
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) Regulations 2006 (the “2006 Regulations”) to enable biometric information to be taken from persons accredited for the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games who would usually be required to apply for a visa and therefore have their biometric information taken as visa nationals. When Her Majesty’s Government signed the Host City Contract for the Games it gave a commitment that in specified circumstances there would be no requirement for certain holders of an accreditation card to apply for a visa before travelling to the United Kingdom. As such, these Regulations are necessary to enable UK Border Agency to maintain the current level of checks of biometric information on all visa nationals.

Regulation 3 of these Regulations expands the definition of “application” in the 2006 Regulations to include the applications mentioned in regulation 3. A person making an application may be required to provide a record of their fingerprints and a photograph of their face in accordance with the 2006 Regulations.

Regulation 5 of these Regulations amends the process by which an applicant’s fingerprints and photograph are obtained and recorded to allow an authorised person to take fingerprints or a photograph of the face at any place other than a British Diplomatic mission or British Consular post or a Diplomatic mission or Consular Post of another state.

An impact assessment of the effect that these Regulations will have on the costs of the public sector is available from UK Border Agency website at www.UKBA.homeoffice.gov.uk and is annexed to the Explanatory Memorandum which is available alongside the Regulations on the OPSI website.