

Photograph quality

The photographs must be:

- no more than 6-months old
 - 35–40mm in width
 - close up of your head and top of your shoulders so that your face takes up 70–80% of the photograph
 - in sharp focus and clear
- of high quality with no ink marks or creases



too close



too far away



blurred



ink marked/creased



looking away



unnatural skin tones



too dark



too light



washed out colour



pixelated

The photographs must:

- show you looking directly at the camera
 - show your skin tones naturally
- have appropriate brightness and contrast
 - be printed on high quality paper, and at high resolution Photographs taken with a digital camera must be high quality colour and printed on photo-quality paper.

Style and lighting

The photographs must:

- be colour neutral
- show your eyes open and clearly visible—no hair across your eyes
- show you facing square on to the camera, not looking over one shoulder (portrait style) or tilted, and showing both edges of your face clearly
- be taken with a plain light-coloured background
- be taken with uniform lighting and not show shadows or flash reflections on your face and no red eye



hair across eyes



eyes closed



portrait style



eyes tilted



busy background



not centred



flash reflection on skin



redundant



shadows behind head



shadows across face



dark tinted lenses



flash reflection on lenses



Glasses and head covers

If you wear glasses:

- the photograph must show your eyes clearly with no flash reflection off the glasses, and no tinted lenses (if possible, avoid heavy frames— wear lighter framed glasses if you have them)
- make sure that the frames do not cover any part of your eyes.



frames too heavy



frames covering eyes



Head coverings:

- are not permitted except for religious reasons, but your facial features from bottom of chin to top of forehead and both edges of your face must be clearly shown.



wearing a hat



wearing a cap



Expression and frame

Your photographs must:

- show you alone (no chair backs, toys or other people visible), looking at the camera with a neutral expression and your mouth closed.



face covered



shadows across face



shows another person



mouth open and toy too close to face

