

Understanding Discretionary Leave Extensions

Discretionary Leave to Remain (DLR) is a form of temporary permission granted under exceptional circumstances when an applicant does not qualify for protection under asylum or other immigration categories. If your initial period of leave is coming to an end, it is essential to apply to extend Discretionary Leave to Remain before it expires to avoid becoming an overstayer.

An extension allows you to maintain lawful status and, in many cases, continue progressing toward settlement under the long residence rule.

When and How to Apply for an Extension

Applications to extend Discretionary Leave must typically be submitted within 28 days before expiry of your current leave. Key steps include:

- Using the correct application form, such as FLR(HRO), tailored to human rights-based claims.
- Preparing up-to-date documentation, including evidence of ongoing personal circumstances that justify continued leave.
- **Demonstrating compliance** with previous visa conditions (no breaches or criminal convictions).
- Highlighting UK ties, such as family life, employment, education, or medical needs.

It is highly advisable to seek legal advice to ensure your application aligns with current UK immigration rules and evidentiary standards.



Criteria Considered by the Home Office

When reviewing a request to extend discretionary leave, the Home Office assesses:

- Whether the original reasons for granting leave are still valid.
- Any changes in personal or country-specific conditions.
- Human rights implications, especially under Article 8 (right to private and family life).
- Your conduct, including tax compliance, integration, and contribution to UK society.

Long-Term Residency and ILR

Repeated successful extensions of DLR may eventually lead to <u>Indefinite Leave to Remain</u> (ILR), typically after 10 years of continuous lawful residence. Timely applications and careful record-keeping are crucial throughout the process.



Support from Visa and Migration Ltd

At Visa and Migration Ltd, we offer comprehensive support for individuals seeking to extend discretionary leave to remain. Our experienced legal team ensures that your application is robust, accurate, and fully compliant with immigration policy.

We handle the complexities—so you can focus on building your future in the UK with confidence.



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