



UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTMINSTER

# Protecting your Student Visa

# What we are covering

- Student Visa: Evisas
- Errors on your visa
- Changes affecting your visa
- Student Visa conditions & obligations
- Tips on best practice



# Your visa documents: Evisas

When your Student Visa is granted, you will have received an email with details of your visa and how to view and prove your status

- Your student visa will be in the form of an Electronic visa (eVisa)

Arrived in the UK without a visa or before visa valid from date?

- Speak to the Student Advice team urgently

## Your immigration status (eVisa)

Name VAL PHILLIPS

Date of birth 18 January 1997

Nationality IRL

Status Student Route

Sponsor  
licence  
number 4NUV7KB58

Valid from 22 July 2025

Valid until 22 November 2025

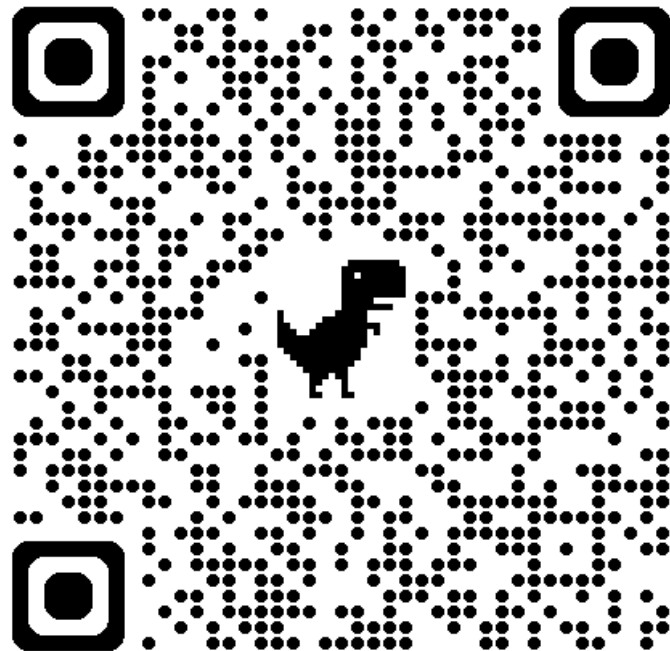


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# E-Visas

- Create a UKVI account to access your E-Visa
- Keep your UKVI account updated (eg contact or passport changes)
- Share your immigration status with the University
- View and prove your immigration status online
- Share your immigration status with others (eg: landlords, employers)

[www.westminster.ac.uk/international/visas-and-advice/visas/student-visa/evisas](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/international/visas-and-advice/visas/student-visa/evisas)



# Length of your visa

- Entry Clearance vignette should be valid for 90 days (3 months)
- Most student visa (BRP/electronic visa) should be valid until the end of course + 2 or **4 months**
- Check your decision letter and register for e-visas

Type of course	Period granted before course start date	Period granted after course end date
A course of 12 months or longer	1 Month	4 Months
A course of 6 months or longer but shorter than 12 months	1 Month	2 Months
A pre-sessional course of less than 6 months	1 Month	1 Month
A short course (study abroad / exchange) less than 6 months*	7 Days	7 Days



# Errors on your visa

If you notice an error on your visa, for example:

- Your visa is too short or too long
- The Sponsor Licence No is wrong  
Westminster SLN is **KQG71BMB4**
- Your personal details are incorrect
- Your work condition is incorrect
- There is another error on your visa

**Contact Student Advice for help if you spot an error**

## Your immigration status (eVisa)

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# Obligations: University and Students

- University of Westminster holds a Student sponsor licence which means it has certain obligations it must adhere to for each student they sponsor
- Your Student visa comes with certain conditions
- **It is very important that you understand these conditions**
- **If conditions are not met, your visa may be cancelled**



# Attendance

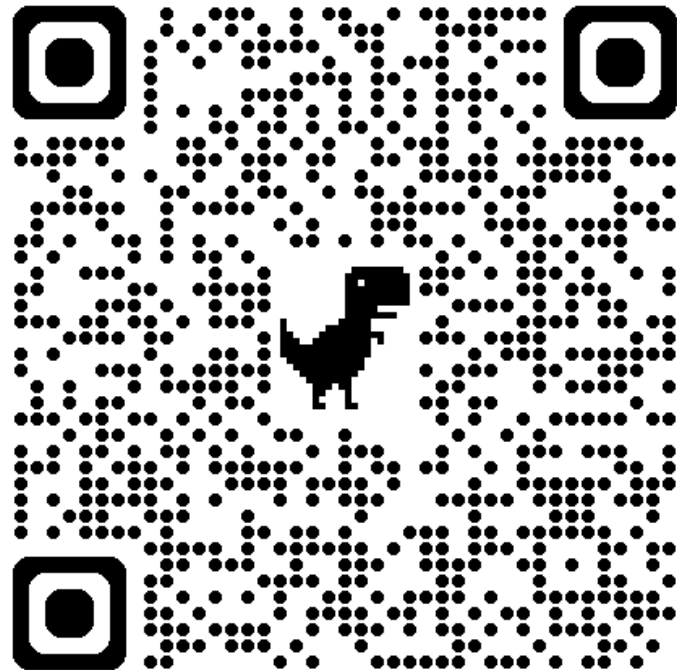
- Regular attendance is a strict visa condition
- Attend all classes & exams
- Submit assignments within time
- Register your attendance!
- Speak to your tutors if problems
- Seek "authorised absence" for only unavoidable circumstances





# Your obligations

- Know your visa conditions
- Check visa details are correct
- Attend all classes, exams and assignments
- Employment within restrictions
- Update UKVI and University of changes: eg
  - Name or nationality
  - Passport or visa
  - Contact details
  - Criminal convictions
- Prepare visa options in advance
- Avoid overstaying visa



# University Sponsor obligations

**The University must report/tell the Home Office if:**

- You don't enrol on your course\*\*
- You don't attend regularly or hand in work\*
- You take a break from or leave your course\*
- You break your immigration conditions e.g., working too many hours
- You change your immigration status

# If the University withdraws your CAS

- The Home Office will usually write/email you. Your Student Visa may be curtailed/cancelled.
- You will normally be given 60 days to either:
  - Leave the UK
  - Apply for a different/new visa\*
- If applying for a Student visa
  - A new CAS required
  - Must meet the Student visa conditions
  - Must pay the visa and I H S fees again
  - Normally must apply outside the UK
- Always seek advice about your situation



# Changes to your course

- Your Student visa is issued to study your specific course at the University of Westminster
- Possible to add work placement or study abroad\*
- Transfer to another course at the University of Westminster limited by visa & university rules
- Transfer to another university not permitted
- Changes not permitted require new visa (outside UK)
- Interrupting studies or withdrawal from course = CAS withdrawal and visa cancellation
- If considering a transfer, interruption or withdrawal from studies - Seek advice from tutors and Student Advice early!

The screenshot shows the University of Westminster website with the 'VISAS AND ADVICE' section highlighted in the navigation bar. The left sidebar contains a list of links: 'VISAS AND ADVICE', 'WHAT TO BRING', 'VISAS', 'STUDENT VISA', 'CHANGES TO YOUR COURSE: TRANSFERRING, INTERRUPTING, AND DEFERRING', 'REPEATING PART OF YOUR COURSE WITH A STUDENT VISA', and 'STUDENT VISA ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS'. The main content area on the right contains the following text:

This information is for students who currently hold a Student Visa to study with the University of Westminster. If you are a prospective student and wish to study with us, please read the [Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies \(CAS\)](#).

Your Student Visa is granted based on the information recorded on your CAS. A CAS includes details such as the name of your course, start and end date, level, and the award you are working towards. Any changes to this information are likely to impact your Student Visa.

Some of the changes that may take place during your studies are listed below. This information does not take into account your individual personal circumstances, we advise you speak to [Student Advice](#) to discuss your personal situation in more detail.

If either you or the University is making a change to your studies you should consider the following before taking any action:

<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/visas>

# Travelling

- Student visa = study in the UK
- You should be in the UK during term time
- Summer = term-time for PG students
- Do not miss any classes or academic contacts because of travelling
- Use your vacation periods to travel
- If unavoidable travel in term-time seek authorisation for absence
- See our website for more information:  
<https://www.westminster.ac.uk/visas>

## Travel outside of the UK on a Student Visa

### VISAS AND ADVICE

#### WHAT TO BRING

#### VISAS

#### STUDENT VISA

#### STUDENT VISA ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

#### APPLYING FOR A STUDENT VISA

#### WHAT TO BRING

#### STUDENT VISA ELIGIBILITY

#### STUDENT VISA

#### STUDENT VISA

If you're a student in the UK on a Student Visa, it's important to be aware of certain information before travelling abroad as there are limitations or additional visas that you need to be aware of.

### Travelling during your course

You should not miss any classes because of travel. Your attendance is monitored, and absences may affect your Student Visa. The information given to apply for a Student Visa will describe to the Home Office the length of your course and the dates you will be in the UK. If you miss any classes because of travel, you will need to provide evidence to the Home Office to show that you are still a genuine student.



# Useful tips

- Always respond to emails from the Visa Compliance or other University depts
  - Contact Student Advice if you are not sure about your visa situation
  - Keep a digital copy of your passport, visa and other important documents
  - Know your visa expiry date: either leave the UK or apply for new visa\* before
  - Overstaying is a criminal offence and can have serious consequences
- Keep your passport and visa documents safe when travelling abroad
    - If your passport gets lost or stolen, you may not be able to travel back to the UK
    - You will have to apply for a replacement, which can take a long time to arrange
  - Make sure you register for your e-visa and keep your account updated
  - If you need to apply for another visa, prepare early, check the rules and seek advice



UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTMINSTER

**Working in the UK  
during and after your  
studies**

# Working with a Student visa



# Can I work in the UK?

Yes, students studying a full-time degree course with a Student visa are allowed to work.

- It helps with your living expenses
- It allows you to gain valuable work experience, meet new people and network

However, there are some restrictions on the number of hours and type of jobs that you can do.



# How many hours can I work?



- Most students can work **20 hours per week** during term-time (check your visa)
- Working above 20 hours per week is permitted:
  - during official vacation periods (Christmas break and spring break)
    - Master's degree students do not have a summer break
    - PhD students need to request holidays from the Graduate School
  - Before the course starts and after it ends (usually CAS start and end dates)



# Jobs which are not permitted

You can do most kinds of work, but you **must not**:

- be self-employed
- engage in a business activity
- take a permanent full-time job
- be employed as a professional sportsperson or sports coach
- be employed as an entertainer



# Jobs which are not permitted

**A permanent job** is one where there is no end date in your contract (not fixed-term).

**Self-employment** means that you are your own boss, a freelancer/contractor; activities include selling goods and services for profit.

**Business activity examples:** running a business as a sole trader or a partnership, holding 10% or more shares in a company where you work; holding a statutory role such as a director.

**Entertainer:** includes paid work as an actor, musician, dancer or other performer; there is an exception for dance, drama and music students doing work placements.

# Remember your visa work conditions

Breaching your visa conditions can have serious consequences, including your Student visa being cancelled.

It's your responsibility to know and obey these conditions.



# Practical information

- Your employer will ask you for a **share code** to check if you can work in the UK: [www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work](https://www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work)
- You may be asked for a letter confirming your **term dates**: [www.westminster.ac.uk/official-letter-requests](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/official-letter-requests)
- You will need to apply for a **National Insurance number**
  - You can apply before or after starting work
  - It can take around 4 weeks to get it
  - You apply online: [www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number](https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number)

# Working after your course ends





# Student visa: 'post study' period

- You can work over 20h/week once you have completed your academic work, and your CAS end date has passed
- This is usually during the **last 4 months of your visa (or last 2 months, for courses shorter than 1 year)**
- You can't be self-employed or work in a permanent full-time role (Student visa restrictions still apply)

What if you'd like to stay in the UK longer?



# What types of visas are there?

- Graduate Route
- Skilled Worker
- Youth Mobility
- Global Talent
- Temporary Worker
- Innovator Founder

... and more - see [UKCISA.org.uk](https://www.ukcisa.org.uk)



# Graduate Route visa

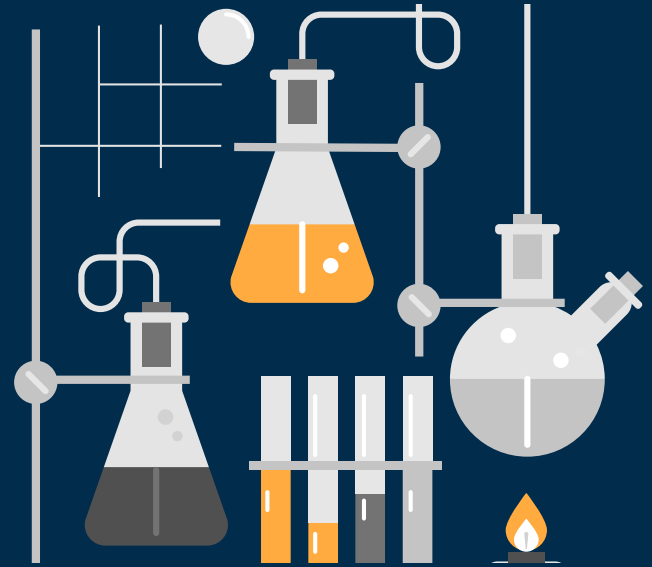


Key facts	
Type of visa	Work visa – after studies
Duration	<b>18 months</b> (UG/Master's) 3 years (PhD) Non-extendable
Main eligibility requirement	Studying and completing a degree course in the UK with a Student visa

# What could affect your eligibility?

- Not completing your course or a delay in completing your course
- Changes to your visa
- Non-payment of course fees

Student Advice team at the University is here to help address your queries and advise on your options.



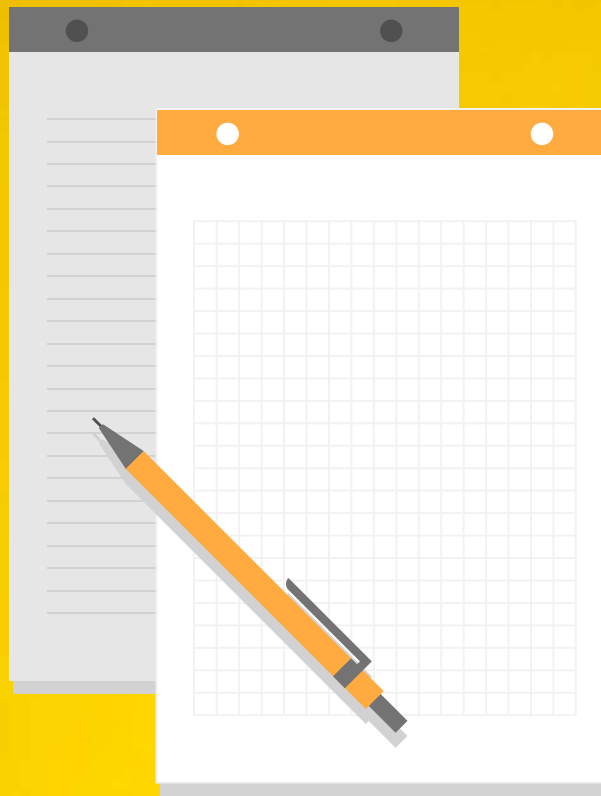
# Applying at the right time

You can apply after you receive your **final results** and award (example: Feb 2027\*).

You must apply from **inside the UK** and before your Student visa expires.

This is usually during the last 3 months of your visa, if you complete your course on time.

\*For one-year Master's students starting in January 2026 and completing on time



# Skilled Worker visa



Key facts	
Type of visa	Work visa for a skilled job
Duration	Up to 5 years, can be extended
Main eligibility requirement	Job offer from a licensed employer for a role which meets skill and salary criteria

# Student Advice team

We run talks for students throughout the academic year.

You can also book a one-to-one advice appointment with us.





# Further resources

Our website

[www.westminster.ac.uk/working-in-the-uk-with-a-student-visa](http://www.westminster.ac.uk/working-in-the-uk-with-a-student-visa)

[www.westminster.ac.uk/GRV](http://www.westminster.ac.uk/GRV)

UKCISA

[www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)

Get in touch with us

[www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice](http://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice)

