

English Language Student Visa & Travel Information

Who needs a visa to study in the United Kingdom (UK)?

The UK left the European Union (EU) on the 31st January 2020. As result, since the 1st January 2021 many international students can study in the UK for up to six months without a visa. Check the [non-visa national list](#) to see who does not need a visa to visit or study for less than 6 months.

All international students need a visa to study for longer than six months.

You can check if you need a visa by answering the questions on the UK Government Website:

<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

Bath Academy will help answer your questions during your application. We will also make sure everything is prepared before you make your visa application. You will find some useful information in the rest of this document.

European Students

EEA nationals, Swiss nationals and other nationalities on the UK's non-visa national list do not need a visa to study in the UK for up to six months.

International Students

Students of other nationalities may need to apply for a visa;

Standard Visitor Visa - for English courses less than 6 months

- Some international students will need a Standard Visitor visa if you plan to study in the UK for less than six months.
- International students who want to study in the UK, and are not on the non-visa national list, for six months or less should apply for a [Standard Visitor visa](#).

Short-term study visa - for English courses between 6-11 months

- Students who are older than 16 can study English in the UK for between six - 11 months on a Short-term study visa.

Standard Visitor visa

- This visa route can be used to study an English Language Programme for up to 6 months and you are aged 16 or over in the UK.
- No minimum level of English required
- Application cost: £127
- When to apply: up to **three months** in advance
- Financial requirements: you will need to show that you have enough money to pay for your trip, including accommodation and living costs
- For students who are under 18, your parent or guardian will need to provide:
 - Written consent for you to travel to the UK & give full contact details
 - Confirmation of somewhere suitable to live during your study
 - Enough money to support you during your time in the UK

Further guidance available here: <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa>

Short-term study visa

- This visa route can be used to study an English Language Programme for 6-11 months and you are aged 16 or over in the UK
- No minimum level of English required
- Application cost: £214
 - You may have to pay the National Health Surcharge. This is normally £776, however you can check how much you'll need to pay before you apply.
- When to apply: up to three months in advance.
- Financial Evidence: **You will need to show you have enough money to pay for course fees, accommodation and living costs**
- Your tuberculosis (TB) test results, if you're from a country where you have to take the TB test
- Translation of documents not in English
- Students who are under 18 years old;
 - Written consent for you to travel to the UK & give full contact details
 - Confirmation of somewhere suitable to live during your study
 - Enough money to support you during your time in the UK

You **cannot**:

- Extend or apply to transfer to another visa within the UK from a Short-term study visa
- Bring family members to the UK as your dependants
- Intend to stay beyond the course of study end date given in the visa application (although your visa may be valid for longer)

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/visa-to-study-english>

Other Information

How to obtain a Short-term study visa support letter from Bath Academy?

- Send a copy of your passport to the College
- Complete the application process for your English Language course at Bath Academy
- Make full payment for your tuition costs and any accommodation costs. Payments will be outlined on your visa support letter

What Documents do you need to apply for a Short-term study visa?

- You need to show that you have the funds to support yourself during your stay in the UK and for your return flight out of the UK at the end of your course – your Visa Support Letter will show the fees paid for your tuition and accommodation.
- If you are being sponsored, you should provide an original letter which confirms what costs are being met. Unless the letter states that all your costs are covered, you will need to provide financial evidence of your own funds.
- You should provide details of where you are staying in the UK – this will be outlined on your Visa Support Letter sent by Bath Academy.
- Confirmation of an unconditional offer to study on an English Language Course at Bath Academy.

What happens when you successfully obtain a visa?

You should get a decision within 3 weeks of applying. You will get an email or a letter, from UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) containing the decision on your application. This will explain what you need to do next.

Check your visa to find out when you must leave the UK. If you break the conditions of your visa you may not be able to return to the UK again.

Travelling to and Arrival at Bath Academy

Check the Pre-Arrival information given to you by Bath Academy Admissions Team.

Staff will take a copy of your passport and the visa vignette page on your first day. Staff members will also check your contact details and address in the UK is correct. This is part of our compliance with UKVI regulations.

You can check all details about your visa with Bath Academy on your arrival, or before you travel to Bath.

Work

You will not be able to undertake work in the UK under the Standard Visitor Visa or Short term Study visa routes. You may be able to volunteer. You can check on the English UK website:

<https://www.englishuk.com/en/students/your-stay-in-the-uk/working-and-volunteering-in-uk>

Length of Visa & Overstaying

The length of time you can stay in the UK will be entered into your passport when you receive the decision on your visa application.

A Short-term study visa that is applied for overseas, before you travel (Entry Clearance) is a multiple entry visa.

You must intend to leave at the end of your period of study or the end of your visa, whichever is sooner.

If you overstay, this is viewed by the Home office as a breach of visa conditions and may lead to future visa applications being refused.

Short-term study visa students can stay in the UK for the length of your course plus an extra 30 days as long as your stay is no longer than 11 months.

More Information on UK visas for Students

For more information, please visit the following websites;

- UK Visas and Immigration: [Visas and immigration: Study in the UK](#)
- UK Visas and Immigration: [Check if you need a UK visa](#)
- English UK: [UK Student visas](#)
- Electronic Visa Waiver Route: <https://www.gov.uk/get-electronic-visa-waiver>
- UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA): [advice for students, on visas, money and living in the UK.](#)
- British Council: [Student visas](#)