



Applying for a Short-term Student Visa

Initial information

- The [Short-term study visa](#) allows you to study in the UK for a maximum of 6 months.
- You must leave the UK on or before the expiry date and will not be able to extend it or switch into a different immigration category in the UK.
- You cannot make an application more than 3 months prior to the start of the course. Ensure that you give yourself plenty of time to make your application and receive your visa. You can find out how long it takes to process a visa in your home country on the [UKVI website](#).
- When you make your application, state when you wish the visa to start from (date you intend to enter the UK) otherwise they will start the visa from the date they issue the visa to you.
- Make sure you supply sufficient evidence to support your application and to demonstrate that you are seeking entry as a short-term student.

Non-Visa Nationals

If you are a non-visa national you can ask for Short-term Study visa stamp in your passport upon entry to the UK from the Border Officers. You can check whether you are a non-visa national on the [UKVI website](#). You will still need to show that you meet the requirements of the Short-term Study visa, so you should carry your supporting documents with you when you travel. You should also provide evidence that you have booked your return flight out of the UK.

Using eGates on arrival

If you are coming on a Short-term study visa and have not secured your visa before travelling, **do not** use an eGate on arrival. You will need to see a Border Officer to obtain a stamp that will give you the permission needed in order to enrol at UCL. If you enter the UK through the eGate you will not receive a Short-term Study visa stamp in your passport and instead will be considered a 'visitor'. If you are classed as a 'visitor', you will not be allowed to enrol on your programme of study at UCL if it is longer than 30 days.

Travelling to UCL via Ireland

If you are planning on arriving in the UK via the Common Travel Area, you should apply for UK entry clearance as a Short-term Student before travelling to the Republic of Ireland. If you arrive via the Republic of Ireland and have not secured your visa before travelling, you will not have a valid visa for study. More information can be found on the [UKCISA web pages](#).

Making the application

You will need to make your application online unless you are from North Korea in which case you have to make a [paper based application](#). You can apply online for the short-term study visa [here](#).

When you apply you will do the following:

- complete the [online application form](#)
- pay for the application- it costs £97. You can check the fee in your home currency [here](#).
- make an appointment at a [visa application centre](#) to have your biometrics taken.
- submit your supporting documents

Documents required

Below is a list of documents you will be required to provide as part of the application process. If your documents are not in English you will need to provide a [certified translation](#).

- **Valid passport-** You need a blank page in your passport for your visa
- **Letter of acceptance from UCL**
You should use your offer letter from UCL confirming your course details, the dates you need to be in the UK and the course fees. If you are already enrolled but abroad and entering the UK for a short period as part of your course you should contact your academic department and ask them to provide a letter. This letter should confirm your enrolment and the periods you need to enter the UK.
- **Information about your finances**
You should provide bank statements to show that you have funds to cover yourself whilst you are in the UK. This includes the cost of the return journey. We suggest you have available at least £1,265 for each month of your intended visit. If you have a scholarship make sure you obtain a letter from your provider confirming their sponsorship for the period you will be in the UK. You can provide your family member's bank statements but you should provide evidence of your relationship to them.
- **Information about employment**
If you are employed in your home country you can provide details of this. You could provide a letter from your employer confirming your employment and that they give their consent for you to study in the UK.
- **Your accommodation and travel details**
You should provide evidence of where you will be staying whilst you are in the UK. This can be a letter from a friend or relative, a letter from an accommodation provider or a hotel booking. You should not pay for the accommodation until your visa is granted.
- **Qualifications**
You may be required to show proof of your academic qualifications to prove that you are a valid student.
- **ATAS**
If you are intending on entering the UK using a Short-term Student visa to study on a programme that requires ATAS approval, you are required to provide your [ATAS certificate](#) as part of the application process. Where you are applying for a Short-term Student visa to take your Doctoral viva, you may reuse the original ATAS certificate you obtained to study towards the same Doctorate for which you now have a viva examination.
- **Additional information**
You should prepare evidence to show that you intend to leave the UK at the end of your period of study. This may be proof of employment, proof of property or strong family links in your country.

For more information please see the [Home Office guidance document](#) on short-term students and the [Immigration Rules](#).

If you have any further questions about the Short-term Student Visa please contact the Student Immigration Advice Team by using the [contact form](#).