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| **Item no** | **Information** | **Purpose** | **Location** |
| 1 | ST3s and visas - Home Office 12 month extension | For information | Detail below |

**Item 1**

**ST3s and visas - Home Office 12 month extension**

Dear all,

Further to my email below, just to clarify we are not suggesting that ST3s seek an extension to their GP training to obtain the 12 month visa extension.  This should only apply to those who require an extension for educational reasons agreed as part of their GP training programme.

Kind regards,

**Terry Price**

**Programme and Policy Manager (GP Recruitment)**

NHS England and NHS Improvement

**From:** PRICE, Terry (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT - X24)   
**Sent:** 19 April 2021 09:43  
**Subject:** ST3s and visas - Home Office 12 month extension

Dear all,

You may have noted that the Home Office recently announced that due to the pandemic they would be offering an automatic 12 month visa extension this year for international staff working in the NHS.

Although welcome this does seem to be causing some confusion amongst GP trainees, and I thought it would be helpful to clarify the rules in case you receive any queries on this.

Unfortunately the 12 month extension **does not** apply to those ST3s who will be completing their GP training this year. It only benefits those international staff that will be remaining with the same employer and sponsor. Obviously this does not apply to ST3s because HEE is not currently able to act as their sponsor once they obtain their CCT. ST3s obtaining their CCTs in the summer will still need to obtain a new visa with a employer able to offer sponsorship.

The 12 month visa extension does however benefit any ST3 that extends their GP training and has to delay their CCT date – in these circumstances the ST3 will be eligible for the 12 month visa extension and will not therefore need to fund a new visa to cover their extended training period.

We’ll be make sure we build this messaging into our planned comms and engagement with sponsored ST3s over the next few months.

Please do let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

**Terry Price**

**Programme and Policy Manager (GP Recruitment)**

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**Please note that I usually work flexibly and may not be contactable in the afternoon after 2pm**