Amateur FA Football Services Guides

International Clearance

# What is it?

Payers can only be registered with one national association at a time. Clubs must therefore request international clearance for:

* Any player who has previously been registered abroad; or
* The first time an overseas national registers with a club in England.

**This applies at all levels of football and includes players previously registered for a club in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland.**

# Are there any age restrictions?

International clearance must be requested for any player **over the age of ten**.

Players under the age of 18 are also subject to the provisions of FIFA Article 19, under which international transfers are only allowed when:

* The player is moving to this country with his parents for non-football reasons; or
* The player’s residence and new club are within 50km of a national border (e.g. Wales)

Please refer to The FA’s guidance notes for international clearances for further information and documentation required for the application.

# How do we request international clearance?

An [application form](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Csbrown%5COneDrive%20-%20The%20Football%20Association%5CWebsite%20Files%5Cinternational-clearance-request-form%202022.pdf) must be sent directly to The FA at Registrations@TheFA.com along with a copy of the player’s passport photo page/national identity card. Forms can be downloaded from our website or requested from the Football Services Team.

# What happens next?

The FA will contact the relevant National Association and request an International Transfer Certificate (ITC). National Associations have 30 days to issue an ITC; after that time The FA can provide provisional clearance.

Please note that **The FA will contact the club directly.** County FAs have no involvement in this process so we are unable to request assistance or fast track your application.

**The player is not allowed to play until this clearance is received.**