



Immigration Guidance

**Applying for a Student Route visa in the UK**

## When should I apply?

This depends on the reason that you are extending your visa.

In general, we advise that you start preparing around 3 months before your visa expiry date. This gives you time to arrange the original documentation you need, and to make the application in plenty of time before the expiry date.

If your current student visa was issued for studying at another University or educational institution, you **must** apply for a new Student route visa before you can start your studies at the University of Edinburgh.

If you are not sure, check your current Student/Tier 4 visa. It must contain the University of Edinburgh's sponsor licence number (23CYGN5K3) for you to be able to study here.

If you have already completed a programme of study at The University of Edinburgh and you are now starting a new programme here (e.g. progressing from MSc to PhD), **you should apply for a new Student route visa within six weeks of enrolling on your new programme.**

## How to apply

First, check that you are eligible to make a Student route application inside the UK. See our website for more details: [edin.ac/2SpzLq0](http://edin.ac/2SpzLq0)

To make an application to extend your visa in the UK, you must complete the relevant Student route online application form. You can find a link to the form on the Home Office website: <https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/student>

After you have submitted your application you will need to attend an appointment to submit your documents and provide your biometric information. You can read more about the application process on our website: [edin.ac/2FGmhQ3](http://edin.ac/2FGmhQ3)

## Scoring the points

To successfully apply for a Student route visa, you must score 40 out of 40 available points.

Points	What you get points for	Evidence required
30	<b>Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)</b>	<p>A CAS number issued by the University of Edinburgh. You will receive this from the Student Immigration Service and it will be sent to your MyEd Account. For further information on requesting a CAS, please see here: <a href="http://edin.ac/2Sqd6tE">http://edin.ac/2Sqd6tE</a></p> <p>A CAS number can only be used once and is valid for 6 months.</p>
	<b>Other documents</b>	<p>If you are applying for a visa for a course for the first time, your CAS will tell you the evidence of the academic qualification that the University used to assess your suitability for your programme. As the University of Edinburgh is a Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance, you will not need to include your qualification with your visa application if you are applying for a programme of study at degree level or above. You should nevertheless ensure to have it readily available</p> <p>If you are applying for an extension of a student visa which was issued for the same course, your CAS will normally be issued on the basis that the University has used</p>

		<p>your progress and satisfactory attendance to assess your suitability to continue the course. In such a case, you do not need to include additional documents for the 30 points. Always check your CAS.</p>
	<b>ATAS Clearance</b>	<p>If you are a national of Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore or USA, you are exempt from having to apply. For all other nationalities, certain science and technology courses will require ATAS clearance from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office to study the course. Your offer letter and/or your CAS will tell you if you need an ATAS certificate.</p> <p>Note that you must apply for a new ATAS certificate every time you extend your visa for the same course. You can find information about ATAS online:  <a href="http://www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme">www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme</a></p>
10	<b>Maintenance (funds) Requirement</b>	<p>You will need to demonstrate your ability to fund your tuition fees for the academic year plus a set amount for your living costs (maintenance).</p> <p>If you are funding your studies personally and you do not receive official sponsorship or an educational loan, then this money needs to be held in your bank account for at least 28 days before submitting your visa application.</p> <p>We recommend that you use a UK bank account for the purpose of showing funds for your visa application. This will make things easier for you when it comes to making the application as you will not have to get financial documents sent from another country.</p> <p>Information about financial requirements and evidence can be found online:  <a href="http://www.ukcisa.org.uk">www.ukcisa.org.uk</a></p>

## Other documents required

In addition to the documents related to your points scoring evidence, you must submit:

- Your current valid passport. You must take your original passport with you to your visa appointment;
- Your police registration certificate (if applicable - make sure it is up to date!);
- Your UK Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) Card - if you have one;
- Written permission to extend your stay in the UK if you have been financially sponsored in the last 12 months by a government or an international scholarship agency

## How to get help

The Student Immigration Service offers bookable appointments for visa queries and visa application checks. We can provide professional advice, answer your questions in detail, and fully check your online Student route application form and supporting documents before you submit them to the Home Office.

You can find further immigration guidance, and information about how we can help, on our website:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/immigration](http://www.ed.ac.uk/immigration)

You can also contact the Student Immigration Service by email at [studentimmigration@ed.ac.uk](mailto:studentimmigration@ed.ac.uk)