

Case study

Name: Shen
Nationality: Chinese
Course: BEng Electronic and Electrical Engineering
Transition route: Tier 4 to Tier 2

Describe your current job role

I am a graduate trainee at Jaguar Land Rover. It's been a great year with fixed feelings and lots of memories. I've been to different areas within the business and challenged myself with tasks that I've never done before. JLR is a great company to work for.

Do you have any hints and tips about applying for a visa/making the transition?

I am on a Tier 2 visa. The application process doesn't vary very much from a Tier 4 visa. The company first applied for a Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) number on my behalf, and then with that CoS document I submitted my application to the UK Embassy. When applying for a Tier 2 visa, it is very important to know that your sponsor has a good credit rating and can offer you a salary that meets the minimum salary requirement. Obviously, if you have a visa that already allows you to work in the UK it will be very helpful in finding a job. Having a PhD degree also makes an international student more recruitable as a contractor (who can then be transferred to a permanent role), which means the company will sponsor your visa.