

Pre-CAS and UKVI Credibility Interviews

Universities may conduct a pre-CAS credibility interview before deciding whether to assign a CAS, while UKVI may interview a Student visa applicant as part of its assessment. Both can involve questions designed to establish whether the applicant understands their proposed studies and is a genuine student. Preparation should focus on understanding the student's own choices and circumstances rather than memorising scripted answers.

What Interviewers Want to Understand

The format can vary, but credibility interviews are intended to assess whether the student's answers are genuine, consistent and supported by their circumstances and application.

Area	What students should understand
Course	Why the course was chosen, its main content and how it relates to the student's background and ambitions.
University	Why the institution was selected and what research informed the decision.
UK study	Why studying in the UK makes sense for the student's academic and career plans.
Finance	Tuition fees, likely living costs and how the studies will be funded.
Future plans	How the qualification connects with realistic career ambitions.
Practical and visa	Accommodation and travel plans, what living in the UK will involve, and the student's immigration responsibilities.

Course, University and Finance

Students should understand the purpose of their programme, its main content and structure, and the knowledge or skills they expect to develop. They should also be able to explain why they selected the university, using genuine reasons based on their own research.

Students should know their tuition fees, likely living costs and funding arrangements. Where funding comes from a parent, sponsor, employer or scholarship, they should understand the arrangement clearly.

Life in the UK and Visa Responsibilities

Students should have a realistic understanding of where they intend to live, how they will travel to their university and what studying and living in the UK will involve. Their primary purpose in the UK is study, and they are expected

to engage with their course and comply with the conditions of their immigration permission.

A UKVI interview may also assess whether the applicant can communicate at the English language level required for their course and Student visa.

Avoiding Common Mistakes

Common problems include memorising answers, exaggerating achievements, giving information that cannot be supported, contradicting information already provided in the application and attending without adequate preparation.

WorldStudentAdvisors does not provide scripted interview answers.

Preparation is designed to help students understand their own Education DNA, communicate their genuine experiences and motivations clearly, and identify areas where further research or preparation is needed.

The Key Message

A successful pre-CAS or UKVI credibility interview is not about producing perfect or memorised answers. It is about demonstrating that the student genuinely understands their course, university, finances and reasons for studying in the UK.

Students should prepare carefully, know the information in their application, answer honestly and consistently, and use their own experiences, ambitions and research to explain why their proposed studies make sense.

Disclaimer: This information is provided in good faith and was believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Fees, dates, entry requirements, visa regulations and other information may change. Students should check current requirements before making any financial or study commitments.