

UK Student Visa Guide

A successful UK Student visa application requires careful preparation, particularly around financial evidence, the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies, immigration history and supporting documents. Students should understand each stage of the process and ensure that information supplied to their university and UKVI is accurate and consistent.

Financial Evidence and Bank Statements

Where financial evidence is required, the necessary funds normally need to be held for at least 28 consecutive days. The evidence must be dated no more than 31 days before the Student visa application.

The amount required generally comprises any outstanding tuition fees shown on the CAS plus the applicable maintenance requirement. Students should check which sources of funds are permitted for their individual application and what evidence UKVI requires. Eligible funds held in another currency are converted into pounds sterling using the exchange rate specified by UKVI.

Using the podcast example of £18,000 tuition fees with £5,000 already paid, the remaining tuition is £13,000. Applying the current maintenance requirement for up to nine months gives the following illustration:

Example	London	Outside London
Tuition outstanding	£13,000	£13,000
Maintenance, up to 9 months	£13,761	£10,539
Example funds required	£26,761	£23,539

Visa, Healthcare and Additional Costs

The Immigration Health Surcharge is currently £776 per year for students. The total payable is calculated according to the length of immigration permission granted.

The current Student visa application fee is £524. Where available, Priority service costs an additional £500 and Super Priority an additional £1,000. Availability and processing times depend on the application location and service offered.

TB Tests and Immigration History

Some students must obtain a TB certificate before applying for their visa. Where required, the test must be completed at a UKVI-approved clinic. A clear result normally produces a certificate valid for six months, while additional testing can cause delays.

Previous visa refusals should always be declared when requested, including refusals from countries other than the UK. Students should retain refusal letters and ensure that information provided to their university, for their CAS and in their Student visa application is accurate and consistent. A previous refusal does not automatically result in another refusal, but false or misleading information can have serious consequences.

CAS, Interviews and Visa Preparation

Before applying under the Student route, students need a CAS assigned by their licensed Student sponsor and must meet the other requirements relevant to their application.

A university may require a pre-CAS credibility interview before assigning a CAS. UKVI may separately interview an applicant as part of the Student visa process. Questions may cover course and university choice, previous education, career plans, finances and reasons for studying in the UK.

WorldStudentAdvisors supports students through its Interview Readiness Coach and, where appropriate, live mock interviews. The purpose is not to provide scripted answers, but to help students understand the questions, organise their thoughts and answer truthfully and naturally.

The Key Message

A successful UK Student visa application depends on accurate information, appropriate supporting evidence and careful preparation. Students should understand the financial requirements that apply to them, check their CAS carefully and declare their immigration history truthfully.

Fees, maintenance requirements and visa procedures can change. Students should therefore work from current UKVI requirements and ensure that the information provided to their university and UKVI remains complete, accurate and consistent throughout the process.

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.