



UK Visas  
& Immigration

# UK Student Visas – Policy and Process

07 August 2021

# Students are required to:

- Have an offer from an approved educational institution
- Speak English
- Support themselves financially



# Student Visa: Supporting Documents

## Must provide:

- \***Current passport** / travel documentation
- \***CAS letter**

## May also require

- \*\***Proof of finances**
- \*\***Tuberculosis test results**
- \***Educational documents**
- \***Proof of English**
- \*Proof of consent and relationship with parental or other legal guardian if student is aged under 18*
- \*ATAS certificate if required by course.*

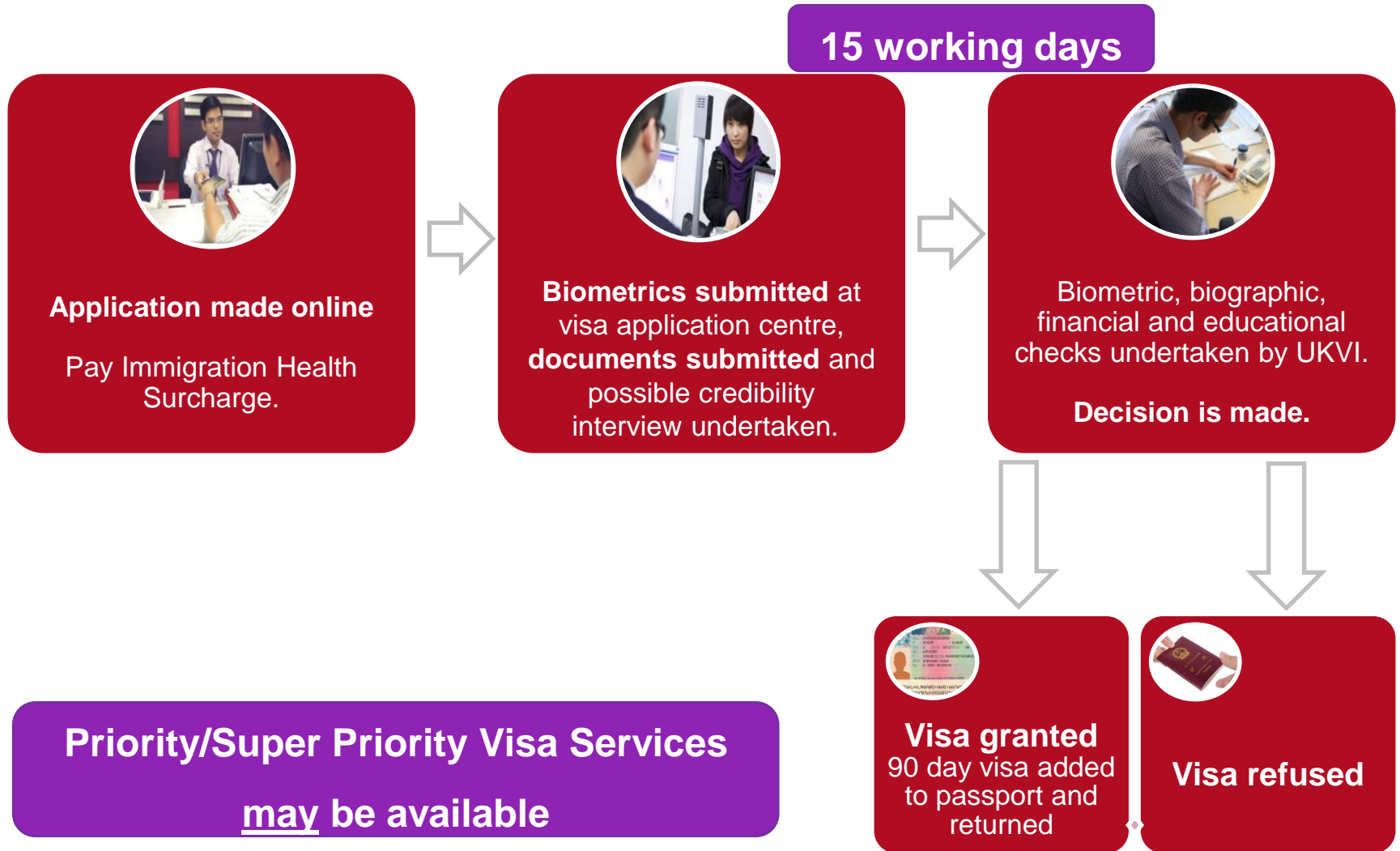


# Funds

- Students must provide evidence that they can pay course fees and living expenses
  - ✓ London - £1,334 for each month of the course (max 9 months)
  - ✓ Rest of the UK - £1,023 for each month of the course (max 9 months)
- The required funds must have been held for at least **28 consecutive days** from the online visa payment date.
- Students can prove they have the money through:
  - ✓ Cash in a savings account in the student's name or in the parents or legal guardian's name
  - ✓ An unconditional loan in the students name
  - ✓ Official financial or government sponsorship or scholarship



# Application process



# COVID-19: Changes put in place to support students

**Flexibility in visa rules, including allowing distance learning and GR flexibility.**

**Student Route introduced  
5 October 2020**

**Extending visa vignettes  
to 90 days**

**New Graduate Route opens  
1 July 2021**



# Graduate Route

 UK Government

## The Graduate immigration route is now open for applications

2 - 3 years in the UK

No sponsorship required

Can work or look for work

No minimum salary or cap on numbers

£700 + IHS £624/year

Doesn't lead to settlement



# GRADUATE ROUTE – ELIGIBILITIES

- ◆ Successfully completion of UK Bachelor Degree level or above
- ◆ Need to study in the UK for at least 12 months or the full length of the course.
- ◆ Apply while in the UK with valid Student or T4 visa
- ◆ Apply online – partner (married or been in relationship for 2 years) /children under 18 can apply if eligible)





# Visa Conditions

Graduates are permitted to work at any level other than in restricted professions. No minimum salary. Able to work, look for work, fill multiple roles etc.

They will have no recourse to public funds.

Supplementary study is allowed, but not at a Student sponsor on a course type permitted under the Student route.

Dependants already in the UK as a Student dependant may apply as a dependant of a Graduate at the same time as the applicant.

Switching to work routes permitted from inside UK (Skilled worker, Start-up, Innovator, Global talent..)



# Coronavirus concession for those who can't travel

- ◆ Course started Autumn 2020 – Need in the UK by 21 Jun 2021
- ◆ Course started Jan/Feb 2021 - Need in the UK by 27 Sep 2021
- ◆ Do not need to have studied in the UK for a minimum amount of time if course started in 2020 or 2021 and Student or T4 visa was 12 months long or less.
- ◆ Any time spent studying outside the UK between 24 Jan 2020 and 27 Sep 2021 will be counted as studying in the UK.



# 90 DAY VIGNETTE REPLACEMENT

- ◆ Fee £154 - Online form and resubmit biometrics
- ◆ Apply to replace an expired vignette only when ready to travel
- ◆ New vignette will be 90 day validity
- ◆ No longer intend to travel - submit a withdrawal request at VAC to get passport back

# Latest Travel Advice

All

Negative Covid  
test up to 3 days  
before

Passenger  
Locator Form

10 days quarantine  
on arrival

Testing on day 2  
and 8

Amber list country

In place you're staying  
\*Test to release scheme

Book Test and Trace  
package

Red list country

Government-approved  
hotel

Cost for tests included in  
hotel package

# Student Applications: General Advice

## Students are required to:

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## Risks identified with applications

- \* Poor English language ability
- \* Study gaps (specifically MSc students)
- \* False Bank statements and forged documents
- \* Lack of transparency of funding source
- \* Bank loans, duplicate loans and unverified bank statements
- \* Credibility of applications
- \* Non-disclosure of travel history and other facts

# Student Applications: General Advice

## Interviews

**Not there to catch students out!**

**\*Be prepared** (why this university? Why this course? Why UK? Career ambitions?)

**\*Universities offer support**

## The truth about student visas

**\*Simplified requirements**

**\*Equal for everyone**

**\*Flexible**

**\*Lead to more opportunities**

# Student Visas: Common Questions

How much is the health surcharge?

Can we bring in dependents?

What financial documents can be shown?

What is the processing time? Are PV/SPV available?

Do I have to be vaccinated before travelling to the UK?

I have been vaccinated, do I still have to self-quarantine?



# USEFUL LINKS

- ❖ Advice for UK visa applicants outside the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-uk-visa-applicants-and-temporary-uk-residents#outside-uk>

- ❖ Guidance for student sponsors, migrants and short-term students on temporary concessions

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-student-sponsors-migrants-and-short-term-students>





**Thank you for listening**

