

Student Visa Support

How to complete the OVERSEAS online Student Route Visa Application Form

To be used with 'A Guide to applying for a Student Route visa overseas'

2023-24 (Version 1) Last Updated August 2023

Student Visa Support have developed this guide to help you apply for your Student Route visa OUTSIDE the UK. This guide will help you complete the online Student Route visa application form. Remember that changes are frequently made by the Home Office: ensure that you check the Home Offices pages directly for any changes or updates.

https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply



Before you Apply

Your CAS

You need your CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) before you apply. You cannot submit a student visa application without this. You will not be issued a CAS until you have accepted your unconditional offer.

If you have not received your CAS 5 working days after your offer moves to unconditional, you can contact the Student Visa Compliance Team by emailing studentconnect@cardiff.ac.uk to request one.

When can you apply?

You cannot apply for your student visa more than 6 months before the start date of your course. This is a rule set by the Home Office and we cannot influence this.

Where can you apply?

You CANNOT submit this application in the UK. You CANNOT submit your application in any country you choose.

You CAN submit your application in a country:

- you are a national of
- you are legally resident in
- where an agreement has been made that people of your nationality can apply, for example because the Embassy in your country is closed.

It is very important you use your own personal details to complete the application form and the information entered is accurate.

To ensure you are able to complete the online application form it is important not to forget your log in details to your Home Office Online account.

Section 1 How to create a Home Office online account.

Step 1: Go to: https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply

Step 2: Answer 'England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland' to the first question.



Step 3: Select No to the question below:

Do you have a current EU, EEA or Swiss passport? The EEA includes the EU countries and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway **N**0

Step 4: Select your country as the country to provide biometrics:

Select a country to provide your **biometrics**

Step 5:

Continue

- Select English as your language.
- Select the correct visa category– Student.
- Select your country as the country to provide biometrics.
- You will see this screen, scroll down and press the green 'Apply Now' button:

Student visa

Use this form to apply from outside the UK for a Student visa

You cannot add family members ('dependants') to this application. You must complete a <u>separate form</u> for your dependants.

Before you apply

<u>Step 6</u>: Enter your contact details as requested and create a password.

It is important that you are able to access your email and that you remember your password. Once you create the account, you will be sent a link to your email address. You will need to use this link to access you account if you log out and need to return to the application at a later date.

Step 7: Select no to this question unless you have a scholarship from these agencies only:

Do you have a Marshall, Chevening or commonwealth scholarship?

Check the postgraduate scholarship guidance, if you do not know.

No

Section 2 Completing the Online Application Form.

Step 1: You will see the following screen:



<u>Step 2:</u> The form now asks for your name (as it appears in your passport) and details about yourself. Answer all questions as accurately as possible. Press 'Save and continue' after each question.

Please note, your 'home address' means your address in your home country.

You will also be asked to enter your passport details . Please enter these exactly as printed on your passport.

<u>Step 3:</u> Enter details from your National ID card.

If your country does not issue these, this is not a problem. Simply enter 'No' here. You should also do this if you do not have a card or your card has expired.



Step 4: Enter your nationality and place of birth as it appears on your passport

Step 5: Select no to this question:

Previous evidence of English language ability Have you provided evidence of your English language ability in a previous application? You must have provided evidence that you either: scored level B1, B2, C1 or C2 on an approved English language test which assessed your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills have a degree which was taught in English • have an English GCSE, A level or Scottish National 4 or 5, Higher, or Advanced Higher qualification (No Yes Step 6: Spoken language preference We may have to talk to you about your application. Which language would you prefer to use? () English) Other

This question asks about the language to be used if the Home Office interview you. As a student, you should enter English here

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Save and continue

Step 7: English language ability



Step 8: You will be asked to enter details about your dependant family members (usually children). You must enter this information if they are travelling with you or not. Please enter exactly as it appears in their passport/ ID document.

Please note: If your family (spouse and children) will be applying with you as dependants, you will not be able to add them to this application form. You will need to fill out a separate form for each family member.

GOV.UK Visas and Immigration	
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People financially dependent on you	
Does anyone rely on you for financial support? Include both those travelling with you and those who are not. This could include:	
 children under 18 children over 18 who live with you at home children who you look after all the time older relatives who need you for accommodation or other support 	
Yes No	
Will these dependants be included in my application?	
Save and continue	
<u>Step 9:</u>	
Back	
Give details about your first parent	
Give details about 2 of your parents.	
What if I do not have my parents' details?	
What is this person's relationship to you?	Enter your parents' details exactly
Mother	It does not matter which parent
	you put first.
Father	
	If you only have one parent, please
Given names	select 'What if I do not have my
	parents' details and the option be-
Family name	low will appear. Select this option
If they do not have both a given and family name, enter their name(s) in the Given names field.	•
Date of birth	 What if I do not have my parents' details?
	I only have the details of one parent
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Step 10: You will be asked to enter details about family members in the UK.



If you are not in contact with your relative in the UK, you can indicate this here

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Step 11: If you are travelling independently and being met by a representative from Cardiff University this is not travelling as a group. In most cases you will answer 'No' here.

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Travelling as part	of an organised group
Will you be travelling to the UK as p This include travel companies or sp	art of an organised group? orts, work, or study groups.
Yes No	
Save and continue	
Return to this application later	
Show and edit answers	

<u>Step 12:</u> If you are travelling with a friend or family member, enter their details.

Will you be to dependant?	ravelling to the UK with someone who is not your partner, spouse, or
Yes	No
Save and c	ontinue

Step 13: If you added a family member in the UK, you will be asked if you are staying with them. If you did not enter any family members, this question will not appear.

ຝ_ GOV.UK	Visas and I	lf y fan mmigratic box	ou will not be stay nily member, leav kes here empty an	ying with your e the box/ nd click 'save
1. Start 2. Application 3	. Documents 4.	Declaration 5.		a princ
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Staying with fam	ily			
Who will you be staying with in the	e UK?			
Choose only one person if your fa staying with family, click 'save and	mily lives at the same d continue'.	address. If you wi	l not be	
My brother)			
<u>I will be staying with another to cousin</u>)	family member (for ex	ample an aunt, un	<u>cle or</u>	
Save and continue Cance	l			
Return to this application later				

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Step 15: The next questions are about your travel history to the UK. Please answer these as accurately as you can.

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Step 16: You will be asked if you have applied for UK visa in the last 10 years. Answer accurately.



Step 17: The next questions will be about your international travel history. Tell the Home Office how many times in the last 10 years you have travelled to any of the countries or travel areas listed. Enter the countries you have visited from most recent to least recent.

Next, declare if you have visited any other countries (not those previously listed) in the last 10 years. Answer all questions as accurately as you can.

<u>Step 18</u>: Enter your planned travel details. This should be as accurate as possible. However, you are not advised to book flights before you receive your visa.

Please note the information about why this information is important:



Currently visa vignettes are issued for 90 days. This may change at short notice. If you are applying for a visa to cover the presessional course only, your visa vignette will cover the entire duration of the course.

Step 19: You will be asked several questions about any problems with your immigration history to the UK and elsewhere. Please ensure that you answer truthfully and accurately.

Immigration history



Step 20: Answer questions about criminal convictions in the UK or any other country, and about war crimes and terrorist activities. Again it is important that you read each point and answer all questions honestly.

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Convictions and	other penalties
At any time have you ever had an	y of the following, in the UK or in another country?
Only select one answer at a time do so on another page.	. If you need to give more than one answer, you can
A criminal conviction	
A penalty for a driving offe or no motor insurance	nce, for example disqualification for speeding
An arrest or charge for whi	ch you are currently on, or awaiting trial
A caution, warning, reprim	and or other penalty
A civil court judgment agai bankruptcy proceedings o	nst you, for example for non payment of debt, r anti-social behaviour
A civil penalty issued unde	r UK immigration law
No, I have never had any o	fthese
You must tell us about spent as v	vell as unspent convictions.
Save and continue	

Step 21: You will be asked about whether you have been employed by a list of particular employers. Declare whether you have previously worked for any of the organisations listed.

If relevant, give details including name of employer, dates worked, job title and brief description

Step 22: The next details are about the University and your course.

Please enter the details exactly as written on your CAS.

👜 GOV.UK Visas and Immigration 1. Start 2. Application 3. Documents 4. Declaration 5. Pay 6. Download and print Back Sponsor licence number and address This information is on your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) statement, or contact your sponsor to get their licence number. This is the unique What is your sponsor licence number? NB0C74WCX reference number for Cardiff University. You

must

entered.

ensure this is correctly

If you have been issued a

university, not Cardiff, you

will not be able to use this

CAS to apply for a visa to join us. You must get a CAS

University and use this to apply for your studentvisa.

CAS for a different

issued by Cardiff

Step 23:

Place of Study

What type of sponsor will you be studying with?	
The <u>Register of Student sponsors</u> sets out what type of sponsor each institution on the register is. A Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance will have the status 'General Student Sponsor – Track Record'. Independent School Higher Education Provider Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance Overseas Higher Education Provider Publicly Funded College	Cardiff University is a Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance
O Private Provider	

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Sponsor's address

McKenzie House

Town/City Cardiff

Postcode

CF24 0DE

30-36 Newport Road

Save and continue

Return to this application later

▶ Show and edit answers

Cardiff University Registry

Step 24:



Step 25:

GOV.UK Visas and Immigration	
1. Start 2. Application 3. Documents 4. Declaration 5. Pay 6. Back UCAS details	Download and print
 Did you apply for your course through UCAS? Yes Yes No What is UCAS? The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) is an organis whose main role is to operate the application process for British univer Most undergraduate and some postgraduate students apply to univers through the ucas.com website.	Most Undergraduate students (Bachelors) will apply through UCAS, so click 'Yes' if this applies and provide your UCAS personal identification number.
Save and continue Return to this application later Show and edit answers	students (Masters, PhD) will apply directly to Cardiff University and can click 'No' to this question.

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Step 26: Academic Technology Approval Scheme



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Step 28: You will find all the course information listed on your <u>CAS email</u>. Please enter it accurately here.

Course information	IMPORTANT: your CAS will list the level of your course as an NOF
Name of sponsor institution (school/college/university)	number, e.g. NOF 7.
	The form will have this listed as ROF
Course name	number
	Therefore, if your CAS states NOE 7
Qualification you will get	select the option with ROE 7 from the
	drondown monu
	diopdown mend.
This is the level of the qualification you will receive at the end of your cou	rse.
If you are unsure about the level of your qualification, <u>find out what qualif</u>	ication
tevers meannere of ask your sponsor institution.	
🖷 🖅 🔄 Application - Course da X + 🗸	- o ×
← → O a Home Office [GB] https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/edit/application.0.courseDates	□☆ ☆ & ピ …
Provide the start date of your main course of study, but do not include any other	
courses you may be taking before. Enter date in the format DD MM YYYY	
Day Month Year	
23 09 2019	
Course end date	
Day Month Year	
Enter the course dates here using your CAS	
Lifter the course dates here using your CAS.	
Start dates will differ by course, so make sure y	ou are aware of when
your course will start and when you are require	ed to be in the UK

Step 29:



Step 30: Enter information regarding your course fees. This can be found on your CAS.

If you have paid money towards tuition fees, make sure that this is stated on your CAS statement. If not, contact the <u>Student Visa Compliance Team</u> <u>before</u> submitting your visa application and ask that your CAS is updated with the course fees you have already paid.

It is important that you have this as evidence of any payments made. If it is omitted your visa could be refused due to insufficient funds.



<u>Step 31:</u>



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Step 32: The following questions are regarding the money that you must show for your studies. The Home office are very strict on the financial requirements and you must ensure that you meet them fully

You will need to show that you have held the following money for 28 consecutive days immediately before you submit your visa application.

Course length	Amount to be shown
Less than 9 months	Full course fee +£1,023 for each month of
	course length
More than 9 months	1 st year course fee + £9,207 (£1,023 x 9
	months)

Any money you have paid towards your tuition fees can be deducted from the required total amount of money you have to show. You can also deduct a maximum of £1,265 for money paid to Cardiff University for accommodation (money paid to private landlords will not count). To prove the amounts you have paid you will need to provide an original paper receipt or the amount paid must be shown on the CAS statement.

If you are financially sponsored for your fees and the full maintenance amount, you will not need a bank statement. Your financial sponsor will issue you with a sponsor letter.

Further information regarding the financial requirements for a student visa can be found in our '<u>Guide to applying for a student visa from overseas'</u>



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Maintenance funds			
You must show that you have enough money to cover your course costs. <u>Read the guidance document</u> to find out how much money and what documents you can use as evidence.	fees and living you need to show		
Are all of the maintenance funds required for this application in a your name on it? Yes No No If you are here. Are you relying on money held in an account und guardian(s) name? Yes No No	or this application in a bank account with If you are providing bank statements in YOUR name, enter 'YES' here. Ount und If you are providing bank statements in your PARENTS' name, enter 'No' here		
Do you have permission from your parent(s) or legal guardi money? Yes No	an(s) to use this		
How can you prove they are your parent(s) or legal guardian Birth certificate Adoption certificate Court document	 If supported by your parents, you will need to provide the documents listed here in addition to your parents' bank statements. Further details regarding this can be found in our 'Guide to applying for a student visa from overseas' 		
Save and continue			

GOV.UK Visas and Immigration	Step 33:
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Additional information about your application	If you wish to clarify any details about your application you can do
If there is no further information you want to add, click the 'Save and continue' button. Add further details:	You do not have to write anything in this section.
Maximum of 1,000 characters	
Save and continue Return to this application later	When everything is complete, hit 'Save and continue'
► Show and edit answers	

Step 34:

You will now see a summary page of all the information entered. It is important that you check this carefully. If anything is incorrect, return to that section and correct it. When you are happy that everything is accurate and complete, click 'continue'.

Step 35:



If you are a national of one of the countries listed in <u>Appendix Student (paragraph 22.1)</u> ('low risk' countries) and are applying in that country, you will qualify for the Differentiation Arrangement

You will not have to provide your financial and academic documents at the point of application. While you do not have to provide them, please make sure that you have them available. The Home Office reserve the right to request this information. If they exercise this right, you must be able to provide the required documents within a short timeframe.

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Step 36:



Click 'save and continue'. Next, you will see the list of documents again. Check that everything is correct before clicking 'Continue'

Please note: the list here is incomplete. You must ensure that you have all of the required documents to apply for your visa. You can check this by referring to our document '<u>A guide to applying for a student visa from overseas</u>' or the <u>Home Office Policy guidance for</u> <u>student applications</u>

Step 37: Confirm that you understand and accept the conditions, as listed below:

Conditions

If your application is successful, there will be conditions on your visa or leave to remain. This will include, for example, whether you are able to work in the UK.

If you stay in the UK without permission:

- You can be detained
- You can be prosecuted, fined and imprisoned
- You can be removed and banned from returning to the UK
- You will not be allowed to work
- You will not be able to rent a home
- You will not be able to claim any benefits and can be prosecuted if you try to
- You can be charged by the NHS for medical treatment
- You can be denied access to a bank account
- DVLA can prevent you from driving by taking away your driving licence

I confirm that I understand and accept these conditions

Save and continue

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Step 38:

Declaration I agree to the terms and conditions. I understand that if false information is given, the application can be refused and I may be prosecuted, and, if I am the applicant, I may be banned from the UK. I confirm that: Read the declaration carefully and click the button to I am the applicant aged 18 or over confirm that you 'accept the above'. I am the applicant aged under 18 I am the parent or legal guardian of the applicant who is aged under 18 and Please note: You must accept the completing and submitting the form on their behalf conditions written here to proceed I am submitting the form on behalf of the applicant with your application. I accept the above

Step 39:

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GOV.UK Visas and Immigration 1. Start 2. Application 3. Documents 4. Declaration 5. Pay 6. Download and print

Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS)

You must pay your Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) before you can complete your visa application. You will pay your IHS on another website, then return to this site to complete and pay for your application.

If you are exempt, you will still need to get a reference number from the IHS website.

Your IHS reference number will automatically be included on your application once you pay and return to this site.

Your answers will be locked when you go to the IHS website, even if you do not pay your IHS straight away. If you need to make any changes to your answers you must do so now. <u>Check your answers</u>



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Step 40: You will then be returned to the application form. You will need to select where to collect your BRP card when you arrive in the UK. You can use the University's Alternative Collection Location (ACL) code to have your BRP processed by the University. If you do not use the University's ACL then you will be able to collect your BRP card from a local Post Office.

ACL Code: 2HE562

Collecting your biometric residence permit (BRP)

You must collect your biometric residence permit (BRP) within 10 days of arriving in the UK. This is a card that shows your right to be in the UK.

You can collect your BRP from a UK Post Office of your choice. Find more information about locations and opening times of UK Post Offices. You can collect your BRP from a different collection location, if your sponsor has provided you with an Alternative Collection Location (ACL) code.

Collect from a UK Post Office

Collect from an alternative location

Your BRP collection location

If you want to collect your BRP from a different location, select 'Collect from a UK Post Office' and enter a different postcode.

Enter your ACL code	
2HE562	
Confirm location	

Save and continue

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Step 41:



Step 42: Choose your VAC from the list shown. You will be able to schedule your appointment

slot on the next screen

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Choose a Vi	a Application Centre
You will need to visit th	centre so that your application can be processed.

Step 43: The final step will be to pay for your application using your credit or debit card.

Please ensure that you download and print the generated documents once payment is complete and take these with you, along with your supporting documents to your VAC appointment.

<u>Step 44:</u> Attend your appointment and await the outcome.

Assistance from us beyond this point is limited. You will need to attend the appointment as scheduled with all of your supporting documents and wait for your application to be processed. Details of application processing times in your country can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/visa-processing-times

Important Note About Your Supporting Documents:

Please use the <u>Student Route Caseworker Guidance</u> to ensure that you meet the requirements for all documents. Please be aware that the Home Office make frequent changes and you should always refer to current Home Office information and read the full guidance provided: <u>https://www.gov.uk/student-visa</u>

If you encounter difficulties, contact us for advice on how to proceed: *studentconnect.cardiff.ac.uk*

Immigration advice and services regulated

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Cardiff University is not responsible for the content or reliability of the linked websites and does not necessarily endorse the views expressed within

The government makes changes to the immigration rules and procedures on a regular basis, so it is important that you check the current guidance and rules when applying for a visa. For further information visit <u>UKCISA</u> and the <u>Home Office</u> websites

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by the Immigration Services Commissioner

