

# UNDERSTAND THE STUDENT ROUTE VISA

Be Prepared Webinar Series



# Definition of Terms

1. **The Home Office** = the lead government department for immigration and passports, drugs policy, crime, fire, counter-terrorism and police.
2. UK Visas and Immigration (**UKVI**) = is responsible for making decision on about who has the right to visit and stay in the UK.
3. Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (**CAS**) = the document given to you by UoC so that you can apply for your visa.
4. Entry Clearance Vignette (**EC**) = a sticker in your passport following a successful application for a Student Route visa. This is valid for 90-days and you use it to enter the UK.
5. Biometric Residence Permit (**BRP**)= Your visa, unless you have an eVisa, which you need to collect when you arrive.
6. **eVisa** = Electronic visa (Some students have one already. All students will have an eVisa from 1 January 2025)
7. University of Chichester (**UoC**) = Student Visa Sponsor

# What we will cover today

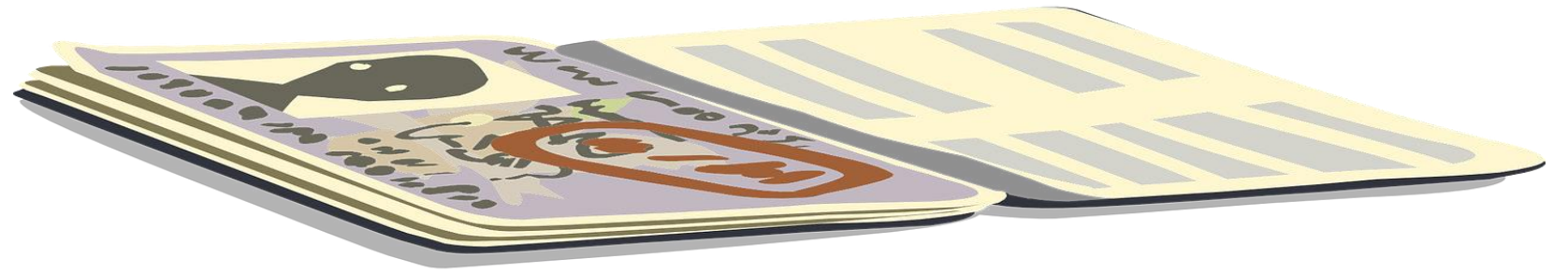
This session is about:

1. Your Student Visa (permission/leave) and the immigration conditions which are usually printed on your immigration document or your visa decision letter/email.
2. And the requirements and obligations related to Immigration Rules, your studies and your Student Sponsor (=University of Chichester)

# Why is this important?

A breach of conditions can have serious consequences for your current Student visa and any future immigration applications you may make.

# Topics



- Student Route visa conditions and what they mean in practice =your responsibilities
- Student Sponsor responsibilities = our responsibilities
- Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) Collection
- eVisa = Digital Status & share code
- Graduate Route visa
- How to keep your visa safe

# Visa conditions



- **Study** – when you enter the UK your intention must be to study at the University of Chichester (sponsor licence number on your visa).
- If you do not register/enrol or if you fail to continue with your studies your student sponsor (UoC) must report this to the UK Home Office.
- Changing your course is possible in some circumstances, but you must speak to the International Student Advisers before-hand to make sure you meet the conditions.
- Changing to a different institution to study is also possible, but you must apply for a new visa to do this and you should seek advice (as above) before doing it.

- **Work**

- Student Route visa holders have restrictions on the number of hours you are allowed to work and the type of work you are allowed to do.
- Student studying at degree level or above can work up to 20 hours per week during University term-time and full-time during holidays.
- You must not be self-employed, take part in business activities or work as an entertainer, professional sports person or a coach.
- See our [website](#) or [UKCISA](#) for more information.
- You should not plan to rely on income from employment while you are on a Student Visa. The Home Office expect you have funds in place for living costs and tuition fees without having to work.



## No Recourse to Public Funds

- You cannot access public funds. This means that certain welfare benefits and local authority housing will not be available to you.
- You can use the National Health Service, send your child to school and be exempt from council tax.





# Considerations

- **Living costs-** When you apply for your Student Route visa you confirm that you have enough money to pay your fees and living costs. If the home office has concerns about this, they will make further checks and this can be done even after you arrive in the UK.
- **Criminal Convictions and driving offences** – these may have serious consequences for your immigration position and you should seek immigration advice from a specialist.

So, what do these visa conditions mean in practice?

# You must ensure that you:

Provide us (university) with a copy of your current passport and visa (share code, if it is an eVisa).

Every time you get a new passport or a new visa, you must give copies to the University.

# You must ensure that you:

**Register/re-register on your programme in-person three times a year.**

- Registration: September

When you register onto your course for the first time you will need to show your passport, BRP or your vignette and your visa decision letter in person at our registry offices.

If your visa status is digital = eVisa, we will need your share code.

- Re-registration: **February / April**

This means that you must complete our online registration process and visit the student records/ registry office with your passport and visa if these documents have changed since your last registration took place.

# You must ensure that you:

- Tell us if you change your UK contact details. **You should do this via Chiview > my details**
- Tell us if you decide to change your course, withdraw or suspend your studies.
- Study whilst you are in the UK, ensuring you meet the progression and attendance requirements for your course with no unauthorised absences. [Please see our student attendance, engagement and absence policy.](#) **See next slide for more information**

# Attendance and Engagement on your course

You are expected to attend **ALL** timetabled sessions:

lectures, seminars, studio practice, tutorials, work placements or individual appointments with staff. Your Module Handbook should make clear to you what counts as timetabled sessions.

- 100% attendance is expected.
- Register for every session (use your student card!) and stay for the whole period.
- Regularly check your Moodle to keep up to date with your programme.
- Keep in touch with your Module Tutors.
- Reply to all e-mails and letters from staff at the University.
- Attend regular tutorials and workshops.

# You must ensure that you:

## [Report any changes of circumstance to the UKVI:](#)

- Changes to your personal details
- Criminal convictions that you have not previously told the UKVI about
- Changes in your contact details
- Any other changes you think the UKVI should know

# You must ensure that you:

- Tell us if you are experiencing any delays with your visa application that may result in arrival after the course start date stated on your CAS.



# Our Sponsor duties

The University of Chichester has specific duties in relation to students on Student Route visas that we are required by law to fulfil.

# We must:

- Keep a copy of your passport and any relevant visa stamps/biometric ID cards.
- Report to the Home Office any Student Route visa holder who either does not register on their programme or re-register during their studies as required, or who misses too many expected contacts with tutors or in class leading to progression issues.
- Report any students who defer or leave a course, or if the University stops being the student's sponsor.

Circumstances  
that may lead to  
your visa getting  
curtailed or  
cancelled



# Reasons UoC may withdraw your sponsorship (= visa sponsorship)

N.B. Most withdrawals are the choice of students due to personal reasons.

However, UoC will withdraw you from your course and report this to the Home Office if you:

- fail to start your studies with us;
- fail to meet the engagement and attendance requirements on your course;
- fail to progress on your course or are unable to achieve the qualification you were originally sponsored; or
- have been excluded or withdrawn from the course; or
- have an outstanding debt, which has resulted in you being barred from teaching and assessment.

# Biometric Residence Permit Collection

If you have not been issued an eVisa, you must collect your BRP once you arrive in the UK.

You need to collect it from this [post office](#):

Slindon Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO1 1AB

- The easiest way to travel to Slindon Street post office is by train.
- Chichester – direct train to Portsmouth & Southsea station.
- Bognor Regis – train to Barnham, and change there to travel via Chichester to Portsmouth & Southsea.
- Book your train ticket in advance here <https://www.southernrailway.com/>
- The post office is a 2-minute walk from the train station (Southsea!).
- After collecting your BRP, you must visit academic registry to show them your original BRP card.

## EVERY BRP EXPIRES ON 31 DECEMBER 2024

- You do not need to worry or tell UKVI if your BRP expires on 31 December 2024 and your course end date is after this date.
- You will receive a letter/email with your visa which will have the dates your visa is valid for. Please keep this letter safe.
- You will not need a BRP from 1 January 2025.
- You will need to create an online account now to be ready for your eVisa. You should create your online account now. Your visa decision letter tells you how to do this.
- You will need to carry your **BRP** when you travel until the expiry date of your BRP.
- With an eVisa you'll be able to prove your immigration status online.

# Digital status = eVisa

- EU and EEA nationals, and UK based visa applicants, who have used "the UK Immigration: ID check app" receive their visa in the form of an eVisa = online digital status.
- Together with your online digital status you should also receive an accompanying letter/email from the Home Office confirming the grant of your immigration permission.
- You can share your visa details by creating a share code that allows others to see your status (see the above letter/email about share codes).
- You must keep evidence of your UK arrival date and show this to our registry team when you arrive.

# How to keep your visa safe?

- Arrive to start your studies by the start date of your course.
- Register onto your course – visit registry with your ID and visa.
- Re-register when advised to do so (twice a year).
- Follow the attendance, engagement and absence policy.
- Pay your tuition fees.
- Respond to any emails about attendance issues.
- Do not breach your visa conditions.
- Contact your module tutor if you are having difficulties with your studies or with attendance.
- Contact the international student adviser if you need confidential welfare advice or immigration advice.

**Remember: communicate with the university staff if you are having difficulties. We are here to support and advise you.**



# Student Route Visa Sessions during the welcome week

Topic	Date and time
<b>Student Route visa session:</b> Understand your visa, BRP collection and eVisa explained	23 September 2024 At 17:00-18:00 Chichester campus <u>Room to be confirmed</u>
<b>Student Route visa session:</b> Understand your visa, BRP collection and eVisa explained	26 September 2024 At 8:00-9:00 Bognor Regis Campus <u>Room to be confirmed</u>
<b>Student Route visa session for top-up students:</b> Understand your visa, BRP collection and eVisa explained	3 October 2024 At 8:00-9:00 Chichester Campus Room: A.B.1.01

# Student Route Visa Guide

You can collect a University of Chichester Student Route Visa Guide, which covers everything I have covered today in more detail, from the International Advice office when you arrive, or alternatively you can find a PDF version on the Chichester International Advice Moodle page.

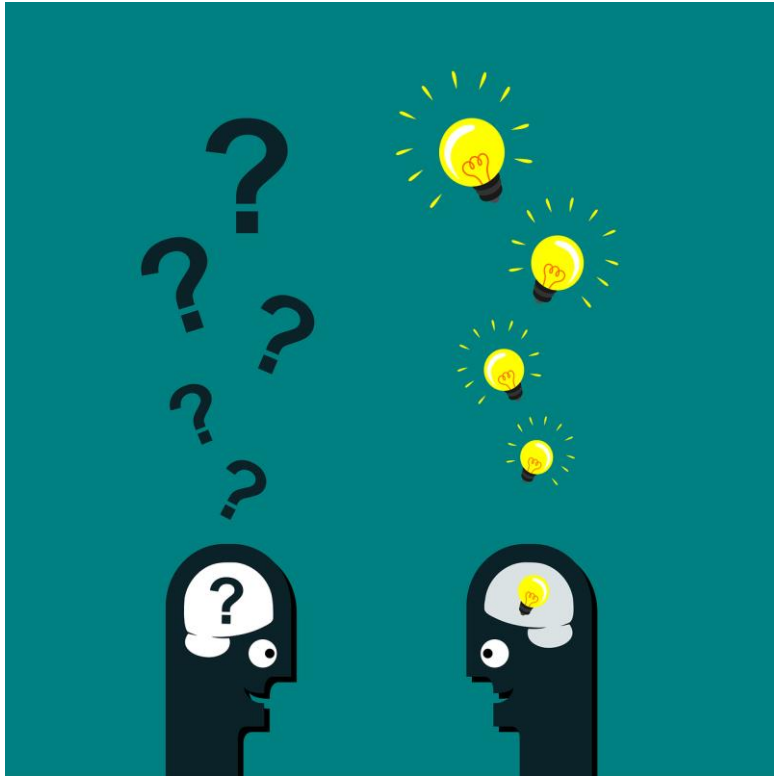
# Join our Be Prepared webinars!

Session Title	Delivered By	Session 1 Date/Time*
Stepping up to Masters Level (postgraduate students only)	Dawn Robins	Tuesday 3 September at 13:00-13:30 UK time
How to get here (Travel Talk)	Päivi Leivo de Lacy	Tuesday 3 September at 14:30-15:00 UK time
Questions and Answers Session	Päivi Leivo de Lacy and current students	Wednesday, 4 September at 13:00-13:30 UK time
Working in the UK	Federica Bocciarelli	Thursday, 5 September at 9:00-9:30 UK time
Learn about the Graduate Route visa	Päivi Leivo de Lacy	Tuesday 6 Sept at 13:00 - 13:30 UK time
Healthcare in the UK and registering with doctor	Päivi Leivo de Lacy	Monday 9 September 13:00-13:30 UK time
<b>BRP collection and eVisa explained</b>	Päivi Leivo de Lacy	Tuesday 10 September at 13:00 - 13:30 UK time
Prepare for Academic Study	Sue Lavender	Friday 13 September at 13:00-13:30 UK time
How much does it cost? Managing your Finances in the UK	Ali Collins	Monday 16 September at 13:00 - 13:30 UK time

**BOOK YOUR PLACE:**  
<https://beprepared.chi.ac.uk/be-prepared-webinars/>

# Useful resources:

- [UKCISA](#) – Protecting Your Student Status
- [UKCISA working definition](#)
- [UKCISA](#) – Student work
- [University of Chichester](#) – Protect your Student Route visa
- [University of Chichester](#) – Student Route Visa and Employment Rules
- [UK Visas and Immigration](#) – Student Route Visa information



Questions?

[international@chi.ac.uk](mailto:international@chi.ac.uk)

