Requirements for ‘Exceptional Talent’ and ‘Exceptional Promise’

**Exceptional Talent (leader)**

**Mandatory**
- The applicant must be an active researcher in a relevant field, typically within a university, research institute or within industry;
- The applicant must have a PhD or equivalent research experience (including industrial or clinical research);
- The applicant must provide a letter of personal recommendation from an eminent person resident in the UK supporting the Tier 1 visa application.
- The applicant must meet one or more of the following Qualifying Criteria below.

**Qualifying Criteria:**
- Be a member of their national academy or a foreign member of academies of other countries (in particular any of the UK national academies);
- Have been awarded a prestigious internationally recognised prize;
- Provide a letter of recommendation from a reputable UK organisation concerned with research in the applicant’s field. The letter must be written by an authorised senior member of the organisation, such as a Chief Executive, Vice-Chancellor or similar.

**Exceptional Promise (potential leader)**

**Mandatory**
- The applicant must be an active researcher in a relevant field, typically within a university, research institute or within industry;
- The applicant must have a PhD or equivalent research experience (including industrial or clinical research);
- The applicant must provide a letter of personal recommendation from an eminent person resident in the UK supporting the Tier 1 visa application
- The applicant must be at an early stage in their career;
- The applicants must have been awarded, hold, or have held in the past five years, a prestigious UK-based Research Fellowship, or an international Fellowship or advanced research post judged by the endorsing bodies to be of equivalent standing.