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**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVICE TEAM**

# VISA APPLICATIONS FOR DEPENDANTS

# OUTSIDE THE UK

Your dependants can apply for immigration permission to join you only if:

* you are financially sponsored by the UK Government or an Overseas National Government and your course is full-time and at least six months long

OR

* you are studying for a PhD, other doctoral qualification, or a research-based postgraduate degree

The only family members who can make applications as your 'dependants' are: - your husband/wife/civil partner/unmarried partner and children under 18 years of age.

Your dependants should only apply for a dependant visa if they are coming to live with you in the UK for the duration of your studies. If they will remain in your home country and only visit you occasionally, they should apply for a Standard Visitor visa.

Please note that there is a requirement to provide biometric information (fingerscans and a full-face digital photograph): [Biometric residence permits (BRPs): Give your fingerprints and photo - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/personal-data) and in some countries Tuberculosis (TB) screening is required:

[Tuberculosis tests for visa applicants: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa)

If you are staying in University halls, you will not be allowed to bring your dependants to stay until you have found suitable family accommodation.

As a general guide, the main requirements for a Student Dependant visa are listed here, but **please check when you are applying as each Visa Application Centre has its own requirements.**

Further information can be found on the following websites:

[Student visa : Your partner and children - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/family-members)

[UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Dependants](https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Dependants)

**Online form** Your dependants need to make an **online** application. Each dependant must submit a separate form.

* [apply online as your partner](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_partner_out_uk)
* [apply online as your child](https://apply-to-visit-or-stay-in-the-uk.homeoffice.gov.uk/sort/start/pbs_dependant_child_out_uk)

**Documents to be sent by student to person applying for visa**

Copy of the personal details page of your passport

Copy of your current visa – Biometric Residence Permit

CAS number and UAN from your Student visa application

Letter from you explaining your situation in the UK

Proof of accommodation (lease or contract)

Proof of adequate childcare (if bringing children)

Letter from Infohub confirming student status

Financial evidence - proof of funding to support dependants during their stay in the UK.

You need to show that you have £680 per month for each dependant up to a maximum of 9 months. For periods of less than 9 months, the calculation is for the visa period not just the study period. The start date of this period will be calculated from the date your dependant is intending to travel to the UK if applying after you.

## Documents to be submitted by person applying

### Visa fee

Passport

Marriage Certificate or Civil Partnership Certificate (for partner)

Birth Certificate (for children)

Financial evidence (if you have or your partner has additional funds in your home country)

Evidence that the marriage is ongoing (proof of contact during time apart)

You must show that your relationship is “[genuine and subsisting](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishing.service.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data%2Ffile%2F1183465%2FRelationship%2Bwith%2Ba%2Bpartner.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Cm.theodule%40abdn.ac.uk%7Cccab3ecfc5b645010f8708dc37941cd7%7C8c2b19ad5f9c49d490773ec3cfc52b3f%7C0%7C0%7C638446356472243418%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4XX0eYl0MFQ5O1B0tA%2BU8dAaTX8aQ6W6V4a%2FxnupgiM%3D&reserved=0)”. Please refer to the guidance for how you can demonstrate this. If you and your partner are not married or are in a civil partnership, you will be required to provide proof that you have been in a “[durable relationship](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishing.service.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fuploads%2Fsystem%2Fuploads%2Fattachment_data%2Ffile%2F1183465%2FRelationship%2Bwith%2Ba%2Bpartner.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Cm.theodule%40abdn.ac.uk%7Cccab3ecfc5b645010f8708dc37941cd7%7C8c2b19ad5f9c49d490773ec3cfc52b3f%7C0%7C0%7C638446356472259005%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yOG6L7e%2BkB%2BrE%2F%2F4vDx9nPYubTDzPZtDd%2B2BmHiRq50%3D&reserved=0)” for a period of at least two years.

**Bank Statements Personal bank statements** (your account, your partner’s account or joint account - not a company or business account) must be dated no more than 31 days before the date of the 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 above has been held in your account for a period of **at least 28 days prior to the visa application**.

**Official Financial Sponsorship** If your Official Financial Sponsor is providing funding for your dependants, you can submit a letter from your Sponsor confirming that the sponsorship will also cover living costs for your dependants. The letter must include the names of your dependants.

**‘No Objection’ Letter** If your dependant has, in the 12 months before the date of application, completed a course of studies in the UK for which they have been awarded a scholarship or sponsorship by a Government or international scholarship agency covering both fees and living costs for study in the UK, they must provide written consent to the application from that Government or agency.

**Immigration Health Surcharge**

Your dependants will be required to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS). The process for doing this is integrated into the online visa application. This payment must be made before the online visa application can be completed.

The cost is **£776** per year of study plus **£388** for any additional period which is less than 6 months (including the extra 4 months granted after the course end date). For dependants applying at the same time as the student the charge will be the same. For dependants applying later, the amount will be calculated from when the dependant applies for the visa to the visa expiry date of the student.

Once the visa has been granted, your dependants will then be able to use NHS services. They will still be required to pay for dental treatment but prescriptions and eye tests are free in Scotland.

**Babies born in Scotland**

Babies born in the UK can remain here for the duration of your study because they are not required by UK law to make an immigration application. However, a visa will be required to re-enter the UK after any travel abroad. Babies born in Scotland to an international student on a full-time course of study are exempt from NHS charges (on the same basis as residents of Scotland). This applies for the duration of your course and for one month after the course ends. This is not the case in England where babies are liable to pay NHS charges three months after they are born until they pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) as part of an immigration application.

**Single Parents** In the case of children, both parents will be lawfully living in the UK. The only exceptions are when the other parent is dead, or you have had sole responsibility for the child’s upbringing, or there are other serious or compelling considerations that mean the child should be with you in the UK and you have made suitable arrangements for the child’s care. If you are relying on any of these exceptions, it is important that your dependants include evidence of this with their application. This could include, for example, death certificates, divorce certificates and letters from employers.