

A blurred background image showing two people working at desks. One person is a woman in a white shirt, and the other is a man in a light blue shirt and glasses. They are both looking at laptops. There are coffee cups on the desks. The overall atmosphere is professional and focused.

Immigration Specialists for Every Journey

Guidance Document: Student

Student



"I have to be very honest I have been travelling all around the world and working with many different departments. I haven't seen this precise services!!! They care about every detail, they reply really fast, they're up to date with you about all the steps. They're fast in the process in general, we are very happy to have chooses to work with them."

SA, Skilled Worker visa applicant

The UK Student Visa allows international students aged 16 and over to study full time at a licensed university, college or school. This route is designed for those who have been accepted onto an approved course and can demonstrate the required academic, English language and financial readiness to live and study in the UK.

What Is the UK Student Visa?

The Student Visa is a temporary immigration category for individuals who intend to study at a Home Office-licensed Student Sponsor. It permits you to:

- Live in the UK for the duration of your course, plus a short additional period before and after.
- Access educational facilities such as libraries, laboratories, academic support and university accommodation.
- Work part time (usually up to 20 hours per week in term time) depending on course level and sponsor type.
- Bring dependants only if you meet the narrow eligibility criteria for postgraduate research courses.

Student Visa holders must maintain full-time study, attend classes and comply with their sponsor's monitoring requirements.

This route does not normally lead to ILR directly, but you may later switch to a work visa such as Skilled Worker.



"Have had a wonderful experience dealing with Migrate UK twice over. I got prompt and clear answers to all my queries and constant support from all levels in the organisation"

SB, UK Ancestry Visa Applicant

To qualify, you must meet all of the following requirements.

Academic Offer and CAS

You must have an unconditional offer and a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). Your CAS will include:

- Course title and level
- Course start and end dates
- Tuition fees for the first academic year
- Any payments already made
- Evidence the institution has assessed your suitability (academic qualifications, interviews, English level)

Your CAS must be issued by a licensed Student Sponsor, and you must apply within six months of its issue date if applying from outside the UK.

English Language Requirement

You must meet the minimum English language level for your course:

The specific requirements depend on the course, which may accept:

- A Secure English Language Test (SELT), such as IELTS for UKVI
- A degree taught in English
- Nationality from an English-speaking country
- Previous study at GCSE/A-level or equivalent in the UK



"I highly recommend Migrate UK! From start to finish, the entire visa application process was incredibly smooth and stress-free, all thanks to their expert guidance. Dealing with visa applications can be confusing and overwhelming, but the team at Migrate UK made it feel completely manageable. They were thorough, professional, and exceptionally responsive to all my questions, often getting back to me within the hour."

MK, Skilled Worker visa applicant

Financial Requirement

You must show that you have held the required funds for at least 28 consecutive days. This includes:

- Tuition fees (as shown on the CAS)
- Living costs:
 - £1,334 per month if studying in London
 - £1,023 per month if studying outside London

(Up to a maximum of nine months of maintenance required)

Acceptable financial evidence includes:

- Personal bank statements
- Parent or guardian bank statements (plus evidence of relationship and parental consent)
- Official student loan letters from approved providers
- Official sponsorship letters from governments, international programmes or academic institutions

Funds must be in an account in your name, or in your parent or partner's name, unless you are fully sponsored.

Genuine Student Requirement

You must demonstrate a genuine intention to study. The Home Office may request:

- A credibility interview
- Academic transcripts
- Explanation of how the course fits your future plans
- Financial background information
- Evidence of previous immigration compliance

Age and Parental Consent

Applicants aged 16–17 must provide written parental or guardian consent and evidence of suitable accommodation and care arrangements in the UK.



How to Apply for a UK Student Visa

Step 1 – Check You Meet All Requirements

Ensure you have your unconditional offer, meet the English language level, and hold sufficient funds in the correct format.

Step 2 – Receive and Review Your CAS

Review all details on your CAS, such as:

- Course dates
- Tuition fees
- Pre-paid fees
- Sponsor licence number
- Course level and award

Report any inaccuracies to your institution immediately.

Step 3 – Prepare Supporting Documents

Gather and organise all evidence according to Home Office standards. Ensure your financial documents meet the 28-day rule and show the correct amounts.

Step 4 – Submit the Online Application

You will:

- Complete the online form
- Pay the Immigration Health Surcharge
- Pay the visa application fee
- Upload your supporting documents
- Book and attend a biometrics appointment unless eligible for the digital app

You must not apply from inside the UK as a Visitor.

“Amazing Team, seamless experience.”

SP, GBM Visa Applicant

About us

"We are a fast-growing SME in the utilities and property tech sector, and we've been delighted to work with Migrate UK to support members of our team transitioning from graduate visas into longer-term roles. From the very beginning, they have been professional, transparent, and an absolute pleasure to work with. Communication has been clear and supportive throughout, which made what could have been a complex process feel seamless."

Skilled Worker Sponsor

We are very proud of our heritage and our successes. Here are some of our headlines:

22

Years of providing immigration advice, making us one of the longest serving specialist immigration law firms in the UK

9000+

Applications processed

50+

Years of combined immigration experience in our team

5

Star rating on [Google](#) and [Trustist](#)

Read more about us online via our [website](#), [LinkedIn](#), and via [HR Ninjas](#)