

## UKVI Staff Briefing: Glossary of Terms

- **PBS** Points Based System for immigration. Introduced in 2009 to make Home Office procedures more transparent and objective.
- **Tier....** Refers to the various types of immigration permission and levels. I.e. for study; work; business; internships; investment. Each immigration route has a specific 'Tier'.
- **Sponsor** The name given to Universities and employers who wish to recruit international students and employ overseas staff
- **Licence** The permission given to Universities and staff to do the above. Licences are granted for a limited period and must be renewed. They come with Home Office conditions and expectations.
- **Visa** The document/permission given to international students and workers to Enter and then Remain in the UK. The visa can be a stamp in a passport or a separate id card.
- **Entry Clearance/ Leave to Enter** The 'visa' given to students/workers when they apply overseas. Allows them to enter the UK.
- **Leave to Remain** The 'visa' given to students/workers who wish to extend their stay in the UK.
- **UKVI** UK Visas and Immigration office. Part of the Home Office.
- **Compliance** A list of expectations from the Home Office and duties which Universities must undertake to keep their UKVI licence.
- **Student Visas**
  - Tier 4
  - Short Term Study (STSV)
  - Dependant
- **Visa National** A student from outside the EU/EEA who requires a visa to study.
- **CAS** Certificate of Acceptance for Studies. The Offer letter an University provides to a student to apply for a Tier 4 study visa.
- **CoS** Certificate of Sponsorship. The letter an employer provides to a worker to apply for a work-related visa.
- **BRP** Biometric Residence Permit. The card given to students to prove their visa status. This is separate from the passport.