



Short-term study in the UK

Essential information for those wanting to apply for a Student Visitor Visa

This leaflet is for students from outside the European Economic Area who want to come to the UK as a student visitor



The UK has the best choice of English language courses anywhere in the world and its qualifications are recognised wherever you go. This leaflet has been designed to provide you with some useful information about the Student Visitor Visa and Extended Student Visitor Visa routes.

Always visit our website www.gov.uk/uk-visas-immigration, for detailed and up-to-date guidance before proceeding with your application.

Who can apply for a Student Visitor Visa?

You can apply for a student visitor visa if:

- Your course of study lasts 6 months or less, and is at a college that holds a sponsor licence under Tier 4 of the points-based system or is accredited by a Home Office-approved body;
- You do not want to work in the UK or take a course-related work placement;
- You have no intention of extending your stay in the UK.

You will need to apply for a visa if you are a 'visa national' - which means that you are from a country whose citizens need visas to enter the UK.

If you are a non-visa national you can travel to the UK as a student visitor without applying for a visa beforehand. At the UK border you will need to provide evidence to

show that you are a genuine student visitor who meets the requirements of the UK Immigration Rules. This includes your return ticket; evidence that you intend to leave the UK at the end of your stay; that you have enrolled on a course; and that you have enough money to pay for your stay. You must comply with the conditions of your entry to the UK.

Extended Student Visitors

You can apply for an extended student visitor visa if:

- Your course lasts between 6 and 11 months and is at a college that holds a sponsor licence under Tier 4 of the points-based system or is accredited by a Home Office-approved body;
- You will only be taking an English language course and not studying any other subjects;
- You have no intention of extending your stay;
- You do not want to work in the UK.

If you want to come to the UK under the extended student visitor route, you will need to apply for a visa before travelling, regardless of whether you are a visa national or non-visa national.

What do you need to apply for a Student Visitor Visa or Extended Student Visitor Visa?

- A letter from a licensed or an accredited institution which shows that you have been unconditionally accepted or enrolled on a course of study in the UK. You will need to ensure that the institution that you apply to study at has the correct accreditation or your visa application will be refused;
- You will need to show that you are a genuine student visitor who intends to leave the UK at the end of the course;
- You will need to demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to maintain and accommodate yourself during your stay in the UK. Therefore ensure that you provide financial information such as bank statements or a savings account. If a parent is sponsoring you, their financial information should also be submitted along with proof of your relationship;
- If you are applying for an extended student visitor visa and will be in the UK for more than 6 months, you will need to obtain a tuberculosis screening certificate. Visit our website for more on the certificates.

Please refer to our website for detailed information on these requirements:

www.gov.uk/uk-visas-immigration

How do I apply for my visa?

You should be clear about the type of visa you are applying for and read the information on our website. You will need to:

- Complete your visa application form online;
- Pay your visa application fee;
- Prepare all your supporting documents and make an appointment at your local UK Visa Application Centre (VAC);
- Visit the visa application centre to give your biometric information (fingerprints and photograph).

Further guidance for students and information on how to apply in your country can be found on our website:
www.gov.uk/uk-visas-immigration

You are strongly advised not to confirm your travel arrangements to come to the UK until you have received your visa.

Always visit our website for the latest guidance:

www.gov.uk/uk-visas-immigration

Top tips

- Plan your study and make visa arrangements well in advance of your intended travel date;
- Before you make your visa application, know which institution you will be studying at, what course you intend to follow and where you will be residing in the UK;
- Make sure you read the guidance carefully and ensure that you have the correct supporting documents to submit with your visa application;
- Choose a legitimate visa agent if you are not making your visa application yourself
- Take time when filling out your application and make sure that you fill in all the relevant sections;
- Be completely truthful in your application. This is important because failure to do so can result in a 10 year ban.

Always visit our website for the latest guidance:

www.gov.uk/uk-visas-immigration