 - Miami
 - New York
 - San Francisco
 - Seattle
 - Washington DC
 - Offers Super Priority, Priority and Standard services packaged with a range of additional services
 - Student Specials (Student Saturdays)
 - On Demand Service
 - **www.vfsglobal.co.uk/us/en**



Premium Application Centres (PACs) – Student Specials

Student Special Standard

Biometric Enrollment
Application and Document Checks
Document Scanning
Return Courier Service

Student Special Priority Visa

Biometric Enrollment
Application and Document Checks
Document Scanning
Return Courier Service
Priority Visa Service

For information on appointment availability and pricing

vfsglobal.co.uk/us/en



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Disclaimer: Please note that the availability and the service charges for the above mentioned services may vary depending upon the country/location where it is procured. The grant or refusal of the visa is at the sole discretion of the Embassy and availing any of the above value-added service/s will not affect the processing time or decision of your visa as VFS Global is neither involved in the process nor is liable or responsible in any manner whatsoever for the grant or rejection of the visa application of any applicant by the Embassy. For further information on the same, kindly refer to the VFS Global website. The above mentioned services will be charged in addition to the visa application fee. The applicant hereby accepts and confirms that they, prior to availing the above mentioned services, have read, understood and agreed to be bound by, without limitation or qualification, all of the terms and conditions associated with the services.



Covid-19 Guidance

For those outside of UK

- All VFS PACs, Scan Hub, and USCIS ASCs are closed
 - Passport and document return
- 30 day vignette expiration
 - To contact Coronavirus Immigration Help Centre
 - Applicants will be contacted when Scan Hub re-opens for vignette affixing

Coronavirus Immigration Help Centre

CIH@homeoffice.gov.uk

Emails must be in English.



Covid-19 Guidance

For sponsors

- No need to report student or employee absences related to coronavirus
- You can continue to sponsor existing Tier 4 students who are continuing their studies through distance learning, whether they are in the UK or another country
- New international students who have not yet applied for a visa but want to start a course by distance learning do not require sponsorship under Tier 4



Finally – Quick Reminders

- Ministers have made it clear that no one's immigration status should be adversely affected by Coronavirus
- For all queries related to coronavirus:
 - CIH@homeoffice.gov.uk



Questions?

