

VISA PAK ISSUE 420 — 11 OCTOBER 2019

REQUESTS FOR CHANGE OF FIRST ENTRY DATE ON TEMPORARY ENTRY CLASS VISAS

This item is to clarify the correct process for applicants requesting to vary their first entry date on their temporary visa while still offshore.

Immigration Instruction [E3.25\(b\)\(ii\)](#) states that following the grant of a temporary entry class visa, an immigration officer may vary or cancel conditions that would otherwise apply to a visa of that class or type or which were imposed when the visa was granted.

If applicants wish to vary their first entry date, they will need to lodge a Variation of Travel Conditions (VOTC) application by completing an INZ 1020 and paying the applicable fee. Currently, there is no section on the form that is appropriate for this situation. A change request is being considered to amend the form and include a section relevant to this type of request.

Until the form is amended, the applicant should provide a cover letter with their application form with the following information:

- date the first entry currently expires
- the proposed date of entry
- stated reasons why they need to vary their first date of entry and include evidence

Assessment of this application is still subject to meeting instruction [E3.26\(c\)](#):

A variation of conditions will only be granted where the varied conditions still meet the objectives of the instructions which the visa was granted under.

Examples of such situations and evidence we might expect:

- For a Student visa, we would expect a letter of confirmation from the educational institute that the applicant can start at a later date or school intake
- For a Work Visa Employer Specific, we would expect evidence that the employer has agreed to a later start date and the reason for the change
- For a Visitor Visa or Open Work Visa, we would expect evidence for the need to travel at a later date, provided that the purpose of the visa can still be met