

## International Clearance

### *What is it?*

Players 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 must be sent directly to The FA at [Registrations@TheFA.com](mailto: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.**

### *Where I can find out more information?*

More information can be found on our website at or by contacting [Alastair Kay](#).