

Social Workers' Benevolent Trust

May 2021

Emergency Relief for Internationally Qualified Social Workers arriving in the UK and their Dependents

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to recognise the need for the SWBT to be able to respond quickly in the event of the arrival in the UK of internationally qualified social workers who need immediate assistance.

This policy establishes an emergency route for help for internationally qualified social workers who are not eligible under our main scheme.

1. The Emergency Relief Scheme

1.1 The trustees agree to establish an Emergency Relief Scheme for internationally qualified social workers who arrive in the UK, but who are not recognised as qualified by the UK regulators.

1.2 This would normally be a single one-off payment to an internationally qualified social worker or their dependents.

1.3 The “need of relief and hardship” would be determined by their status entering the country, plus a statement of income and accessible savings.

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1.4 Eligibility would be determined by the self-declaration of the applicant that they hold a professionally recognised social work qualification and have worked as a social worker prior to entering the UK, or were dependant on such a person.

1.5 Applicants would be able to apply for partners, widows/widowers, dependent children or any other dependents of the above or their estate.

1.6 The SWBT application form would need to be completed by the applicant or their dependent. Third party organisations or individuals can assist applicants.

1.7 Any background information and documentation and/or formal application for a payment which cannot be provided in English will be translated at the expense of SWBT.

1.8 Decisions on applications will be made using the current SWBT Emergency Application procedure.

1.9 Payments will normally be paid by cheque or direct to the bank account of the applicant or their dependent.

1.10. SWBT will identify money within its budget to support this scheme.