Applying for a new Student Visa

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Student Visas

Information accurate as of August 2022
Preparing for your visa application

- You will need to apply before the main course starts on 19 September in order to be able to register
- You must apply before your Pre-sessional visa runs out to avoid overstaying
- You do not need to receive the visa to start the main academic course
- Read information about the visa process on our website www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa
- Prepare your supporting documents
- Prepare the money for the application fee (£490) and Immigration Health Surcharge of £470 per each year of visa, always rounded up to the next 6 months, based on the CAS length
- Receive unconditional offer for the academic course and CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies)
  - Unique reference number received by email, not a paper document
  - Specifically to study the course mentioned on your CAS, which is the academic programme you have accepted an offer for. It will be withdrawn if you decide to:
    - not study the programme listed on CAS. If you decide to study a programme in a different subject area or at a different University and have already obtained the visa, you will need to go home to apply for a new visa.
Documents for your visa application

Documents

• Passport and current visa
• Police registration certificate if you have studied in the UK before the Pre-sessional and it was required - please check https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/foreign-national-registration/ for the list of nationalities who need to register
• ATAS (if required for your course e.g. some MEng and MSci courses)
• Under 18s - letter of consent from parents or legal guardian and proof of relationship + translation (if required)
• Academic qualifications are **not** required for degree-level or above courses
• English language – **not required as you took the Pre-sessional**
Documents for your visa application

Financial evidence documents

• Tuition fees (first year of the course) plus £9207 for living expenses in a bank account held every day for 28 consecutive days before submitting online visa application
• The statement/certificate of deposit must be issued no earlier than 31 days before the date of application
• Can be from a foreign bank if it’s in English or is officially translated
• For detailed statement requirements visit [http://www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/money/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/money/)
• OR official financial scholarship letter from a financial sponsor – see [http://www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/money/sponsored/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/money/sponsored/)
• Differential evidence requirement – some nationals will need to prepare finances but not submit them at the time of application [www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/differentiation-arrangement/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/apply/differentiation-arrangement/)
• If your parents are providing the statements - you will also require letter of consent and birth certificate + translation
• Letter of consent for your visa application from your financial sponsor if you have completed a course for which you have received official financial sponsorship for your course fees and living costs in the last 12 months

If you do submit documents when they are not required, they will be assessed anyway. If they do not meet UKVI requirements, your visa application will be refused
Submitting your visa application

Submit your online visa application

• Link to the online application form [https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/extend-your-visa](https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/extend-your-visa)

Proving your identity

• During the application process you will be directed to either:
  • give your fingerprints and a photograph (biometric information) at a visa application centre after submission
  • use the ‘UK Immigration: ID Check’ app to scan your identity document before submission

Submitting supporting documents

• The form will instruct you how to do this, usually submitted digitally after the form submission
• If you are required to attend a biometric appointment, you will need to bring your original passport with you, but the passport stays with you after the appointment

Fees and processing times

• £490 visa fee inside the UK – 8 weeks (cannot leave the UK during the processing period)
• Express options available: extra £500 to have a decision within 5 working days, extra £800 for next working day
• Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) £470 - each year of visa calculated in 6 month blocks
• If biometric appointment attendance is required there may be an extra fee for that, which varies
• Payable by credit/debit card at the time of application submission

Once you submit the application form, please email the PDF to svs-reg@bristol.ac.uk for registration purposes
Receiving your visa decision and Biometric Residence Permit (BRP)

Receiving visa decision and visa
• Decision - by email, retain for future purposes. Has information about your visa conditions
• Visa – BRP or digital status with sharecode
• BRP received at the correspondence address you specified on your application form, not the University – make sure the address is correct! *Correction after the presentation on 02/08/22: You can choose to have the BRP delivered to the University by specifying the Student Services address written in the CAS email as your correspondence address. Please copy the address exactly and do not use other University office addresses.*
• Digital status – please keep the email for your records, you will need to share a sharecode for registration

BRPs
• Issued valid until 31.12.2024 when this will be replaced by an online version of the visa. Visa expiry date will be in the decision email.
• Check the decision email and make sure the visa expiry date is 4 months after your CAS end date and that the working condition is ‘20 hours per week’. If not, contact us immediately as you will need to apply for correction within 14 days.
• Send a copy of the visa decision email and BRP or sharecode to svs-reg@bristol.ac.uk to complete the Right to Study check
General information regarding your Student visa and further help

Further general information such as working during studies, registering with the police and your responsibilities

- www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/
- www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/student-visa/responsibilities/
- https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/foreign-national-registration/

Further help

- If you cannot find answers to your questions on our website please contact us, we offer advice via email and at an online drop in, please see our website for details
- www.bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/contacts/