

INTERNATIONAL ADVICE AND COMPLIANCE TEAM

Student Visa Online Application Outside the UK EU/EEA/Swiss Nationals

For information on applying in your home country, please check the following website to find a visa application centre: https://www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre

The following link takes you to the Student Visa application form for use outside the UK: https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply

If you have an EU passport with a biometric chip, you can use the UK Immigration: ID Check app.

Further information can be found at: Using the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

You will need an e-mail address and password so that you can save your application and go back to it later.

The University's Sponsor Licence Number is 1GF1B20B2.

The University is a Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance

Your CAS number will be issued by Undergraduate or Postgraduate Admissions depending on your course.

List of Requirements

Current passport
National Identity Card Number (if still valid)
A Debit or Credit Card to pay for your application online

Low Risk National - Differential Evidence Requirement

Nationals of EU and EEA countries and Swiss nationals are classed as 'Low Risk' by UK Visas. This is referred to as 'Differentiation Arrangements' or 'Differential Evidence' by UK Visas.

The Student Rules say:

Differential evidence requirement for a Student

Evidence to show that the applicant meets the financial requirement and the requirement to provide documents used to obtain an offer does not need to be provided with the application (but may be required by the decision maker) if the applicant is applying from the country or territory where they are living, or from in the UK

Further guidance can be found on the UKCISA: UK Council for International Student Affairs web pages at: UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Student route: eligibility and requirements

Financial Evidence

Official Financial Sponsor's Letter

If you are sponsored by the British Government, your national government, the British Council or any international organisation, international company, university or Independent School, you will need a letter confirming your scholarship and how long this is valid for. If you are only in receipt of partial funding, you will need to show that you can cover the outstanding amount.

SAAS Award

If you are receiving funding through SAAS, you should have an Award Letter.

Bank Statements

If you are not in receipt of Official Financial Sponsorship, if requested to do so by UK Visas, you will need to show financial evidence as follows:

Personal bank statements (your account, parents' account or joint account) dated no more than 31 days before the date of your application. The date is taken from the **closing balance** on the account not the statement date.

The statement must show that the correct level of funding as specified in the Student guidance (tuition fees and living expenses/maintenance) has been held in your account for a period of **at least 28 days prior to your visa application**. The maintenance amount required for students is £1023 per month up to a maximum of 9 months (study period).

Any documents not in English must have an official translation.

At the time of your application, you must obtain a currency conversion from <u>Currency Converter | Foreign Exchange Rates | OANDA</u> if your bank statements or bank letters are not in pounds sterling and keep this in case financial evidence is requested.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

You may see this on visa requirements and on the visa application form. This gives applicants security clearance to study certain subject areas (for example, certain science subjects, mathematics, engineering, technology or medicine) at Masters and PhD level. **Nationals of EU and EEA countries and Swiss nationals are exempt from the ATAS requirement and condition**. You can find a list of exempt countries at:

Immigration Rules Appendix ATAS: Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) - Immigration Rules - Guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Visa Application Fee - The visa application fee outside the UK is currently £363.

Immigration Health Surcharge

As part of your Student visa application, you are required to pay an Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS). The process for doing this is integrated into the online Student visa application form. As you work your way through the form, you will be taken to a section which assesses how much you are required to pay. You will have to make this payment before you can complete the online visa application.

The cost for students is £470 per year of study. The exact amount depends on how much 'leave' you will be granted. Please note you are also charged for the extra 4 months granted on your visa after your course end date. In addition, you will also pay half the yearly amount of £235 if the total time includes part of a year that is less than 6 months or the whole yearly amount of £470 if the total time includes part of a year that is more than 6 months.

Visa Status

EU/EEA/Swiss nationals who have used the UK Immigration: ID check app receive their visa in the form of an online digital status. This can be shared with anyone who needs to check your visa status. Further information can be found at: View and prove your immigration status - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Work Regulations

With a Student visa for a degree level course, you are normally granted permission to work up to 20 hours per week during term-time. You can work more hours during the University's official holiday periods:

Academic Calendar | Students | The University of Aberdeen (abdn.ac.uk)

There are some kinds of work you must not do: self-employment and business activity, professional sportsperson including as a sports coach, entertainer, permanent full-time job.

<u>Further Information</u> You can check the latest guidance on studying in the UK as an 'international' student on the UKCISA: UK Council for International Student Affairs web pages at: <u>UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Information & Advice</u>