

Short-Term Study Visa Guidance



Who is a Short-Term Study Visa for?

Students (aged 16 or above) attending **English language courses for 6 to 11 months** can apply for a Short-Term Study visa (11 months). This is only possible if you are studying English. If you are studying any other course of over 6 months, you will need to apply for a **Student or Child Student Visa**.

What activities are allowed on a Short-Term Study Visa?

Full details can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/visa-to-study-english>. Holders of a Short-Term Study Visa can study for up to 11 months at an accredited institution on an English language course. The English language course does not need to lead to a specific qualification and there are no minimum academic requirements for immigration purposes.

You must study at an institution that either holds a Student Sponsor license or is accredited by one of the UKVI recognised bodies. CATS Colleges and CSVPA hold Student Sponsor Licenses, and Stafford House is accredited by the British Council.

The main things you are not allowed to do are:

- paid or unpaid work for a UK company or as a self-employed person
- study on any other course or change your course while in the UK
- claim public funds (benefits)
- Extend/switch your visa from within the UK

How do I apply?

All students **must apply for entry clearance as a visitor before travelling to the UK**. It is a good idea to carry with you all of the documents that you submitted with your entry clearance application when you travel to the UK. The Border Force Officer may ask to see these documents when you arrive in the UK.

You can make your application online at <https://www.gov.uk/visa-to-study-english/apply>.

How much will it cost?

The application fee currently £186. You'll also have to pay the healthcare surcharge as part of your online application. It costs £470 for the one year of study.

What do documents do I need?

Please always check up to date UKVI guidance <https://www.gov.uk/visa-to-study-english/documents-you-must-provide>.

You will need to prove you've been accepted onto an English language course that lasts 11 months or less and includes no other subjects. You must also be intending to leave the UK at the end of your stay and having enough money to support yourself whilst here. Caseworkers will be looking at factors such as your personal circumstances and your previous travel and immigration history.

Original copies of all supporting documents are required

Please ensure **certified translation** copies of all documents that are not in English are provided

Evidence of your English course - this includes the following:

- The offer letter and Confirmation of Enrolment letter for your course
- Details of where you intend to stay and your travel plans

Source of funds: evidence that you can support yourself during your studies in the UK, e.g. bank statements and/or payslips for the last 6 months for the parent/financial sponsor who is supporting you financially for your studies in the UK. You will need to demonstrate you can pay course, fees, accommodation, flights and any other living costs.

Tuberculosis (TB) test results: if you're from a country where you have to take the TB test. Please see www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa.

Financial evidence tips

- The Short-Term Study Visa requirements are different to the Student visa but in terms of financial requirements, the Student visa rules could be used as a reference, i.e. the funds available to the applicant should cover all boarding fees, or tuition fees plus a 'maintenance' amount to cover accommodation and living costs - currently £1334 per month for London and £1023 per month for outside London.
- Additional financial evidence relating to the applicant or their parent/financial sponsor's personal circumstances could also be helpful to the visa application. This could include

documents proving ownership of properties or shares, company bank accounts or employer supporting letters (job title, length of service and salary) etc.

- Evidence of the proof of relationship between the applicant and parent/financial sponsors are required to support the visa application. This could include documents such as birth certificate or marriage certificate.

Students under 18

Students under 18 will need a parental consent letter. This must include written consent for you to travel to the UK and full contact details. This should be signed by both parents (or one parent if they have sole responsibility). **Please note that you must be at least 16 years old to apply for this visa.**

When you are granted immigration permission

If you are successful, you will get immigration permission for 11 months.

You will get a vignette (stamp in your passport) to allow you to enter the UK, and then when you arrive in the UK you will need to collect your biometric residence permit (BRP) from a post office or from the College. You will be given entry clearance showing a specific window in which to enter the UK. You will need to follow the instructions on the accompanying letter about how to collect your Biometric Residence Permit

Information provided in this document should be treated as a guide only. Although every effort is made by CATS Colleges to ensure the accuracy of the information and guidance given, the requirements relating to visas are complex and change frequently. We cannot accept responsibility for any changes to the rules.

Students are bound by the regulations of the Home Office, and we recommend that you verify the information and the requirements applicable to you on the Home Office website or seek independent legal/immigration advice if necessary.