FAQ

Find answers to some of our most frequently asked questions.

STEP 1: ACCOMMODATION & VISAS

I have received an offer to study at the University of Edinburgh. What should I do now?

If you intend to study at the University of Edinburgh, then you should read your offer message and accept it through the EUCLID Applicant Hub. Please note that you can accept the offer even if your course enrolments are not finalised.

How do I apply for accommodation and who do I contact for housing questions/concerns?

Even if you are not guaranteed University housing, we strongly encourage all visiting students to apply. Applications for housing are made through MyEd: www.accom.ed.ac.uk/for-students/ready-to-apply

You must accept your offer to study abroad in Edinburgh and apply for university accommodation by the following deadline:

- **16 August** - For students starting their studies in September (Semester 1 and Full Year students)
- **30 November** - For students starting their studies in January (Semester 2 students)

If you have any enquiries/concerns relating to University housing, then please contact the Allocations Division of Accommodation Services at accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk.

Do I need a visa and if so, how do I apply for it?

Students who are non-EU/EEA/Swiss nationals must seek permission to study in the UK. A visa is a document that gives you permission to enter or remain in the UK. All non-EU/EEA/Swiss nationals will require permission to enter the UK.

All questions concerning visa requirements and applications should be sent to our trained Immigration Advisors in the International Office at visahelp@ed.ac.uk.

STEP 2: TRAVEL

What dates should I book my flights to/from Edinburgh?

Students should aim to arrive in Edinburgh on 10th September 2017 for Semester 1, or 10th January 2018 for Semester 2, as the University hosts many welcome and orientation events. If you are unable to arrive until later, then please ensure you’re in Edinburgh by the time teaching begins, as per the start-date of your programme.

The date of your return flight home should not be until after the end of the exam period, as exams are scheduled up until the final day of the exam period. Booking a flight before the date of your final exam is not considered extenuating circumstances to exempt you from taking the exam, or requesting an alternative assessment, and you may fail the course.
Can I enter the United Kingdom via Dublin?

If you are a non-EU/EEA/Swiss national, then you must enter the United Kingdom via a UK port of entry, for example, Edinburgh or London Heathrow airport. You cannot travel via the Republic of Ireland, as you will not meet with UK immigration control, and you will not get a visa stamp that permits you to study in the UK.

If you are a non-EU/EEA/Swiss national and you’ve booked a flight that connects in the Republic of Ireland (i.e. Dublin), then it is essential that you contact our trained Immigration Advisors in the International Office at visahelp@ed.ac.uk.

STEP 3: COURSES

Where can I find a list of courses offered this year?

The Visiting Student Course Finder lists the courses available to visiting students: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course

Course enrolments are dependent upon your eligibility, space on the course and on timetabling. Please note that course availability may be subject to change.

I want to take a course, but do not meet the pre-requisites – can they be waived?

The required background for a course (i.e. the pre-requisites) are set by the department who run the course, and state the minimum academic background required in order to meet the demands of the course. Pre-requisites cannot be waived and students will not be enrolled in courses for which they are not qualified.

It is not appropriate for students to contact the departments/academics to request leniency.

The pre-requisites for courses can be checked on the Visiting Student Course Finder: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course

Can Erasmus exchange students take courses from outside of their exchange subject?

Yes, it may be possible to enroll in a course from a subject area that is not covered by the terms of your Erasmus exchange agreement. However, eligibility is dependent upon your previous academic study and English language proficiency, so please email us at scevisitingstudents@ed.ac.uk for further information.

How do I change my course enrolments?

If you want to add/drop courses, then email scevisitingstudents@ed.ac.uk with your preferred change and a member of the Visiting Student Office will be able to assist.

Course change requests can be made in person after arrival with your personal tutor.

STEP 4: DOCUMENTS AND SUPPORT

How do I get a letter confirming my student status at the University of Edinburgh?

Once you have arrived in Edinburgh and fully matriculated, you can download an electronic Certificate of Matriculation through the ‘Documents’ section of the MyEd self-service portal. If you require a document in order to open a UK bank account, then please download the Bank Introduction Letter, which also gives guidance on the local bank branches that will accept University of Edinburgh students.
Student Administration’s website has further information on the various documents you can order:  [www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/order-documents](http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/order-documents)

**Where can I have paperwork for my home university signed?**

All documents for your home university (including Erasmus paperwork) can be sent to [scevisitingstudents@ed.ac.uk](mailto:scevisitingstudents@ed.ac.uk) as a Word/PDF attachment, or brought in person to our office. You are expected to complete all relevant sections before sending it to us, and our department will then complete the details pertaining to the University of Edinburgh, and sign and stamp the document.

**How do I get a transcript that confirms my grades from the University of Edinburgh?**

Official transcripts are available to download electronically via the ‘Documents’ section of the MyEd self-service portal. Your complete transcript will be available once your final grades are uploaded to MyEd, which will be up to 6 working weeks after the end of the exam period.

Your home institution will also receive a hard copy of your transcript (to the address you provided in your application); these are issued automatically and do not need to be requested.

**What is a Personal Tutor?**

All students are assigned a Personal Tutor (PT), an academic member of staff who can advise you on your studies, and help you settle into life at the University of Edinburgh. You will receive contact details for your PT shortly before the start of your studies, by email and through MyEd.