



Home Office

Tier 4 of the points-based system

Version 47.0

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About this guidance

This guidance tells caseworkers how to consider applications for people who wish to enter or remain in the UK to study under Tier 4 of the Points Based System.

This guidance is based on the [Immigration Rules part 6A](#), paragraphs 245ZT – 245ZZE and appendices 6, A, C and H of the Immigration Rules.

Contacts

If you have any questions about the guidance and your line manager or senior caseworker cannot help you, or you think that the guidance has factual errors, then email the Student Migration Policy team.

If you notice any formatting errors in this guidance (broken links, spelling mistakes and so on) or have any comments about the layout or navigability of the guidance then you can email the Guidance Rules and Forms team.

Publication

Below is information on when this version of the guidance was published:

- version **47.0**
- published for Home Office staff on **15 August 2019**

Changes from last version of this guidance

The key changes to this guidance since it was last published on 10 January 2019 are:

- references to UK HEIs have been amended to refer to HEPs (higher education providers) with a track record of compliance, where appropriate, to reflect the additional privileges available to such providers following the HE reforms which have taken effect
- guidance regarding sports scholarships has been added to ensure these are accepted and not considered to be a breach of the definition of working as a 'professional sportsperson' which refers to receiving payment, including payment in kind
- guidance regarding sports-related work placements has been added to clarify what activity Tier 4 students are permitted to undertake

Related content

[Contents](#)

[Immigration Rules part 6A](#)

Tier 4 (General): key facts

This page shows the key facts for Tier 4 (General).

Issue	Details
Eligibility requirements	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a genuine student• not fall for refusal under general grounds for refusal• have a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)• meet the maintenance requirements• be able to show proficiency in English (if required to do so)• have a valid Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) clearance certificate if studying a relevant subject• have a valid Tuberculosis certificate, where is it necessary• if they are studying as a postgraduate doctor or dentist:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ have successfully completed a recognised UK degree in medicine or dentistry in the UK○ previously had leave as a Tier 4 (General) migrant or a student○ not be seeking leave that would lead to them having spent more than 3 years in the UK as a postgraduate doctor or dentist• have their sponsor's permission to take the course if they are, or have, in the last 12 months, been sponsored by a government or international scholarship agency• not spend more than 2 years in the UK studying below degree level as a Tier 4 (General) migrant• not spend more than 5 years studying at degree level or above• be at least 16 years old• have parental consent to study and for their care arrangements if they are under 18 years of age• not apply for a course that starts

Issue	Details
	<p>more than a month after their current leave expires (if applying for an extension of leave in this category)</p> <p>Applicants must not be in breach of immigration laws except as permitted under the Immigration Rules in relation to overstaying.</p>
Application forms	All applications can be made online using the GOV.UK website (or for applicants in North Korea only - on paper using the VAF 2).
Cost of application	Fees for Home Office services
Entry clearance mandatory?	Yes, but switching allowed from certain specified categories
Is biometric information required for applications?	Yes
Code of leave to remain granted:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code 2 – allowed to work 20 hours • Code 2A – allowed to work 10 hours • Code 3 – no work permitted
Entry clearance endorsements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D: Tier 4 (General) Student or • D: Tier 4 (General (S)) Student <p>Cat D endorsements which must include the sponsor licence number in the sponsor details plus police registration where required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ degree level and above: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 20 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)</p> ○ below degree level: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 10 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)</p>

Issue	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent School which can issue Tier 4 General CAS to students over the age of 16 years: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 10 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)</p> • Sponsor which is not an independent school or a HEP with a track record of compliance at any RQF level: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">T4 G Student SPX * No Work except Work Placement. No Public Funds (+ POL)</p> <p>Issue a BRP for grants of leave greater than 6 months.</p>
Conditions of leave to remain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No recourse to public funds • Must register with the police if required by paragraph 326 of the Immigration Rules • Employment and study restrictions
How long is enter or leave to remain normally granted for?	<p>The full period of the course plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the total length of the course is 12 months or longer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional 4 months after the course ends • if the total length of the course is 6 months or longer but less than 12 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional 2 months after the course ends • for a pre-sessional course that is less than 6 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later,

Issue	Details
	<p>and an additional 1 month after the course ends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for a course of less than 6 months that is not a pre-sessional course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 days before the course starts and an additional 7 days after the course ends • if the person is studying as a postgraduate doctor or dentist up to a maximum of 3 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later and an additional 4 months after the course ends
Are dependants allowed?	In limited circumstances.
What study is allowed?	<p>The student's main study (the study for which they were granted leave) must be at the institution that assigned the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). The student can undertake supplementary study at any other institution as long as this does not interfere with their main course.</p> <p>The student is not permitted to study at an academy or a school maintained by a local authority, except where a Tier 4 sponsor becomes an academy or a school maintained by a local authority, in which case the student is permitted to complete their current course of study.</p>
Is switching into this category allowed?	<p>Switching into the Tier 4 (General) route is permitted by applicants who have, or were last granted leave as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Tier 2 migrant • a Tier 4 (Child) student
Does this category lead to settlement (indefinite leave to remain)?	No
Is knowledge of language and life required?	Not applicable
CID case type	T4 - General Student – LTR T4 (Gen) - Doctorate Extension Scheme
Immigration Rules paragraphs	245ZT-245ZY and appendices 6, A, C and H.

Tier 4 (General): key facts - employment

Type of sponsor	Course type and level	Work permitted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance Overseas higher education institution and the student is on a short-term study-abroad programme in the UK 	Full-time course at degree level or above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> part-time during term-time (up to a maximum of 20 hours a week) full-time during vacations on a work placement as part of the course full-time as a postgraduate doctor or dentist on a recognised foundation programme as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance 	Full-time course below degree level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> part-time during term-time (up to a maximum of 10 hours a week) full-time during vacations on a work placement as part of the course as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years
<p>Sponsors which are not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance an overseas higher education institution sponsoring a study abroad student 	Full-time course at any level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on a work placement as part of the course (but only if the sponsor has Tier 4 sponsor status) as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years
Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance	Part-time course at post-degree level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no work allowed including work placements as part of the applicant's course

Students who are allowed to work must not:

- be self employed, except where they are awaiting a decision on an application they have made for leave to remain as a [Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\) Migrant](#)
- engage in business activity
- take employment as an entertainer or as a professional sportsperson, including a sports coach
- fill a full-time permanent vacancy other than a recognised foundation programme or where they are filling a post as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer
- take employment as a doctor in training (unless the course that they are being sponsored to do (as recorded on the CAS) is a recognised Foundation Programme)

Related content

[Contents](#)

General grounds for refusal

[Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\) Migrant](#)

Tier 4 (Child): key facts

This page shows the key facts for Tier 4 (Child).

Issue	Details
Eligibility requirements	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be a genuine student (assessment to be considered for 16 and 17 year olds only)• not fall for refusal under general grounds for refusal• have a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) assigned by an independent school• meet the maintenance requirements• be 4 years of age or older• be under the age of 18• not have children aged under 18 who they live with or are financially responsible for• have care arrangements in place that meet the requirements set out in the published Home Office guidance, if a foster carer or relative other than a parent or guardian will be responsible for them (they must provide evidence of this)• have their application supported by their parents, legal guardian or one parent if they have sole responsibility for the child• have their sponsor's permission to take the course, if they are or have, within the last 12 months, been sponsored by a government or international scholarship agency• not apply for a course that starts more than a month after their current leave expires (if applying for an extension of leave in this category)• have a valid Tuberculosis certificate, where is it necessary <p>Applicants must not be in breach of immigration laws except as permitted under the Immigration Rules in relation to overstaying.</p>
Application forms	All applications can be made online using the GOV.UK website (or for applicants in North Korea only - on paper using the VAF 2).
Cost of application:	Fees for Home Office Services
Entry clearance mandatory?	Yes, but switching allowed from Tier 4 (General)

Issue	Details
Is biometric information required for applications made in the UK?	Yes
Code of leave to remain granted	Code 2A - allowed to work 10 hours (Applicants 16 years of age and older) Code 3 - not permitted to work (Applicants below 16 years of age)
Entry clearance endorsements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D: Tier 4 (Child) Student or • D: Tier 4 (Child (S)) Student <p>Cat D endorsements which must include the sponsor licence number in the sponsor details and if the applicant is aged 16 or over must include Police Registration where required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age 16 or over: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ T4 C Student SPX* Work Limit 10 hrs p/w term time - Age 16+ No Public Funds (+POL) • Under 16: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ T4 C Student. No Work SPX* No Public Funds (+POL) <p>Issue a BRP visa for leave greater than 6 months</p>
Conditions of leave to remain:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No recourse to public funds • Must register with the police if required by paragraph 326 of the Immigration Rules • Employment and study restrictions
How long is leave to remain normally granted for?	<p>For a Tier 4 (Child) applicant aged under 16: the length of the student's course as stated on the CAS, up to a maximum of 6 years.</p> <p>For a Tier 4 (Child) applicant who is 16 or 17 years old: the length of the student's course as stated on the CAS, up to a maximum of 3 years.</p> <p>In both cases you must grant for the period stated on the CAS, plus 4 months, with the start date being no more than 1 month before the course starts.</p>
Are dependants allowed?	No
Work and study allowed?	<p>Work</p> <p>Children under 16 are not allowed to work. If the child is aged 16 years or older, they can work provided:</p>

Issue	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it is for no more than 10 hours a week during term time (it can be of any duration during vacations) • it is on a work placement as part of the course • it is not self employment or a business activity • it is not as an entertainer or as professional sportsperson, including a sports coach <p><u>Study</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the student's main study (the study for which they were granted leave) must be at the institution that assigned the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) • the student can undertake supplementary study at any other institution as long as this does not interfere with their main course • the student cannot undertake a foundation course intended to prepare the student for undergraduate study and entry to a higher education institution • the student is not permitted to study at an academy or a school maintained by a local authority, except where the student is studying at a Tier 4 sponsored independent school that converts to or becomes an academy or school maintained by a local authority in which case the student is permitted to complete their current course of study
Is switching into this category allowed?	<u>Switching</u> into the Tier 4 (Child) route is allowed by applicants who have, or were last granted leave as a Tier 4 (General) student.
Does this category lead to settlement (indefinite leave to remain)?	No
Is knowledge of language and life required?	Not applicable
CID case type	T4 - Child Student - LTR
Immigration Rules paragraphs	<u>245ZZ-245ZZD</u> and appendices A, C and H

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: entry clearance and leave to remain

This page tells you the cross-cutting requirements a person must meet to be granted either entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 migrant.

Before considering any Tier 4 application you must check:

- the application is valid for leave to remain applications
- the applicant's passport or travel document is genuine
- the applicant's immigration history by checking internal systems and previous case notes
- both the application and biometric information are registered and verified
- the immigration health surcharge has been paid

You must conduct [verification checks](#) if you have any doubts about whether the supporting documents an applicant has submitted are genuine.

Representatives

If an applicant has a UK based representative, you must check that the representative is approved to provide immigration advice with either:

- [the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner](#) (OISC)
- one of the following designated authorities:
 - the [Law Society](#)
 - the [Law Society of Scotland](#)
 - the [Law Society of Northern Ireland](#)

Requesting more information

If you have considered the application and you could grant it if you received or clarified certain details, you may consider [requesting](#) more information.

Translating documents

If the documents provided are not in English or Welsh, the applicant must provide a certified [translation](#).

Date of application

Separate guidance is available about the date that an application was made, which may have a bearing on the Tier 4 requirements.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (General): entry clearance and leave to remain

This page tells you the requirements a person must meet to be granted either entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) migrant.

Requirements for granting entry clearance or leave to remain

A Tier 4 (General) applicant must:

- be a [genuine](#) student
- not fall for refusal under general grounds for refusal
- score a total of 40 points by:
 - scoring 30 points for attributes by having a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies ([CAS](#))
 - scoring 10 points by meeting the maintenance requirements
- hold an [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#) clearance certificate (if studying a relevant course)
- meet the [postgraduate doctor or dentist](#) requirements, if applying in this capacity
- have permission from their government sponsor or international sponsor to undertake the course (if they have one)
- not spend more than 2 years studying below degree level (unless exemptions apply)
- not spend more than 5 years studying at degree level or above (unless exemptions apply)
- be at least 16 years old
- have [parental consent](#) to take the course (if aged under 18)
- have parental consent for their care arrangements in the UK (if aged under 18)
- have evidence of the relationship with the person(s) providing parental consent (where a consent letter is required)

If the person is applying in the UK, they must also:

- not be an illegal entrant
- be [switching](#) from one of the specified categories or have current leave as a Tier 4 (General) student with their existing Tier 4 leave to study a full-time course being sponsored by:
 - a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance
 - an overseas HEI
 - an embedded college offering pathway courses
 - an independent school
- not be applying for leave for a course that starts more than a month after their current leave expires

An applicant who is not switching from one of the specified categories, or is currently sponsored by any other type of institution, must apply for entry clearance.

An applicant who is studying a part-time course is unable to extend their leave in the UK and must apply for entry clearance.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (Child): entry clearance and leave to remain

This page tells you the requirements a person must meet to be granted either entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (Child) migrant.

Requirements for granting entry clearance or leave to remain

A Tier 4 (Child) applicant must:

- be a [genuine](#) student (assessment to be considered for 16 and 17 year olds only)
- not fall for refusal under general grounds for refusal
- not be an illegal entrant (if applying in the UK)
- have current leave as a Tier 4 (Child) student or be switching from Tier 4 (General)
- score a total of 40 points by:
 - scoring 30 points through having a [valid](#) CAS
 - scoring 10 points through meeting the maintenance requirements
- be at least 4 years of age
- be under 18 years of age
- have no children under the age of 18 who are living with them or for who they are financially responsible
- have [parental consent](#) to take the course
- have parental consent for their care arrangements in the UK
- have evidence of the relationship with the person or people providing parental consent (where a consent letter is required)
- not be applying for leave for a course that starts more than a month after their current leave expires (if applying in the UK)
- have permission from their government or international sponsor to undertake the course (if they have one)

If a foster carer or a relative other than the applicant's parent, will be responsible for their care:

- the applicant's care arrangements must meet the requirements published by the Home Office and they must provide specified documents to show this and
- the applicant must provide details of the care arrangements as specified in the published Home Office guidance

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: switching

This page tells you when an applicant can switch into the Tier 4 category of the points-based system.

Switching into Tier 4 (General)

[Under paragraph 245ZX of the Immigration Rules](#) an applicant can switch if they have, or were last granted, leave in any of the following as a main applicant:

- Tier 2 migrant
- Tier 4 (Child) student

Switching into Tier 4 (Child)

[Under paragraph 245ZZC of the Immigration Rules](#) an applicant can switch if they have, or were last granted, leave as a main applicant in the Tier 4 (General) category.

Dependants of overseas diplomats

The Home Office sometimes receives applications from foreign embassies exceptionally to allow dependants of overseas diplomats to switch into Tier 4. You should normally refuse such applications, but where there are compelling circumstances you can allow switching on an exceptional basis. You must, however, refer such a decision to the relevant senior executive officer (SEO) senior caseworker.

The following are examples of factors to consider when making your decision:

- to where would the applicant have to return to get entry clearance and how long would it take to obtain?
- is the dependant mid-way through an academic course?
- would the return home take place at a particularly disruptive point in the school term?
- has evidence been provided (for example, from the school or college) which shows that return home would be highly disruptive to the dependant's education?
- does the dependant have a particular medical condition?
- is there evidence of particularly high academic ability?

This list is not exhaustive and you must make your decision based on the facts of each case.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): overstayers

This page tells you what you must check when making a decision on applications if an applicant has overstayed. This applies to Tier 4 (General) applications, including extensions and switching.

Before considering any Tier 4 (General) application you must check the applicant is not in breach of immigration laws, except for periods of overstaying which can be disregarded under the Immigration Rules.

You should not take into account any breaches of the Immigration Rules whilst the applicant was under the age of 18.

Full guidance on [overstaying](#) is available.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: sponsors

This page tells you about Tier 4 sponsors.

All educational establishments that wish to [sponsor](#) international students must have a Tier 4 sponsor licence.

To check that a sponsor still has a Tier 4 licence, see the [Tier 4 sponsor register](#).

The type of institution and the status of their licence can affect the student's application and the leave they are granted.

Legacy and zero Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) allocated sponsors

A sponsor with Tier 4 sponsor status that does not apply for a Tier 4 educational oversight inspection in time or fails to pass a statutory education inspection or Tier 4 educational oversight inspection will be:

- made a legacy sponsor if they are a:
 - publicly funded college
 - private provider
 - overseas HEI
- allocated zero CAS if they are an:
 - HEI
 - independent school

Some sponsors are therefore listed on the register as 'legacy sponsors'. Legacy sponsors and sponsors with a zero CAS allocation cannot sponsor any new students because they can't issue new CAS to students.

Tier 4 sponsorship duties

Tier 4 sponsors have a range of sponsorship duties which they must fulfil. These include record keeping and reporting duties. For example, a Tier 4 sponsor must keep a copy of the student's:

- passport
- biometric residence permit (BRP)
- UK immigration status document (the student must keep the original)
- contact details

A sponsor must report to the Home Office if:

- a student fails to enrol on their course within the enrolment period
- a student misses 10 expected contacts without their Tier 4 sponsor's permission

- the Tier 4 sponsor stops being the student's immigration sponsor for any other reason, for example, if the student moves in to an immigration category that does not need a Tier 4 sponsor
- there are any significant changes in the student's circumstances, for example:
 - the length of a course of study becomes shorter
 - the Tier 4 sponsor suspects that the student is breaking the conditions of their permission to stay

Related content

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Tier 4: sponsor subject to UKVI sanctions, licence revoked, surrendered or expires

This page tells you how to deal with applications for entry clearance or leave to remain where a Tier 4 sponsor:

- is removed from the Tier 4 register of sponsors pending investigation
- has their licence revoked, or the licence is surrendered or expires

Sponsor is removed from the Tier 4 register of sponsors pending investigation

Follow the steps below where the sponsor has been removed from the Tier 4 register of sponsors pending investigation, or where the application is to study a pre-session course with a partner institution which has been removed from the Tier 4 register of sponsors.

Student's position	Action to take
Student has extant leave and no application pending	No action required. The student is not affected while they have valid leave.
Student has submitted an entry clearance application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider the application, referring for a credibility interview • where the application does not meet the requirements, refuse it • where it does meet the requirements, put it on hold pending the decision in relation to the sponsor's licence • if the student's application has been held and the sponsor's licence is revoked, refuse the application • if the student's application has been held and the sponsor's licence is re-instated, decide the application as normal
Student has submitted a leave to remain application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider the application, including referring for a credibility interview • where the application does not meet the requirements, refuse it • where it does meet the requirements, put it on hold. You may wish to perform further checks on the student's application while it is pending, and could ask the student to submit further documentation or attend an interview • if the student's application has been held and the

Student's position	Action to take
	sponsor's licence is reinstated, decide the application as normal

Sponsor's licence is revoked, surrendered or expires

You must take the following action where the period given for representations against a revocation decision has ended, and the revocation is confirmed or, where the application is to study a pre-sessional course with a partner institution which has been removed from the Tier 4 register of sponsors.

Student's position	Action to take
Student has extant leave and no application pending	<p>If you believe a student has not been a genuine student at the institution, or that they have participated in the practices that contributed to the licence being revoked, leave must be immediately curtailed. The student will have to leave the UK or face enforced removal.</p> <p>In all other cases, UKVI Sponsorship must consider whether to allow some or all of the sponsor's students to continue to be taught by the sponsor for a limited period. If this is allowed, no action must be taken against the student during that limited period.</p> <p>In all other circumstances, you must write to the student curtailing their leave to 60 calendar days from the date of the letter. During this time, where the revoked sponsor is an HEI, overseas HEI, Embedded College offering Pathway Courses or independent school, the student may find a new sponsor and apply for further leave to remain. Otherwise, when their leave expires they will have to leave the UK or face enforced removal.</p>
Student has submitted an entry clearance application	The Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) will be invalid. You must refuse the application.
Student has submitted a leave to remain application	<p>The CAS will be invalid. You must consider the application, including referring for a credibility interview.</p> <p>If the only ground for refusing the application is that the student's CAS has become invalid following the revocation of the licence, where the sponsor is an HEI, overseas HEI, Embedded College offering Pathway Courses, or independent school, you must delay the refusal of their application to give them 60 days to vary their application or leave the UK. You must:</p>

Student's position	Action to take
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write to the student telling them the date by which they must make a new application (and provide a new CAS if they make a Tier 4 application) if they intend to do so • if the applicant fails to make a Tier 4 variation application and provide a new CAS within the specified 60 calendar day period, or vary their application to a different type, you must consider the application on the basis of the evidence submitted with the application • if the applicant makes a variation application and provides a new CAS within the specified 60 calendar day period you must consider the application as normal, including referring for a credibility interview <p>If there are other grounds for refusing the application (including where a student has not been a genuine student at their institution or they have participated in the practices that may have contributed to the sponsor's licence being revoked), you must refuse it if the applicant has extant leave. You must also refer the case to the curtailment team to consider curtailing the leave. Do this by emailing the curtailment team with the details of the case.</p>

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Tier 4: study requirements

This page tells you what level and type of course is acceptable for a student studying under Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child).

Tier 4 (General): acceptable levels of study

Type of sponsor	Acceptable courses (leading to an approved qualification for Home Office purposes)
Tier 4 sponsor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full-time courses approved at level 3 or above on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland • part-time courses approved at level 7 or above on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland • full-time courses accredited at level 6 or above in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) • part-time courses accredited at level 11 or above in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) • a short-term study abroad programme in the UK as part of the Tier 4 (General) student's qualification at an overseas higher education institution (HEI), so long as the qualification is confirmed as being of equivalent level to a UK degree by UK NARIC • an English language course at level B2 or above of the Common European Framework of reference for languages (CEFR) • a recognised foundation programme for postgraduate doctors or dentists • an aviation licence, rating or certificate issued in accordance with EU legislation by the UK's Civil Aviation Authority
Probationary sponsor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • full-time courses approved at level 4 or above on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland • full-time courses approved at level 3 or above on the RQF where the applicant is under the age of 18 • full-time courses accredited at level 7 or above in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) • full-time courses accredited at level 6 or above in the SCQF by the SQA where the applicant is under the age of 18 • a short-term study abroad programme in the UK as part of the Tier 4 (General) student's qualification at

Type of sponsor	Acceptable courses (leading to an approved qualification for Home Office purposes)
	<p>an overseas higher education institution (HEI), as long as the qualification is confirmed as being of equivalent level to a UK degree by UK NARIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an English language course at level B2 or above of the Common European Framework of Reference for languages (CEFR) • a recognised foundation programme for postgraduate doctors or dentists • an aviation licence, rating or certificate issued in accordance with EU legislation by the UK's Civil Aviation Authority

You must check with the [Ofqual register](#) or the [Scottish Qualifications Authority](#) (SQA) to confirm that a course is approved or accredited.

Tier 4 (Child): acceptable levels of study

A Tier 4 (Child) student can do a course that is either:

- taught in line with the national curriculum
- taught in line with the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)
- accepted as being the same academic level as the national curriculum or the RQF by:
 - Ofsted (England)
 - the Education and Training Inspectorate (Northern Ireland)
 - Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education Scotland
 - Estyn (Wales)
- taught in line with existing (also known as prevailing) independent school education inspection standards
- a [pre-sessional course](#) to prepare a Tier 4 (Child) student for their main course of study by giving them the ancillary skills or knowledge necessary to adjust to study in the UK, the main course of study must meet the conditions above

A Tier 4 (Child) Student cannot take an English language course if they are under 16 years of age.

A Tier 4 (Child) student cannot do a course that is a foundation course. A foundation course is a course which prepares a student for undergraduate study and entry to a higher education institution. It includes undergraduate foundation programmes, university foundation courses, international foundation year courses, and international year one courses (and equivalents). It does not include pre-A levels foundation courses, A levels, or the International Baccalaureate (or equivalents).

Related content

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Tier 4: pre-sessional courses

This page tells you about the requirements for Tier 4 applicants who apply for leave to take a pre-sessional course before beginning their main course of study.

A pre-sessional course is one that prepares a student for their intended full-time course of study in the UK. This will usually be supplementary English Language training or some instruction in the British education system.

Courses such as foundation degrees which are designed to give a student fundamental training in the subject area of the main course, and courses which form an integral part of the main course of study or replace part of it, are not considered pre-sessional courses.

Tier 4 (General)

You can grant leave to cover both the pre-sessional course and the applicant's main course where the following requirements are met:

- the sponsor is a HEP with a track record of compliance and has assigned a single Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) to cover a main degree level course to be studied with that sponsor and a pre-sessional course to be studied with that sponsor or a partner of that sponsor named on the sponsor licence
- the applicant has an unconditional offer on a degree level course at the same HEP
- the pre-sessional course is no longer than 3 months' duration
- the main degree level course begins no later than one month after the end of the pre-sessional course

An HEI may also assign a single CAS for a main degree course and a pre-sessional course where the 3 month pre-sessional course is to allow a student who is already at B1 level of English language on the Common European Framework of Reference for languages (CEFR) to reach B2 and the sponsor is satisfied that on completion of the pre-sessional, the student will proceed to the degree course.

Tier 4 (Child)

You can grant leave to cover both the pre-sessional course and the applicant's main course where all of the following requirements are met:

- a single CAS was assigned by an independent school to cover both a pre-sessional course and a course at an independent school
- the applicant has an unconditional offer of a place on a main course at that independent school
- the duration of the pre-sessional course and the main course does not exceed the maximum length of permission to stay that a Tier 4 (Child) student can be given either:

- 6 years plus an additional 4 months if the student is under 16 years of age
- 3 years plus an additional 4 months if the student is 16 or 17 years of age

If you cannot grant for both the pre-sessional and main course because one of the requirements in [Appendix A](#) has not been met, providing all other requirements are met, you must contact the sponsor to confirm that they are willing to sponsor the student for the pre-sessional course only.

If the sponsor agrees, you must grant for the pre-sessional course plus the additional one month period.

If the sponsor does not agree, you must refuse the application.

Where the above requirements are not met, Tier 4 students wishing to do a course before their main course, must make a separate application for each course. Both courses must satisfy the full criteria of Tier 4, including, where they apply, the:

- [English language requirement](#)
- [minimum course level - Tier 4 \(General\)](#)
- [minimum course level - Tier 4 \(Child\)](#)

Related content

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Tier 4: part-time courses

This page tells you about the requirements for Tier 4 applicants who apply for leave to take a part-time course.

A course can be defined as part-time by the applicant's sponsor where, in addition to the usual Tier 4 conditions, must:

- be studied at a HEP with a track record of compliance
- be at RQF Level 7 (SCQF Level 11) or higher

The part-time visa gives an applicant a multi-entry visa covering the entire period of their course.

Applicants with a part-time visa have no entitlement to work, bring dependants or extend their visa in country.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) courses

This page tells you about the requirements Tier 4 (General) sponsors must meet to offer places on Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) courses.

Sponsors offering ACCA courses must be an ACCA approved learning partner which offers tuition at either 'gold' or 'platinum' level. You must confirm this when you receive an application from a student undertaking an ACCA course, (or extending their leave to continue an ACCA course) by checking the download at: [Search for a tuition provider](#).

Official - sensitive: Start of section

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Official - sensitive: End of section

Where a sponsor is confirmed as neither a gold nor platinum provider, you must refuse the application and complete an intelligence referral form.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

This page tells you about ATAS and which courses of study require an ATAS clearance certificate.

ATAS was introduced to help stop the spread of knowledge and skills that could be used in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery.

The ATAS is specifically designed to make sure that those applying for postgraduate study in certain sensitive subjects do not acquire knowledge that could potentially be used in WMD programmes.

The [differentiation](#) arrangements do not apply to ATAS. Migrants of all nationalities must apply for a clearance certificate [online](#) through the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) website. This site also contains information about the scheme and the list of designated subjects and useful documents to provide with ATAS applications.

ATAS requirements

A Tier 4 (General) student must hold a valid ATAS clearance certificate if they are applying for leave for:

- undergraduate or postgraduate studies leading to a doctorate or master's degree by research in one of the subjects listed in paragraph 1 of [Appendix 6 of the Immigration Rules](#)
- undergraduate or postgraduate studies leading to a taught master's degree or other postgraduate qualification in one of the subjects listed in paragraph 2 of [Appendix 6 of the Immigration Rules](#)
- a period of study or research in one of the subjects listed in paragraphs 1 or 2 of [Appendix 6 of the Immigration Rules](#) at an institution of higher education where this forms part of an overseas postgraduate qualification

You must check whether an ATAS clearance certificate is required by checking the JACS code on the student's confirmation of acceptance for studies (CAS) or in the offer letter from the sponsor against those listed in [Appendix 6 of the Immigration Rules](#).

If the applicant does not have an ATAS clearance certificate and you are satisfied that one is required, you must refuse the application.

The ATAS clearance certificate

An ATAS clearance certificate is issued for a specific course with a named provider and covers the length of that course from the course start date to the course end

date given on the CAS, plus up to an additional 3 calendar months of study. The certificate remains valid as long as the provider and/or course details do not change.

The applicant must provide a copy of their ATAS clearance certificate. It will have been sent to them as an email attachment. If you have any questions or concerns about the certificate, contact the ATAS team to check its validity.

If the provider or course details change, or the student's course end date is postponed for a period of more than 3 calendar months, the student must apply for a new ATAS clearance certificate within 28 calendar days of being notified of the change in course, regardless of when their leave expires.

A student must also apply for a new ATAS certificate if:

- they want to start a new course that needs ATAS clearance
- there are any changes to the course content (or research proposal):
 - if they are studying a PhD course, changes include changes other than minor changes to the areas of research or to the use of any new research technique
- they apply for an extension of leave to continue on their course
- they move to another institution

Related content

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Tier 4: Tuberculosis certification

This page tells you about when students are required to obtain a Tuberculosis certificate in order to be granted leave to enter the UK.

All students coming to the UK for over 6 months who have been present in one of the countries listed in [Appendix T of the Immigration Rules](#) for more than 6 months immediately prior to their application are required to obtain a Tuberculosis certificate.

Further guidance including where students can obtain a TB certificate is found on [GOV.UK](#).

Related content

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[Tuberculosis tests for visa applicants](#)

Tier 4 (General): flight schools

This page tells you about assessing the equivalency of qualifications provided by flight schools with the existing requirements within Tier 4.

From 24 November 2016, the definition of an approved qualification includes aviation licences, ratings and certificates issued in accordance with EU legislation by the UK's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Organisations conducting approved courses of flight and ground training are listed in the [CAA Standards Document 31](#).

The equivalency of the level of courses offered by flight schools is set out in the following table.

Course	Level
Private Pilot Licence (PPL) or Light Aircraft Pilot Licence (LAPL), associated class ratings and theoretical knowledge exams	Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) level 3/ Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 6
Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) / Instrument Rating (IR) (or Multicrew Pilot Licence (MPL) / IR), associated type ratings and CPL, IR and Airline Transport Pilot Licence (ATPL) theoretical knowledge exams	RQF 4/SCQF 7
Pilots holding ATPLs proceeding to senior level qualifications such as Type Rating Instruction (TRI) and Type Rating Examiner (TRE)	RQF 5/SCQF 8

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Tier 4: change course or finish course early

This page tells you about the procedure to follow if a Tier 4 student changes their course or finishes their course early.

Only some students are able to change from the course which they are currently studying and for which their CAS was assigned (the 'current course') to an alternative course (the 'new course').

The procedure to follow varies according to:

- whether the sponsor has Tier 4 sponsor status
- whether the student has completed the course for which they have permission to stay
- whether the student is changing sponsor
- when the student applied for their last grant of leave as a Tier 4 migrant
- whether the course was a full-time or part-time course

A Tier 4 (General) student can only apply to extend their leave to study at their current sponsor, or at another sponsor, if they are currently studying a full-time course sponsored by:

- a HEP with a track record of compliance
- an overseas HEI
- an embedded college offering pathway courses
- an independent school

A Tier 4 (General) student who is sponsored by any other type of institution, or who is studying a part-time course, must apply for a visa from outside of the UK if they wish to undertake further study under Tier 4.

A Tier 4 (General) student who is applying to extend their leave in Tier 4 must be [academically progressing](#) (unless they are [exempt](#) from demonstrating academic progression), including where they are extending to continue the same course.

A sponsor can only issue a CAS to a student for a change of course if they have a current CAS allocation.

Students who want to do a different course of study with their Tier 4 sponsor

If a student applies for further leave to remain to start a new course with the same Tier 4 sponsor, this will be dependent on whether they have [successfully completed](#) the course for which their leave was granted. In all cases, if a student

requires further leave to complete a course, they will need to meet the current Tier 4 requirements including the [academic progression](#) requirement.

The student has completed the course for which they were given leave to remain

If the student has successfully completed the course for which they were given leave to remain, they will need to make a new application for permission to stay for their new course.

They must apply before beginning their new course unless:

- their Tier 4 sponsor is an HEP with a track record of compliance
- their sponsor has Tier 4 sponsor status
- the student has current leave to stay
- the student will be studying their new course with their existing sponsor

If those circumstances apply, the student must make their application for further leave to remain within 6 weeks of the start of their course or before their leave expires, whichever is earlier.

In all other circumstances a student must make an application for leave to remain and must not start their new course until the Home Office have approved their new application.

The student has not completed the course for which they were given permission to stay

The ability to change course is dependent on a student's conditions of leave, which will differ depending on when the student applied for that leave. The conditions and circumstances in which students can change courses are set out below. If a student wants to change their current course but, under their conditions of leave, are not permitted to do so, they need to make a new Tier 4 application before changing course.

Changing A-level subjects

Where the student was assigned a CAS to undertake A-levels, they will not be considered to be changing their course if they are changing individual A-level subjects.

If the student applied for their current leave on or after 6 April 2016, they will need to be able to complete all A-level subjects in their current period of leave.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) clearance

Where the new course (or period of research) requires an [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#) (ATAS) clearance certificate, the student must obtain an ATAS clearance before they start that course (or period of research).

Students who applied before 13 April 2013

A student who applied for their current leave before 13 April 2013 can change to a new course at a higher, lower or at the same level without getting permission from the Home Office to start their new course.

Students who applied between 13 April 2013 and 5 November 2014

A student who applied for their current leave between 13 April 2013 and 5 November 2014 (inclusive) can only change from their current course without getting permission from the Home Office if the new course is at either the:

- same or a higher level than the current course
- a lower level, provided the conditions and requirements of their permission to stay are the same as those they would have been granted had they made an application for the new course (instead of their current course) at the time they applied for their current course

Students who applied between 6 November 2014 and 5 April 2016

A student who applied between 6 November 2014 and 5 April 2016 can only change from their current course without getting permission from the Home Office if the new course represents [academic progress](#) (as set out in paragraph 120A(b) of [Appendix A of the Rules](#) in place at the time the student made the application for their current leave) from the course the student completed during their last period of Tier 4 (General) Student or Student leave ('the previous course'). To represent academic progress the new course must either be:

- at the same or a higher level than the current course
- at a lower level, provided the conditions and requirements of their permission to stay (except those relating to maintenance and academic progression) are the same as those they would have been granted if they made an application for their new course (instead of their current course) under the current rules

Students who applied on or after 6 April 2016

A student who applied on or after 6 April 2016 can only change their course without getting permission from the Home Office to start their new course if:

- the current sponsor is an HEP with a track record of compliance
- the current period of leave was to study a full-time course
- the new course is at degree level or above
- the new course is not at a lower level than the current course
- the student will be able to complete their new course within their current period of leave
- for students who have previously been granted Tier 4 (General) leave, the sponsor confirms that:
 - the new course is related to the previous course for which the applicant was granted leave as a Tier 4 (General) Student, meaning that it is either connected to the previous course, part of the same subject group, or involves deeper specialisation
 - the previous course and the new course in combination support the applicant's genuine career aspirations

This group of students must complete their new course within their existing period of leave unless:

- they are applying to resit exams or repeat modules
- they require further leave because they have previously resat exams or repeated modules for their current course

The student will need to provide evidence when applying for leave that they have attempted exams/modules in line with the [academic progression](#) requirements. You must not use this provision to allow students to undertake part/s of the course for the first time.

Do not grant students further leave from within the UK to complete their course in any other circumstance. If they need further leave to do so, they must apply from overseas.

The student is adding a study abroad programme or work placement to their course

Students who are adding a study abroad programme or work placement to the course they have started studying under Tier 4 are considered to be changing course, however they will be exempt from demonstrating academic progression. This applies regardless of when the student applied for their current period of leave.

They must apply for their additional leave to remain either before their study abroad programme or work placement starts, or after they have completed their study abroad programme or work placement and require additional leave to remain to complete their course.

In both circumstances, the student must apply no more than 3 months before the start date of the course recorded on the CAS. Further guidance on how the start date is interpreted is detailed within the '[Creating a CAS: guide for education sponsors](#)' guidance.

Students who want to do a course of study with a new Tier 4 sponsor

The ability for students to complete a new course of study with a new Tier 4 sponsor is dependent on a student's conditions of leave, which will differ depending on when the student applied for that leave. The conditions and circumstances in which students can change courses are set out below.

Students who last applied on or after 5 October 2009

Students who want to study with a new sponsor and who made their last Tier 4 application on or after 5 October 2009 must apply for new permission to stay. Students can begin their new course before their application has been approved by the Home Office provided the following is met:

- they applied for an extension of stay before starting the new course
- the sponsor has Tier 4 sponsor status
- they have existing leave to study a full-time course in the UK
- the Tier 4 sponsor has assigned a CAS to the student for the new course

Students who are applying to study with a probationary sponsor cannot begin the new course until the Home Office has approved their application.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): academic progression

This page tells you about the academic progression requirement for Tier 4 (General) students.

The academic progression rule is in place to ensure that students are progressing academically if they wish to study a further course in the UK, and are not merely seeking to extend their stay in the UK.

The rule only applies to students who have previously been granted leave as a Tier 4 (General) Student and are applying for leave to remain.

Exemptions

An applicant does not need to show academic progression if:

- they are a Tier 4 (Child) Student
- they are making a Tier 4 (General) application from overseas
- they are making a first application to complete an existing course commenced at a Tier 4 sponsor that had its licence revoked
- they are applying to resit an examination, repeat a course module (a student may not take the same exam or module more than 3 times, unless their sponsor has Tier 4 Sponsor status) or repeat an academic year, or they have previously re-sat examinations, repeated modules or repeated an academic year and require leave to remain to complete the course in respect of which those examinations were re-sat, or modules or academic year repeated
- they are applying to complete the PhD or other doctoral qualification for which they were last given Tier 4 or Student leave (including where they are completing the qualification at a new sponsor)
- they are applying to undertake a role as a [Student Union Sabbatical Officer](#)
- they are applying to complete the qualification for which they were last given Tier 4 or Student leave after a period as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer
- they are applying under the [Doctorate Extension Scheme](#)
- they are applying as a [postgraduate doctor or dentist](#) on a recognised Foundation Programme
- they are applying to undertake a [study abroad programme](#) or [work placement](#) or they have previously completed a [study abroad programme](#) or [work placement](#) and require leave to remain to complete their principal course

If an applicant is exempt from demonstrating academic progression, the sponsor must confirm this and set out why in the CAS. You may request further evidence if you require this to confirm they are exempt.

If an applicant is applying in the UK under the [differentiation arrangements](#), they do not need to send in evidence that they have completed their previous course with

their application, but their sponsor must specify in the CAS that they have done so. You may request further evidence of this when making a decision on these applications.

If an applicant is applying for the purposes of re-sitting a single or multiple examination(s) or repeating a single or multiple module(s), or because they have previously done so, the sponsor must state this (and whether they are/have re-sat examinations or are/have repeated modules in the CAS). If the applicant has changed their course without completing their previous course (having met the relevant requirements to do so), they must submit transcripts to show that they have previously sat the exam or exams or taken the module or modules to support their application, in respect of the course they changed to, not the previous course.

Applicants making a Tier 4 (General) application from overseas are not required to show academic progression. When assessing these applications you do not need to ensure that the new course is at a higher level than the student's previous course in the UK.

You must however continue to assess whether the applicant is a genuine student. This may include assessing the applicant's education history, study and post study plans. If you have one or more doubts that the applicant is genuine, you must refuse the application.

Demonstrating academic progression

Unless they are exempt for one of the reasons given above, all applicants who have previously been granted leave as a Tier 4 (General) Student and are applying from within the UK to extend their stay must show academic progression from their previous course.

To meet the academic progression requirement, the applicant's new course must normally be above the level of the previous course for which they were given Tier 4 leave. For example, if an applicant's previous course was at [Regulated Qualifications Framework](#) (RQF) level 6 (and equivalents), their next course should be at least at level QCF or RQF level 7.

In certain circumstances an applicant may be able to continue to [study at the same level](#). However, if the applicant's new course is at a lower level than the previous course, it will not represent academic progression and you must refuse their application.

The applicant must also meet one of the following requirements:

- they must have successfully completed (meaning they have achieved the qualification for which they were studying) the course for which they were last granted Tier 4 leave or, if they have changed courses with the same sponsor, the course they changed to
- they must be applying to progress from either:

- a bachelor's to master's level course as part of an [integrated master's course](#)
- a master's to PhD level course as part of an [integrated master's and PhD programme](#)
- they must be applying to pursue an intercalating course as part of their medical, dental or veterinary science degree, or they are returning to their original course having completed their intercalated course

The following circumstances are examples of where the applicant meets the academic progression rule:

- applicant is progressing from A-levels (RQF3) at an independent school to a bachelor's degree (RQF6) at a HEP
- applicant is progressing from a bachelor's degree (RQF6) to a master's degree (RQF7)

If an applicant has failed successfully to complete their previous course or is not applying to progress from the lower to higher level of an integrated master's course or integrated master's and PhD programme and they are not an intercalating student, they will not be able to demonstrate academic progress and will have to apply from overseas if they wish to make a Tier 4 application to study a new course.

Applying for an integrated course

An applicant can demonstrate academic progression if they are moving from the lower level to the higher level of an integrated master's course or an integrated master's and PhD programme. In these circumstances you must check the sponsor has undertaken an assessment of the applicant's academic ability to complete the higher level course before assigning the CAS and has confirmed this in the CAS. If an assessment has not taken place, you must refer the sponsor for compliance action. If an applicant wants to move to the lower level course, this would not demonstrate academic progression.

You must confirm academic progression has been met by checking the course is a fully integrated course; it cannot be 2 separate courses placed back to back and there must be no option to undertake the 2 courses separately at the same sponsor. For example, if the course is an integrated master's course in Engineering, the applicant cannot also have the option to undertake a bachelor's and master's in the same course separately, which they could otherwise take consecutively. To grant leave, you must be satisfied that the course is integrated. If not, you must request further information or refuse leave.

If a medicine, veterinary medicine and science or dentistry student has existing leave and:

- wants to intercalate at the same or a different sponsor
- is returning to complete their course after intercalating at the same or a different sponsor

they do not need to make a new application if their intercalated course can be completed using their extant leave. The current sponsor must notify their Account Manager or the Educator's Helpdesk (if they are not a premium sponsor) who will update the Home Office IT system to reflect that a different sponsor is teaching the applicant. The sponsor who is teaching the applicant will be responsible for the sponsorship duties from the time the applicant moves to them and during that period. If intercalating at a different sponsor, during this time the sponsor teaching the applicant must make any relevant reports via their Account Manager or the Educator's Helpdesk. If an applicant is intercalating at the same sponsor, the sponsor must report a change of course via the SMS, specifying this was for the purpose of intercalating.

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Demonstrating course completion

An applicant can demonstrate having successfully completed their course by having received the award, or where the formal award has not yet been issued and the applicant is studying a course at degree level or above at a sponsor who is a HEP with a track record of compliance, through formal written confirmation.

To provide formal written confirmation the current sponsor must make an assessment of the applicant's academic ability to complete their current course successfully. The confirmation provided must state that, based on the assessment and the applicant's performance throughout the course, the sponsor considers that the applicant is highly likely to complete their course successfully. It should also give an indication of when the qualification will be awarded.

You must check the sponsor assigning the CAS has noted on the CAS that their offer is based on formal written confirmation from the current sponsor. If the applicant does not successfully complete their first course, the sponsor assigning the CAS will be required to notify UKVI and withdraw sponsorship of the applicant. Abuse of the ability to provide formal written confirmation, or failing to withdraw sponsorship, may result in compliance action being taken by UKVI.

An applicant who has been studying A-levels, and achieves a qualification in at least one of the subjects they have been studying, will be considered to have successfully completed their course and can therefore demonstrate academic progression.

Qualifications obtained through supplementary study cannot be relied upon by a sponsor or an applicant to demonstrate academic progression.

If an applicant has been studying a pre-sessional English language course and then applies to study a substantive course, this will be considered to be academic progression. If an applicant who has completed a substantive course then wishes to undertake a pre-sessional English language course at a lower level, before another substantive course, this will also represent academic progression if:

- a single CAS has been assigned to cover both the pre-sessional course and the substantive course
- the substantive course is at a higher level than the previous course for which they were last granted Tier 4 leave

In all other circumstances, undertaking a lower level English language course between 2 substantive courses will not represent academic progression.

Study at the same level

If the applicant's new course is at the same level as the previous course, it may exceptionally be considered to represent academic progression if the course is at degree level or above, the sponsor teaching the course is an HEP with a track record of compliance with Tier 4 sponsor status and one of the following applies:

- the new course is related to the previous course for which the student was given Tier 4 leave (meaning that it is either connected to the previous course, part of the same subject group or involves deeper specialisation)
- the student's previous and new course combined, support the student's career aspirations

If a student is studying at an embedded college, they will not be able to rely on this exception. They must be applying to study a course at a higher level than the previous course if they are applying within the UK.

To establish whether or not an applicant meets this requirement, you must take into account all relevant factors, including the following points. This is not an exhaustive list, and will not be appropriate in every case:

- the level of the course
- the subject matter of the new and previous courses
- the applicant's education history
- the credibility of the applicant's rationale for wishing to study the new course
- where the student is not moving up an academic level, whether the HEP sponsor sufficiently explains why the student is applying to study a course at the same level

Before granting an application to study a course at the same level, you must consider whether a credibility interview should be conducted. Where the sponsor's justification is weak, you must automatically refer the case for a credibility interview. Following interview, if you decide that the conclusions of the sponsor were plainly inappropriate, and that the course does not represent academic progression, the application should be refused. Compliance action may be taken against the sponsor.

The following circumstances are examples of where the applicant is likely to be considered to meet the exception to the academic progression rule, as long as their sponsor provides a strong justification:

- applicant has completed a master's degree in Modern Languages (RQF7) and wishes to study a master's degree in Latin American Studies (RQF7) to deepen their specialist knowledge or to better prepare for doctoral study or a career in academia and research – in this case, there is a clear connection between the previous course and the new course
- applicant has completed a master's degree (RQF7) in environmental policy and wishes to study a Master's of Business Administration (RQF 7), and the HEP confirms that the 2 courses in combination supports the student's career aspirations in the energy industry – the student may be asked for evidence to demonstrate that they are pursuing a career in this field

An example of where an applicant is unlikely to meet the academic progression rule is where an applicant has completed an accountancy qualification (RQF7) and is applying to study a master's degree (RQF7) in music, as the 2 fields are unrelated.

Sponsor duties

Where the applicant is required to show academic progression, you must check the sponsor has confirmed on the CAS that they meet the requirement, and how.

Where the sponsor is an HEP with a track record of compliance which has chosen exceptionally to assign a CAS to a student wishing to extend their leave who is applying to study a second course at the same level, the HEP must justify its decision by explaining its rationale on the new CAS. This explanation must either include:

- confirmation that the new course is related to the previous course (meaning that it is either connected to the previous course, part of the same subject group or involves deeper specialisation)
- confirmation that the student's previous and new course combined, support the student's genuine career aspirations, and why

Abuse of this exception to the requirement to be moving up an academic level will be regarded as immigration abuse and compliance action may be taken against the sponsor.

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Tier 4: age requirements and child welfare

This section tells you about the age requirements for the Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child) routes, and about child welfare issues.

Tier 4 (General)

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age.

Tier 4 (Child)

Applicants must be:

- at least 4 years old
- under the age of 18

If the Tier 4 (General) or Tier 4 (Child) applicant does not meet the age requirement, you must refuse their application.

Tier 4 parental support for students under 18

Tier 4 (Child) students and Tier 4 (General) students who are under the age of 18 must have their application supported by their parents or legal guardian.

You must ensure the letter from their parent or legal guardian:

- confirms the relationship between the parent or legal guardian and the child
- confirms that the parent or legal guardian consents to the application
- confirms that the parent or legal guardian consents to the child's living arrangements in the UK
- is signed by both parents or legal guardians, or just one parent or guardian if they have sole responsibility for the child

Safeguarding child welfare

Under Section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009, the Home Office and all its members of staff have a duty to safeguard and promote child welfare. The definition of children includes all students under the age of 18.

Arrangements for the student's care and accommodation in the UK must comply with UK legislation and inspection regulations. For more information on the Department of Health's minimum standards and inspection regulations, see below:

- [Accommodation of students under 18 by further education colleges: national minimum standards and inspection regulations](#)

- [Boarding schools: national minimum standards, inspection regulations](#)
- [Residential special schools: national minimum standards, inspection regulations](#)

Private foster care or care from a close relative

Students must show that they have suitable arrangements in place for their care if they will be living:

- with a resident British citizen or other settled UK resident who is a close relative
- in a private foster care arrangement

An applicant must provide a written undertaking from the intended carer confirming the care arrangement. You must ensure this includes:

- the intended carer's:
 - name
 - current address
 - contact details
- the address where the carer and the child will be living in the UK, if different from the intended carer's current address
- confirmation that the accommodation offered to the child is a private address, and not operated as a commercial enterprise, like a hotel or a youth hostel
- confirmation that the intended carer has at least £570 per month to look after and accommodate the Tier 4 (Child) student for the length of the course
- the nature of the relationship between the child's parent or legal guardian and the intended carer
- that the intended carer agrees to the care arrangements for the child
- the signature and date of the undertaking

You must check that the intended carer is settled in the UK. They must provide proof, which must be either their carer's:

- current UK or European Union passport
- current passport or travel document to confirm they are settled in the UK
- certificate of naturalisation

Tier 4 (Child) applicants who are living with a carer must also provide a letter from their parent or legal guardian. You must check that the letter confirms:

- the nature of the relationship between the child's parents or legal guardian and the intended carer
- the address where the carer and the child will be living in the UK
- that the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) authorise the carer to take responsibility for the care of the child during their stay in the UK

If a student is living with a close relative, no other documentation is required.

Close relatives

A close relative, parent or legal guardian caring for the child is not considered to be a private foster carer and so will not need to register with a UK local authority. A close relative is a person aged 18 or over who is the child's:

- grandparent
- brother
- sister
- step-parent
- uncle (the brother or half-brother of the child's parent)
- aunt (the sister or half-sister of the child's parent)

Parents accompanying children under 12

Non-EEA parents who wish to accompany their children to the UK can apply to do so under the Parent of a Tier 4 Child route. Children aged 12 and over are able to reside with their parent if that parent holds a Parent of a Tier 4 (Child) visa issued on the basis of a younger sibling.

Private foster care

Children under 16 years old (or under 18 years old if disabled) are privately fostered when they are cared for on a full-time basis for more than 28 days by adults, who are not their parents, legal guardians or a close relative. It is the responsibility of the parent, carer, and anyone else involved in making the private fostering arrangement, including the Tier 4 (Child) sponsor, to notify their UK local authority of the private fostering arrangement.

In the UK, local authorities are responsible for safeguarding and protecting children. They must make sure private foster carers are suitable and they get any support and guidance that they may need to help them care for the child.

If a Tier 4 (Child) is staying in a private foster care arrangement, they must receive permission from the private foster carer's UK local authority. This is explained in [Children \(Private Arrangements for Fostering\) Regulations 2005](#).

You must check that a child student who is staying in a private foster care arrangement has provided:

- a copy of the letter of notification from the child's parent, legal guardian or intended carer to the UK local authority:
 - this must confirm the child will be in the care of a private foster carer while in the UK - for more information on what the letter of notification must contain, see schedule 1 of [Children \(Private Arrangements for Fostering\) Regulations 2005](#)
- the UK local authority's confirmation of receipt: this must confirm that the local authority has received notification of the foster care arrangement

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Tier 4: attributes

This section tells you about the requirements that must be met for you to award a Tier 4 applicant 30 points for attributes.

Under paragraphs 113 to 126 of [Appendix A](#) of the Immigration Rules, to claim points for attributes, a Tier 4 applicant must have been assigned a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from their Tier 4 sponsor.

A Tier 4 sponsor can only assign a CAS when the:

- course meets the Tier 4 study requirements
- applicant meets the Tier 4 English language requirements (Tier 4 (General) students only)

Related content

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Tier 4: Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

This page tells you about the CAS and how to check whether it is valid.

A CAS is a virtual document (similar to a database record) which is assigned by the Tier 4 sponsor. It is an official offer of a place on a course of study. Licensed sponsors use a secure IT system called the [sponsorship management system](#) (SMS) to assign CAS.

Each CAS has a unique reference number which links it to the CAS checking service and contains information about the applicant's:

- personal details
- sponsor
- course of study
- finances
- documents or information that the sponsor used to assess academic and English language ability

You must check whether the CAS submitted with an application is valid. If the applicant provides a valid CAS which has been assigned to them by a Tier 4 sponsor, you must consider awarding 30 points subject to other requirements being met, for example English language and academic progression. If the applicant makes an application using a CAS that is invalid, you must refuse the application.

Check the validity of the CAS reference number

Under [Appendix A of the Immigration Rules](#), a CAS is only valid if the following requirements are met.

The CAS number supplied must:

- be in the correct CAS number format and listed in the CAS checking service database
- link to a CAS checking service entry that names the applicant as the migrant
- confirm that the sponsor is sponsoring them in the Tier 4 route the migrant has applied for
- not have been withdrawn or cancelled by the sponsor or the Home Office since it was issued

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Check the validity of the CAS

The CAS is valid if:

- it was issued no more than 6 months before the date of the leave to remain application:
 - the date of an entry clearance application is the date the fee is paid – a CAS expires if not used within 6 months of being assigned
- it was issued by an institution with a Tier 4 licence (Tier 4 (General) or Tier 4 (Child)) and that institution is still on the [Tier 4 register of sponsors](#) on the date of your decision
- it has not previously been used in considering a previous application for entry clearance or leave to remain where the application was:
 - either approved or refused, but
 - not rejected as invalid or withdrawn, or declared void
- it contains the mandatory information specified in this guidance and, if it was not issued for a course of studies, it was issued for a full-time, salaried, elected executive position as a [Student Union Sabbatical Officer](#) who is part-way through their studies or who is being sponsored to fill the position in the academic year immediately after their graduation.
- the sponsor has not withdrawn the offer since the CAS was issued
- the application for entry clearance or leave to remain was made no more than 3 months before the start date of the course of study as stated on the CAS

Retrospective course start dates

Sponsors can issue a CAS for a course which has already started. However, the sponsorship management system does not allow sponsors to enter a course start date on a CAS which has already passed in the 'course start date' field.

If the course start date has passed when the CAS is assigned, sponsors must enter the:

- date that the CAS is created as the course start date if the student is starting their course late and the actual course start date in the 'sponsor note' section
- date the change of course is expected to commence as the course start date if the student is changing course (for example, they are moving from the lower

level to the higher level of an integrated Masters course or they are adding a study abroad programme or work placement to their course)

- date the CAS is created as the course start date if the student is applying for further leave to remain to complete their course after completing a study abroad programme or work placement and the actual course start date (the date the change of course commenced) in the 'sponsor note' field
- date from which the student requires their next leave to start as the course start date (for example, the day after their leave expires) if the student is being sponsored to extend their current studies to continue studying the same course
- date from which the student requires their next leave to start if they are applying for entry clearance to complete the same course, which will be the date they are planning on returning to the UK to recommence their course - the sponsor must record the original course start date in the 'sponsor note' section
- any date in the future which is before the course end date if the student is applying for the Doctorate Extension Scheme

Further guidance on how the start date is interpreted is detailed within the [Creating a CAS: guide for education sponsors](#) guidance.

Sponsors may occasionally record the course start date incorrectly or omit the sponsor note. Indicators that the course start date has already passed include the course start date on the CAS is:

- the day after the applicant's leave has expired (for example the leave is due to end 31/03/19 and the course start date is given as 01/04/19)
- later than that recorded on the application form or other information submitted with the application

You must always check the 'sponsor note' field on the CAS in case a different course start date is recorded there. It is important to identify the actual course start date to make sure that you do not grant the wrong period of leave or refuse an application because you incorrectly assess that:

- (where the application is made in time) the course starts more than one month after the applicant's leave expires
- the application is made more than 3 months before the start date of the course as stated on the CAS

Where the actual course start date isn't clear from the information recorded on the CAS course start date field or sponsor note, you must check whether the correct start date is recorded elsewhere, for example, on:

- the application form
- in a covering letter if one was submitted

If you cannot identify the correct course start date from the information provided, contact the sponsor to request this information.

Documents required to check the CAS

Unless the applicant can apply under the [differentiation arrangements](#) or is part of the [Tier 4 visa pilot](#), they must provide all the documents that the sponsor used to assign their CAS. These will be listed on the CAS checking system. It is the applicant's responsibility to supply these documents and they must check with the sponsor that they provide the correct documents. It is not the Home Office's responsibility to tell the applicant which documents they must provide.

Recording the CAS as used

When you have found the relevant CAS you must:

- select it from the list
- click the 'mark as used' box
- input the migrant application number (use the GCID case identification for applications made in the UK instead of the payment reference number on the batch sheet or the VAF number for entry clearance applications)
- enter the date of the application

You must not mark a CAS as used if you reject an application or the application is withdrawn or declared void.

Expired CAS

If the CAS checking system shows that a CAS has expired, you may still use the CAS to consider the application and mark it as 'used' providing the CAS:

- had not expired at the date of application
- meets the other requirements of the Immigration Rules - [Appendix A: Attributes](#)

Marking associated CAS as obsolete

An associated CAS record is another CAS that was assigned to the student by a sponsor but was not used in the student's application. Once you mark the CAS which was actually used in the application as 'used' you will have the option of marking all associated CAS records as 'obsolete'. You must do this for all associated CAS.

If you save a record without marking it as 'obsolete', you cannot retrieve the record later. If this happens, you must ask your senior caseworker to re-instate the associated CAS so that you can mark it as 'obsolete'. You must only mark CAS as obsolete that cover the same period of leave. Click the 'next' button. Once you have selected the obsolete CAS, click the 'confirm as used' button.

Related content

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Tier 4: documents for assessing Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

This page tells you which documents an applicant must provide to show how they were assessed for their CAS. If any documents are not in English, the applicant must provide a certified translation of the documents.

Tier 4 (Child) applicants under the age of 16

Applicants under the age of 16 applying under Tier 4 (Child) do not need to provide documents to show how they were assessed.

Tier 4 (Child) applicants aged 16 or 17 and Tier 4 (General) applicants

Applicants aged 16 or 17 applying under Tier 4 (Child) and Tier 4 (General) applicants must provide the documents they used to get their CAS unless they are applying under the [differentiation arrangements](#) or if the assessment was not based on qualifications or references. The documents they must submit are:

- the certificate or certificates of qualification
- the transcript of results
- the print out of qualification or transcript results from the awarding body's online checking service

If the applicant does not provide these documents, you must [request](#) them.

Certificate of qualification

This document must show the:

- applicant's name
- title of the award
- date of the award
- name of the awarding institution

Transcript of results

This document must show the:

- applicant's name
- name of the academic institution
- course title

- confirmation of the award of the qualification

Print out of results from online checking service

This document must show the:

- the applicant's name
- the title of the award
- the date of the award
- the name of the awarding body

Evidence of English language ability

All Tier 4 (General) sponsors must assess their students' [English language ability](#). The level of English required and the documents to be submitted depends on:

- the level of course the applicant is studying
- the type of institution at which the applicant is studying

Verifying documents

You must carry out a [verification check](#) if:

- you have reasonable doubts that a specified document is not genuine
- there is a known risk that relates to that document or application

Assessments based on references

If the sponsor assessed the applicant through references, they must provide details of the references assessed on the CAS.

The applicant must send the reference or references which must contain:

- the student's name
- confirmation of the type and level of course or previous experience
- dates of study or previous experience
- the date of the letter
- contact details of the referee

If the applicant cannot provide the original reference or references, they can provide a copy, together with a letter from their sponsor confirming it is a true copy of the reference they assessed.

Assessments not based on qualifications or references

If the sponsor assessed the applicant as being suitable for the course based on something other than their qualifications or references, the applicant does not have

to provide a certificate or transcript of results. For example, if the sponsor based their assessment on:

- a portfolio of artwork
- an interview
- the sponsor's own test or entrance exam

The sponsor must, however, provide details of how they assessed the applicant on the CAS.

Documents from institutions which have had their licence revoked

If the applicant has provided documents from a previous course from an institution that has had its Tier 4 licence revoked, you can consider this as supporting evidence. If you have doubts about this evidence, you must refer the case to the regional intelligence unit.

Related content

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Tier 4: requesting more information

This page tells you about requesting more information.

Applicants should provide all the evidence on which they rely to support their application at the outset of the process. However, it is recognised that if an applicant makes an error or omission with the supporting evidence they provide, it may be appropriate for you to contact them and invite them to provide additional evidence.

Evidential flexibility

The Evidential flexibility policy applies to all points-based system (PBS) tiers. If specified evidence is missing from a Tier 4 application, you must consider whether to request it under the policy.

Related content

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Tier 4: translating documents

This page tells you when you can accept translated documents.

If a document is not in English or Welsh, the applicant must provide a fully certified translation from a professional translator or translation company that can be independently verified by the Home Office. The translation must include:

- confirmation that it is an accurate translation of the document
- the date of translation
- the full name and signature of the translator or an official from the translation company
- the translator or translation company's contact details

This must also be dated and include the signature of the translator or an authorised official of the translation company.

Assessing the academic level of a translated certificate

If a translation of an overseas qualification or award certificate is submitted, you must not take it as a direct translation of the academic level of the award. You must use the [UK NARIC](#) website to assess the level of overseas qualifications or ask the sponsor to provide evidence of its level from UK NARIC if this has not been included with the application.

Related content

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Tier 4: verifying documents and risk profiles

This page tells you about risk profiles and how to verify supporting documents.

Verification checks

You must be confident that the documents an applicant has submitted to claim points for attributes or maintenance are genuine. In certain circumstances you will have to verify these documents, for example, if:

- you have reasonable doubts about the authenticity of any document
- there is an instruction based on risk-profiles

The process for verifying documents will vary in each case, but may involve checking the authenticity of documents with:

- employers
- banks
- universities
- professional bodies
- the relevant embassy or high commission
- other government departments (in the UK and overseas)

The purpose of these checks is to make sure that the document provided is genuine and accurately reflects statements made in the application. There is guidance available on how to refer documents to the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber regional verification team or the regional intelligence unit.

If...	Then...
Documents have been confirmed as genuine	You must continue to consider the application.
Documents have been confirmed as false	You must: refuse the application on general grounds if the forged documents relate to a points-based system element, for example, funds, award 0 points for attributes or maintenance and refuse the application if there is no other acceptable evidence under Tier 4 For more information on granting or refusing, see Tier 4: grant or refuse .
The verification check is inconclusive	You must not use the documents as evidence for scoring points: unless there is alternative genuine evidence that meets

If...	Then...
	the requirements, you must award 0 points for attributes or maintenance and refuse the application report the sponsor to the sponsor licensing unit and intelligence unit if you receive no response to any request for further information from them For more information, see the TMIH referral form for use in leave to remain applications.

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Tier 4: differentiation arrangements

This page tells you about the Tier 4 differentiation arrangements which permit applicants from low-risk countries designated in [Appendix H](#) of the Immigration Rules to submit fewer supporting documents with their application. For those participating in the Tier 4 pilot, please refer to: [Tier 4: visa pilot](#).

Requirements for Appendix H nationals

To qualify for the arrangements as an Appendix H national, a Tier 4 applicant must:

- be sponsored by a sponsor with Tier 4 sponsor status
- be applying for entry clearance in their country of nationality or country of residence or for leave to remain in the UK
- be a national (or citizen) of a country or competent authority listed in [Appendix H](#) of the Immigration Rules
- on their application form:
 - they are applying under the differentiation arrangements
 - declare they hold the documentary evidence specified by the Immigration Rules and Tier 4 policy guidance

Documents not required under the differentiation arrangements

Applicants who meet the requirements of differentiation will not normally have to submit:

- certificates or documents used by the Tier 4 sponsor to assess academic ability, for example:
 - qualifications
 - transcripts
 - references
- when applying in the UK, evidence that they have completed their previous course in the UK (this will be noted on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS))
- English language tests or documents used by the Tier 4 sponsor to assess English language ability (for example a Secure English Language Test (SELT))
- documentary evidence of their funds, for example:
 - bank statements
 - building society passbooks
 - loan letters
 - (for Tier 4 (General) applicants) evidence of relationship to a parent or legal guardian who is providing financial sponsorship

Mandatory documents

Under the differentiation arrangements, all Tier 4 applicants must still submit the following with their application:

- their passport
- biometric residence permit (if applicable)
- CAS

Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child) applicants aged 16 or 17 must also provide their police registration certificate (if appropriate).

Tier 4 (General) students must provide an [Academic Technology Approval Scheme \(ATAS\)](#) clearance certificate if required.

All Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child) applicants must also provide a valid [Tuberculosis screening certificate](#) if required.

Eligible applicants who do not indicate they are applying under the differentiation arrangements

On the application forms Tier 4 (G) and Tier 4 (C) an applicant may tick question 'B0' to confirm they are applying under the differentiation arrangements. If the applicant doesn't do this, but has submitted a passport confirming they are a national of a country listed in [Appendix H](#) of the Immigration Rules, you must accept the application as one within scope of the differentiation arrangements.

Applicants who apply under the differentiation arrangements but submit evidence

If an applicant applies under the differentiation arrangements but submits evidence in relation to funds, English language ability and/or academic qualifications, you must check the nationality and sponsor information. As part of the overall assessment, even where the applicant does qualify for the differentiation arrangements, you maintain the right to consider any evidence submitted that suggests the applicant may not meet the requirements set out in the Immigration Rules.

It will not normally be necessary to request additional certificates proving academic ability provided the sponsor has documented all the certificates that they considered on the CAS as part of their assessment.

Sponsor requirements

The sponsor does not need to make any additional statement on the CAS about differentiation but they must include all the information needed on a CAS.

Requesting supporting documents

When you are considering an application under the differentiation arrangements you can still request the supporting documents. You must do this if for example:

- there is a record of the student on the police national computer or on internal Home Office security systems
- the student's nationality is removed from the list of 'low risk' nationalities
- the Home Office is making a random check on documents

For leave to remain applications you must request the specified documents using the letter template 'Request for documents (main applicant)'. If the applicant does not comply with the request, you must [refuse](#) the application.

Dual or multiple nationality

Where an applicant applying under the differentiation arrangements holds dual or multiple nationalities, they must submit a passport issued by one of the countries listed in [Appendix H](#) of the Immigration Rules. If the passport submitted was not issued by one of these countries, you must ask them to provide one.

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Tier 4 (General): English language requirement

This page tells you about the English language requirement for Tier 4 (General).

All Tier 4 (General) sponsors must assess their students' English language ability to make sure they are competent in English before issuing a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). The level of English a student requires and how the sponsor is allowed to assess them will depend upon the:

- level of course the student is following
- type of institution the student will be studying at

The table below tells you the level of English required and how a Tier 4 sponsor can check the level is met.

CAS assigned

Level of course and type of educational establishment	English language requirement and sponsor assessment
<p>All courses studied at a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance (except where the student is considered to be an 'exceptional student') at or above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) level 6 • Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 9 	<p>The student must be competent in English language at a minimum of Common European Framework of Reference for languages (CEFR) level B2. The Tier 4 sponsor must make sure they meet this by checking the student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is from a majority English speaking country • has completed an academic (not professional or vocational) qualification deemed by UK NARIC as at least equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree which was taught in a majority English speaking country • has successfully completed a course as a Tier 4 (Child) student or under the student rules in force before 31 March 2009, where the student was granted permission to stay while they were under 18 years old which was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ at least 6 months in length ○ ended within 2 years of the date the sponsor assigned the CAS • is applying to undertake a short-

Level of course and type of educational establishment	English language requirement and sponsor assessment
	<p>term study abroad programme in the UK as part of their course at an overseas HEI in the USA which UK NARIC confirms leads to a qualification of equivalent level to a UK bachelor's degree or above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by choosing their own method of assessing that the student is proficient at CEFR level B2 in each of the 4 components of language learning (reading, writing, speaking and listening) • is competent in English language at CEFR level B1 and the sponsor is satisfied the student will reach B2 level after a short period of pre-session language training before their main course - if the student does not reach B2 level the sponsor will stop sponsoring them
<p>All courses not studied at a higher education provider with a track record of compliance at or above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) level 6 • Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 9 	<p>The student must be competent in English language at a minimum of CEFR level B2. The Tier 4 sponsor must make sure they meet this by checking the student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is from a majority English speaking country • has completed an academic (not professional or vocational) qualification deemed by UK NARIC as at least equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree which was taught in a majority English speaking country) • has passed an English language test from the list of approved tests for Tier 4 that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shows the applicant's name and date of award ○ is within its validity date as of the date the CAS was assigned by the Tier 4 sponsor ○ shows the applicant has achieved at least CEFR level B2 in all 4 components (reading, writing, speaking and listening –

Level of course and type of educational establishment	English language requirement and sponsor assessment
	<p>the sponsor must have seen the test certificate) unless exempted from sitting a component by a test provider on the basis of the Tier 4 (General) student's disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is applying to undertake a short-term study abroad programme in the UK as part of their course at an overseas HEI in the USA which UK NARIC confirms leads to a qualification of equivalent level to a UK bachelor's degree or above • has successfully completed a course as a Tier 4 (Child) student or under the student rules in force before 31 March 2009, where the student was granted permission to stay while they were under 18 years old which was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ at least 6 months in length ○ ended within 2 years of the date the sponsor assigned the CAS
<p>All courses at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) levels 3-5 • Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels 6-8 	<p>The student must be competent in English language at a minimum of CEFR level B1. The Tier 4 sponsor must make sure they meet this by checking the student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is from a majority English-speaking country • has completed an academic (not professional or vocational) qualification deemed by UK NARIC as at least equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree which was taught in a majority English speaking country • has passed an English language test from the list of approved tests for Tier 4 that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shows the applicant's name and date of award ○ is within its validity date as of the date the CAS was assigned by the Tier 4 sponsor ○ shows the applicant has

Level of course and type of educational establishment	English language requirement and sponsor assessment
	<p>achieved at least CEFR level B1 in all 4 components (reading, writing, speaking and listening – the sponsor must have seen the test certificate) unless exempted from sitting a component by a test provider on the basis of the Tier 4 (General) student’s disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is applying to undertake a short-term study abroad programme in the UK as part of their course at an overseas HEI in the USA which UK NARIC confirms leads to a qualification of equivalent level to a UK bachelor’s degree or above • has successfully completed a course as a Tier 4 (Child) student or under the student rules in force before 31 March 2009, where the student was granted permission to stay while they were under 18 years old which was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ at least 6 months in length ○ ended within 2 years of the date the sponsor assigned the CAS

CAS fields

The CAS includes fields which allow Tier 4 sponsors to provide details of the:

- English language level attained for:
 - Speaking
 - Listening
 - Reading
 - Writing
- details of the English language test provider

A CAS can, however, be assigned with no information in any of the fields in the English language section, in which case the sponsor must provide the relevant details in the ‘Evidence used to obtain offer’ free text box.

However, the following rules apply if the Tier 4 sponsor wishes to complete the English language section on the CAS:

- if the sponsor answers ‘yes’ to the ‘Is SELT (Secure English Language Test) required?’ question, the following fields become mandatory:

- English language level attained
- English language test provider
- if the sponsor answers 'no' to the 'Is SELT required?' question, the following field becomes mandatory:
 - reason not required

Differentiation arrangements

Where an applicant qualifies under the [differentiation arrangements](#) they do not need to provide course certificates or transcripts as evidence of their English language ability. Applicants who do not qualify must provide this evidence.

Nationals (or citizens) of a majority English-speaking country

A Tier 4 (General) student is from a majority English language speaking country if they are a national or citizen of one of the following countries:

Antigua and Barbuda
 Australia
 The Bahamas
 Barbados
 Belize
 Canada
 Dominica
 Grenada
 Guyana
 Jamaica
 New Zealand
 St Kitts and Nevis
 St Lucia
 St Vincent and the Grenadines
 Trinidad and Tobago
 United States of America

To confirm a student is a national of a majority English-speaking country they must provide their passport.

Academic qualifications completed in a majority English-speaking country

A Tier 4 (General) student who has completed an academic (not professional or vocational) qualification deemed by UK NARIC as at least equivalent to a UK bachelor's degree which was taught in a majority English-speaking country meets the English language requirement if the qualification was taught in any of the countries listed below:

Antigua and Barbuda

Australia
The Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Dominica
Grenada
Guyana
Jamaica
New Zealand
Republic of Ireland
St Kitts and Nevis
St Lucia
St Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
United States of America
United Kingdom

It is the sponsor's responsibility to assess the overseas qualification and be satisfied that it is sufficient to warrant issuing a CAS.

Where English language ability has been assessed on this basis:

- the Tier 4 sponsor must include information about the qualification on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)
- the student must submit their course certificate with their application

Approved English language test

Where the Tier 4 sponsor has used an approved English language test to check the student is competent in English language at a minimum of CEFR level B1 or B2 as appropriate the:

- Tier 4 sponsor must include information about the qualification on the CAS
- student must submit their [test certificate](#) with their application

[Appendix O](#) of the Immigration Rules contains a list of the approved English language tests for Tier 4 with effect from 6 April 2015, including the time-period tests are valid for, and the scores the student must achieve in all 4 components (reading, writing, speaking and listening). Any English language tests sat on or after 6 April 2015 must be on this new list.

Where 2 or more components (reading, writing, speaking and listening) of an English language test are examined and awarded together, the evidence submitted must show the student has achieved the required scores in all relevant components during a single sitting of that examination, for example, a combined exam and certificate for reading and writing skills, unless they have been exempt from sitting a component on the basis of disability.

Study as a Tier 4 (Child)

Where the Tier 4 sponsor has used successful completion of a course while the applicant had leave as Tier 4 (Child) or under the student rules in force before 31 March 2009 where they were granted permission to stay when they were under 18 years old:

- the sponsor must include information about the qualification gained in the CAS
- the student must include their course certificate with their application, to confirm that the course was completed no more than 2 years before the CAS was assigned and that the course was at least 6 months' long

USA short-term study abroad students

A Tier 4 (General) student can meet the English language requirement if they are applying to undertake a short-term [study abroad programme](#) in the UK at a Tier 4 sponsor as part of their course at an overseas HEI in the USA which UK NARIC confirms leads to a qualification of equivalent level to a UK bachelor's degree or above.

The Tier 4 sponsor must include information about the student's course at the overseas HEI in the USA on the CAS.

Checking English language test results

You must check English language certificates and Secure English Language Test (SELT) certificates to make sure they are valid and the minimum grade requirement of each component of the test has been met. Certificates provided must show the migrant has taken both components of the test at the same time, and on the same day. Therefore you would only expect to see 2 certificates which show the scores achieved in the following topics:

- listening and reading
- speaking and writing

If the migrant has taken the test and failed one of the components, for example, passed the listening component but failed the reading, they might take the component they failed again and provide a further certificate to show that they subsequently passed it. This means they will provide 3 certificates rather than 2 but this is not acceptable.

In these circumstances, you must refuse the application and use the wording below in the CAS attribute wording box:

'You have submitted [insert name of provider] certificates from your approved English language test provider in support of your application. In all cases, where 2 or more components (reading, writing, speaking and listening) of an English test are examined and awarded together, for example a combined examination and

certificate for reading and writing skills, the evidence submitted must show that you achieved the required scores in all the relevant components during a single sitting of that examination, unless exempted from sitting a component on the basis of disability, to show that you have achieved or exceeded CEFR level B1/B2 in all 4 components.'

Therefore, we cannot accept the (name of provider) certificate dated [enter date] you have provided in support of your application which shows only the [insert single component] score and not the [insert other component which is missing].

As you have failed to provide an appropriate certificate to show you have achieved or exceeded level [B1/B2] of the CEFR in all 4 components (reading, listening, speaking and writing), and therefore have not met this requirement, you have not achieved the minimum standard of English required and no points have been awarded for your CAS.'

For more information, see [Appendix O](#) of the Immigration Rules.

Verifying English language test results

You must [verify](#) English language test certificates if either:

- you have reasonable doubts about whether they are genuine
- an instruction tells you to do so

Most of the Secure English Language Test (SELT) providers have an online verification tool which allows you to check the results of English language tests.

NARIC

Where the qualification needs to be confirmed as being of equivalent level to a UK degree by UK NARIC, the student must provide documentation produced by UK NARIC which confirms the assessment of that qualification's equivalent level in the UK. This does not affect the ability an HEP with a track record of compliance has to self-assess English language, and does not apply to students undertaking a short-term [study abroad programme](#) in the UK as part of their course at an overseas HEI in the USA.

Gifted students

The English language requirement does not apply to applicants who are considered to be 'gifted students'. To qualify as a gifted student:

- the student must be enrolled on a course at RQF level 6 or above or SCQF level 9 or above at a HEP with a track record of compliance
- the CAS must have been authorised by the academic registrar of the institution and must confirm that they personally approved the waiving of the language requirement

If a Tier 4 (General) student is a gifted student, you must check this is recorded on the CAS (you do not need to see a letter from the college or university).

Interviews at entry clearance

When a student makes an entry clearance application either under Tier 4 (General) or if aged 16 or 17 and applying under Tier 4 (Child), you may ask them to undertake an interview.

If a Tier 4 (General) student is required to attend an interview and cannot show their English language ability is at the required level, you must refuse their application under [paragraph 245ZV\(ca\) of the Immigration Rules](#).

If a 16 or 17 year old Tier 4 (Child) student is required to attend an interview, you can consider their English language ability in the context of whether the student is genuine, but the student does not need to meet a set level and their English language ability must not be the sole reason for refusal.

Interviews when applying for further leave to remain

When a student makes an application for further leave to remain either under Tier 4 (General) or if aged 16 or 17 and applying under Tier 4 (Child), you may ask them to undertake an [interview](#), either in person, on the telephone or by video conference to determine whether they are a genuine student and to test their English language ability.

If a Tier 4 (General) student is required to attend an interview and cannot show their English language ability is at the required level, you must refuse their leave to remain application under [paragraph 245ZX \(da\) of the Immigration Rules](#).

If a 16 or 17 year old Tier 4 (Child) student is required to attend an interview, you can consider their English language ability in the context of whether the student is genuine, but the student does not need to meet a set level and their English language ability must not be the sole reason for refusal.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (General): maintenance

This page tells you about the maintenance requirements for Tier 4 (General) applicants.

To score 10 points for maintenance, the applicant must show that one or more of the following apply:

- they have paid all or part of their course fees and accommodation fees to their Tier 4 sponsor
- they are receiving parental or official financial sponsorship
- they have enough money to cover their remaining course fees and living costs, if any

Differentiation arrangements

Where a Tier 4 (General) applicant qualifies under the [differentiation arrangements](#) they do not need to provide evidence they meet the maintenance requirements.

Course fees

Tier 4 (General) students starting a new course (and students on [study abroad programmes](#)) must show that they have enough money to [pay the course fees](#) for either:

- one academic year of the course
- the entire course (if it is less than a year long)

Tier 4 (General) students who have already started their course and are applying for an extension to continue that same course must show that they have enough money to [pay the course fees](#):

- to the end of the current academic year
- for the next academic year (if they will continue on their course at the start of the next academic year)

The amount a Tier 4 (General) student will pay for course fees is given on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). The CAS will also confirm if there is no fee to pay (for example, because fees have been paid to an overseas higher education provider). You must also:

- check for any payment receipts that post-date the CAS and which may have been provided
- query any ambiguities with the applicant or sponsor

Living costs

A Tier 4 (General) student and a Tier 4 (Child) student aged 16 or 17 must show they have enough money to cover their monthly living costs while they are studying in the UK. The amount of money they have to show depends on:

- where they will be studying
- whether they are applying under the Doctorate Extension Scheme, as a Student Union sabbatical officer, or as a Postgraduate Doctor or Dentist on a foundation programme

Applications submitted on or after 6 April 2016

Students applying for leave to remain under the Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES), or as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer, or as a postgraduate doctor or dentist on a recognised foundation programme, must show they have funds to cover their living costs for each remaining month of their course, up to a maximum of 2 months.

All other Tier 4 students must show that they have funds to cover their living costs for each month of their course, up to a maximum of 9 months.

Location of study	DES student, SU sabbatical officer, or postgraduate doctor or dentist on foundation programme?	Evidence of funds required
In London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,265 for each month remaining of the course up to a maximum of 2 months
In London	No	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,265 for each month of the course up to a maximum of 9 months • full course fees for either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the first academic year of the course ○ for the entire

Location of study	DES student, SU sabbatical officer, or postgraduate doctor or dentist on foundation programme?	Evidence of funds required
		course if this is less than one year long
Outside London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,015 for each month remaining of the course up to a maximum of 2 months
Outside London	No	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,015 for each month of the course up to a maximum of 9 months • full course fees for either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the first academic year of the course ○ for the entire course if this is less than one year long

DES applications submitted on or after 24 November 2016

Students applying for leave to remain on the DES must show they have funds to cover their living costs for 2 months.

Location of study	DES student?	Evidence of funds required
In London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence that they have funds to cover 2 months of living costs, for example £2,530
Outside London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence that they have funds to cover 2 months of living costs, for example £2,030

Applications submitted on or after 12 November 2015 but before 6 April 2016

From 12 November 2015, the established presence provision was removed for all Tier 4 students.

From this date students who are applying for leave to remain under the Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES) must show they have funds to cover their living costs for each remaining month of their course, up to a maximum of 2 months.

All other Tier 4 students must show that they have funds to cover their living costs for each month of their course, up to a maximum of 9 months.

Location of study	DES student?	Evidence of funds required
In London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: £1,265 for each month remaining of the course up to a maximum of 2 months
In London	No	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,265 for each month of the course up to a maximum of 9 months • full course fees for either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the first academic year of the course ○ for the entire course, if this is less than one year long
Outside London	Yes	The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,015 for each month remaining of the course up to a maximum of 2 months

Location of study	DES student?	Evidence of funds required
Outside London	No	<p>The applicant must show evidence of funds to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,015 for each month of the course up to a maximum of 9 months • full course fees for either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the first academic year of the course ○ for the entire course if this is less than one year long

Applications submitted before 12 November 2015

Applicants must show they have funds to cover living costs for each month they are studying up to a maximum of:

- 2 months - for students with an established studying presence
- 9 months - for students without an established studying presence

An applicant has an established presence in the UK if:

- they have current entry clearance or leave to enter or remain and they have made an 'in-time' application as:
 - a Tier 4 (General) student
 - a Tier 4 (Child) student
 - a postgraduate doctor or dentist
- at the date of application:
 - they have completed a course of study of at least 6 months within their last period of leave (the applicant is not required to have successfully completed this course)
 - they are applying for an extension to continue a single course of which they have completed at least 6 months

If the applicant's study has been interrupted (for example, because their sponsor's Tier 4 licence was revoked) they will still qualify as having an established presence providing at least 6 months of the course has been completed by the date on which studies were interrupted.

A Tier 4 applicant can have an established presence whether they have applied in the UK or from overseas.

To check whether an applicant has an established presence you must check:

- the documents submitted with the application Home Office IT systems (for example CID and CRS)

Main study site in London

Applicants who are studying in London need to show they have more funds available than those living outside London.

Study location	Monthly living cost requirement
In London	£1,265 per calendar month
Outside London	£1,015 per calendar month

For applications submitted on or after 10 January 2019, the areas in which a student must show the London maintenance requirement have changed. An applicant is considered to be studying in London if half or more of the time they spend studying is at a site or sites situated within the area comprising the City of London and the Greater London Area. The “Greater London Area” means the City of London and the 32 London boroughs, as listed within Annex 4 of the [Tier 4 Policy guidance](#).

You can check if the educational establishment is in London by entering the postcode into the [‘About my vote’ website](#) or referring to the list of London boroughs in Annex 4 of the [Tier 4 Policy guidance](#) or the London postcodes.

Length of study that includes part of a month

If the course includes part of a month, the course duration will be rounded up to the next full month. For example, if the applicant will be studying for a total of 6 months and 25 days, you must assess the course length as 7 months.

Tier 4 (General): boarding students

To score 10 points for maintenance, an applicant who is boarding at an independent school must show they have enough money to pay for school fees (course and board or lodging fees) for one academic year. They will not need to provide evidence of additional funds for living costs if they will be staying in on-site accommodation at the boarding school and where all living costs are accounted for in the board/ lodging fees .

On the CAS the sponsor will show:

- how much a student needs for their course fees and boarding fees
- whether or not these fees have been paid

Related content

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[Tier 4 Policy Guidance](#)

London postcodes

Tier 4 (Child): maintenance

This page tells you about the maintenance requirements for Tier 4 (Child) applicants.

The maintenance requirements for Tier 4 (Child) applicants depend on whether they are:

- boarding students
- non-boarding students

A non-boarding student is any Tier 4 (Child) student who is not being accommodated by their Tier 4 sponsor.

Differentiation arrangements

Where a Tier 4 (Child) applicant qualifies under the [differentiation arrangements](#) they do not need to provide evidence they meet the maintenance requirements.

Boarding students

To score 10 points for maintenance, an applicant who is boarding must show they have enough money to pay for school fees (including course and board or lodging fees) for one academic year.

On the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) the sponsor will show:

- how much a student needs for their course fees and boarding fees
- whether or not these fees have been paid

Non-boarding students

To score 10 points for maintenance, an applicant who is not a boarder must show they have enough money to pay for:

- course fees
- living costs

Course fees

Tier 4 (Child) applicants starting a new course must show that they have enough money to pay course fees for:

- an academic year of the course
- the entire course (if it is less than a year long)

Tier 4 (Child) students who have already started their course and are applying for an extension to continue that course must show that they have enough money to pay the course fees either:

- to the end of the current academic year
- for the next academic year (if they will continue on their course at the start of the next academic year)

The amount a Tier 4 (Child) student will pay for course fees is given by the Tier 4 sponsor on the CAS. The CAS will also confirm if there is no fee to pay (for example, because fees have been waived).

Living costs for non-boarding students

A Tier 4 (Child) student who is not being accommodated by their Tier 4 sponsor must have enough money to cover their living costs while they are studying in the UK. The amount the applicant has to show depends on their care arrangements while in the UK. Acceptable care arrangements are where the applicant will be:

- living in the UK with a carer who is a resident British citizen or other UK resident
- living with a parent or a legal guardian who will be accompanying them to the UK on a Parent of a Tier 4 (Child) visa
- living independently in the UK (applicants aged 16 or 17 years only)

Care arrangement in the UK	Evidence of funds required
Boarding student	The applicant must provide evidence to show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enough funds to pay school fees for one academic year (including course and board or lodging fees)
Non-boarding student who is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • living in the UK with a close relative or in a private foster carer who is a resident British citizen or other UK resident 	The applicant must provide evidence to show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enough funds to pay course fees for one academic year • that the intended carer has at least £570 per month to look after and accommodate the applicant in the UK for each month of their course, up to a maximum of 9 months • that the intended carer is a resident British citizen or other UK resident
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • living with a parent or a legal guardian who will be accompanying them to the UK on the Parent of a Tier 4 (Child) route 	The applicant must provide evidence to show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enough funds to pay course fees for

Care arrangement in the UK	Evidence of funds required
	<p>one academic year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a total of £1,560 for living costs for the applicant and their parent for each month of their course up to a maximum of 9 months • an extra £625 for each additional child if the parent or guardian is responsible for accommodating more than one Tier 4 (Child) Student
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • living independently in the UK (applicants aged 16 or 17 years only) 	<p>The amount of money a 16 or 17 year old who is living independently must show will depend on where they are studying in the UK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in London – £1,265 living costs per month of their course, up to a maximum of 9 months • outside London – £1,015 living costs per month of their course, up to a maximum of 9 months

If the length of a Tier 4 (Child) student’s course includes a part of a month, you must round the time up to the next month. For example, if a course is 7 months and 2 weeks, the Tier 4 (Child) applicant must show that they have enough money for 8 months.

Related content

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Tier 4: official financial sponsorship

This page tells you how to assess the maintenance requirement for Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child) applicants who receive official financial sponsorship.

Official financial sponsorship or government sponsor

Financial sponsorship is where an applicant is given money to cover some or all of their course fees or living costs, or both. This financial sponsorship can be used as evidence that the maintenance requirement has been met.

A Tier 4 applicant can receive official financial sponsorship from:

- Her Majesty's Government
- the applicant's home government
- the British Council
- an international organisation
- an international company
- a university
- a UK independent school

You must be satisfied that the official financial sponsor has the funds to support the applicant financially whilst they are studying in the UK and has the capacity to move, or experience of moving, funds across international borders.

If the applicant's financial sponsor is only covering some of their course fees or living costs, the applicant must provide evidence that they have the rest of the money needed.

Documents needed to show official financial sponsorship or government sponsorship

A Tier 4 sponsor that is financially sponsoring an applicant can include details of this on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). In this case, no other documents are needed to show official financial sponsorship.

In all other circumstances a Tier 4 applicant who is being given official financial sponsorship, or who received official financial sponsorship within the last 12 months, must provide a letter from the official financial sponsor which is written on the organisation's letter-headed paper and bears their official stamp. The letter must show:

- the applicant's name
- the name and contact details of the official financial sponsor
- the date of the letter
- the length of the sponsorship
- the amount of money the sponsor is giving to the applicant or a statement

that the applicant's official financial sponsor will cover all of their fees and living costs

If you cannot verify the official financial sponsorship because information in the letter has not been translated, you must write to the applicant to request a [translation](#).

Limitations on the period of leave

Official financial sponsors that are governments or international scholarship agencies may limit a Tier 4 student's leave in the UK (other types of official financial sponsor cannot). You must make enquiries however, if the official financial sponsor limits a student's leave to a period which is shorter than their course. You must clarify whether the official financial sponsor agrees that the student may remain in the UK beyond the period of financial sponsorship to complete their course.

A university is not considered to be an international scholarship agency so where the Tier 4 sponsor is also the official financial sponsor (for example, a university which has provided a scholarship) you must grant leave to the date specified on the CAS (plus the appropriate additional period) rather than to the date the university sponsorship or scholarship ends (providing all other requirements are met).

Her Majesty's Government sponsored programmes

These include:

- Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) funded schemes include:
 - Marshall Scholarship
 - Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP)
 - Chevening Scholars
- Department for International Development (DfID) funded schemes include:
 - technical cooperation training
 - Commonwealth Shared Scholarship Scheme
 - the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan
- Department for Education (DfE) funded schemes include:
 - BOND Business Internships
 - Fulbright Scholarships
 - The education and training group
- British Council funded and/or administered schemes include:
 - BOND Business Internships
 - International Association for Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)

Non-governmental organisations and institutions

These include:

- Commonwealth Secretariat
- Confederation of British Industries (CBI)

- Danida Fellowship Centre
- European Young Lawyers (GFS/DATS)
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Goethe Institut
- Hornby Trust (managed by ENTS/GFS)
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- Nuffield Foundation
- Rhodes Scholarship Trust
- Shell Gabon
- The British Academy
- The Royal Society
- Wellcome Trust

Sports scholarships

Tier 4 students who are provided with sports scholarships to study in the UK are permitted to use these to assist them in meeting the financial requirements of studying in the UK. This will not be considered a breach of the 'professional sportsperson' restrictions which prohibits receiving payment, including payment in kind, for playing or coaching sport.

If they are required to play or coach sport in exchange for receiving the scholarship, this activity is only permitted if:

- they are studying a course at degree level or above,
- the course is being studied at a HEI
- the scholarship has been awarded for playing or coaching sport at an amateur level for their Tier 4 Sponsor or British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS).

Related content

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Tier 4: payment of course and accommodation fees

This page tells you how to assess the maintenance requirement for Tier 4 (General) and Tier 4 (Child) applicants when course fees or accommodation fees have been partially paid.

If the Tier 4 applicant can show that they have paid all or some of their course fees before making their application, this amount can be taken away from the total amount of money they will need to show.

If the applicant has fully paid the Tier 4 sponsor, the sponsor can include this information in the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). If this is the case, you do not need to see more evidence that the fees have been paid.

If the applicant has paid part of their accommodation fees before making their application, you must deduct the amount paid from the total required for living costs, up to a maximum of £1,265. This only applies if:

- the accommodation fee is paid direct to the sponsor (not a third party accommodation provider) and one of the following applies:
 - the applicant is a Tier 4 (General) student who is staying in university, college or independent school arranged accommodation, except where they are a boarding student at a residential independent school
 - the applicant is a Tier 4 (Child) staying in school, or college arranged accommodation, except where they are a boarding student at a residential independent school

If details of the money the applicant has already paid are not on the CAS, they must send a paper receipt issued by the UK Tier 4 sponsor confirming either that they have paid all of their fees or, if the full amount has not yet been paid, the amount that has been paid so far.

If the applicant is a boarding student at a residential independent school and fees have been paid directly to the sponsor for course and accommodation, the maximum limit does not apply.

Related content

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Tier 4: proof of available funds

This page tells you what supporting documents a Tier 4 (General) or Tier 4 (Child) applicant must provide to show they have the funds available to meet the [maintenance requirement](#).

Acceptable funds

The applicant's funds must be:

- in the form of cash funds:
 - accounts or financial instruments such as shares, bonds, and pension funds are not acceptable even where a period of notice is provided
- held in an account owned by the applicant or by their parent or guardian
- for studying and living in the UK. The full amount of money must continue to be available to the applicant after their application is made (minus the balance paid for course fees and any contributions to their monthly maintenance they have already paid)

You must not consider money earned during a time when the applicant or their parent or guardian was in breach of the UK's immigration laws as evidence of funds.

For example, earnings made from UK employment will only be considered if the applicant had leave to enter or remain in the UK at the time they were earned and in a category which permitted the applicant to take that employment.

If the applicant provides evidence of [official financial sponsorship](#) in addition to evidence of their own personal funds, you must make sure you do not count these amounts twice when you assess evidence of the applicant's personal funds.

Acceptable evidence of funds

The evidence must show:

- the funds are available to the applicant to meet the maintenance requirement
- the funds have been held for a consecutive 28 day period unless the applicant is using funds from an official financial sponsor, government sponsor or receiving funds in the form of a [financial loan](#)

The 28 day period is calculated from the date of the closing balance on the most recent of the documents listed below and that closing balance date must be no earlier than 31 days before the applicant made their application. If the applicant provides evidence of funds at a later date, you must not consider a closing balance later than the date of application.

Acceptable forms of evidence are:

- personal bank or building society statements:

- applicants who use a joint account as proof of funds must be named on the account along with one or more other person, except where the joint account is in the name of the applicant's parents or legal guardians. You should refer to [Tier 4 : Funds funds held in parent's accounts](#) for further information
- bank statements printed on the bank's stationery can be provided as evidence but mini-statements from automated teller machines (cash points) are not acceptable
- you must not accept statements which only show the balance in the account on a particular day as these documents do not demonstrate that applicants have held sufficient funds for the required period
- a building society pass book
- certificates of deposit: these are documents issued by a bank which confirm an individual has deposited or invested a sum of money and to be acceptable as evidence:
 - the certificate of deposit must have been issued within 31 days of the date of application
 - at least 28 days must have elapsed between the date of the deposit and the date of issue of the certificate
- a letter from the student's bank confirming funds are held for the required period
- a letter from a financial institution confirming funds are held for the required period (the institution must be regulated by either the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) or, for overseas accounts, the home regulator (official regulatory body for the country the institution is in and where the money is held) for the purpose of personal savings accounts)
- a letter dated no more than 6 months before the date of application from a financial institution confirming a loan of funds - the institution must be regulated by either the FCA, the PRA or, for overseas accounts, the home regulator (official regulatory body for the country the institution is in and where the money is held) for the purpose of student loans.

Loan of funds

From 2 March 2013, the only loan accepted is one provided by the student's national government, state or regional government, a government sponsored student loan company or one that is part of an academic or educational loans scheme.

Loans held in the name of the applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) name cannot be used as evidence of money held by the applicant, even if the loan is for study purposes.

As loans for academic purposes are often not released by the financial institution until a student has successfully obtained a visa, the student is not required to demonstrate they they have held the funds for a 28 day period.

For students applying from overseas, the loan funds must be available to the student before they travel to the UK, unless:

- the loan funds will be paid directly to the Tier 4 sponsor before the applicant travels to the UK with the living costs portion of the loan released to the applicant on or before arrival in the UK
- the loan is an academic or student loan from their national government which will be released by the government, or through their Tier 4 sponsor, when they arrive in the UK

The evidence provided must clearly show the:

- name of the applicant or their parent or legal guardian
- account number
- date of the statement or letter
- financial institution's name and logo
- amount of money available or the amount of money available as a loan - if the money is in the form of a loan, there must be no conditions placed on the release of funds other than making a successful Tier 4 application

If an applicant uses an overseas currency, they must include the closing balance in pounds sterling on the application form. To check it is correct, you must use the exchange rate as at the date of the application to check the value of the money in pounds sterling. To check the balance, use the [OANDA](#) website.

Electronic bank statements

Electronic bank statements must contain all of the details listed above. In addition, you must check the migrant has provided a supporting letter from their bank, on company headed paper, confirming the authenticity of the statements provided. Alternatively, you can accept an electronic bank statement bearing the official stamp of the bank in question. This stamp must appear on every page of the statement (and on both sides if the statement is printed double-sided).

Banks will often stamp electronic statements with a 'date of issue' stamp. You may accept this as the date of the closing balance but where there is a gap between the last transaction date and the date of issue stamp, you must consider the type of account and the frequency of transactions.

For example, if the last transaction was 2 weeks before the date of issue stamp and the account is a savings account where transactions are infrequent, then you may accept the balance will not have changed. If, however, the account is a current account where there are daily or weekly transactions, you must ask your senior caseworker for advice.

Evidence from more than one bank account

Where evidence from 2 or more accounts is submitted, you must assess the funds based on:

- the closing balance of the account that most favours the applicant (providing it falls on the date of application or in the 31 days before the date of application)
- any additional evidence of funds available on the date of that closing balance and at any point during the 28 day period linked to the closing balance used

William D Ford Federal Direct Loan Programme

The William D Ford Federal Direct Loan Programme is administered by the US Department of Education and allows participating UK institutions to issue federal direct loans to students coming from the USA to study in the UK. When dealing with these cases, you should expect to receive a letter on the Tier 4 sponsor's headed paper with a signature across the coat of arms (as opposed to other loan letters being on the financial institutions headed paper). You must assess this against the other loan criteria listed under [Acceptable forms of evidence](#).

Credit card accounts

You must not accept evidence of funds held in a credit card account unless the applicant has paid their course and accommodation fees and the balance of the account is in credit (in which case you would assess the evidence in the same way as funds held in a bank account).

Evidence which cannot be verified

You must not award 10 points for maintenance where the money is held in a [financial institution](#) with which the Home Office is unable to make satisfactory verification checks.

Related content

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Tier 4: funds held in parent's accounts

This page tells you the evidence required when a Tier 4 (General) or Tier 4 (Child) applicant submits evidence of funds which is held in the name of their parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

Evidence of funds which is not in the applicant's own name must be in the name or names of people with parental responsibility for them.

Where the applicant is a Tier 4 (General) Student, you must see evidence that the person holding the funds is a parent or legal guardian of the applicant.

The applicant must provide one of the following documents:

- their birth certificate, showing the name of the student and the parent who holds the funds
- a certificate of adoption showing the name of the student and the parent who holds the funds
- a court document stating the legal guardian of the student who holds the funds

You can also accept a government-issued household register as evidence of the relationship between the applicant and their parent or parents. However, the Immigration Rules do not exclude any document other than a British certificate from being used as evidence of relationship. So, for consistency, you must accept whatever document a country issues and not restrict it only to those documents specifically called 'birth certificates'. You cannot, however, accept an affidavit. This is because an affidavit, even one sworn before a court, is simply a claim to a relationship, but not evidence of that relationship.

The applicant must also provide a signed letter from the parent or guardian that confirms:

- the relationship between the parent or legal guardian and the applicant
- that the parent or legal guardian consents to the funds being available to the applicant for study in the UK

Where the applicant is a Tier 4 (Child) student no additional evidence of relationship is required.

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Tier 4: genuine student rule

This page tells you how to assess whether an applicant for entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) student, or a 16 or 17 year old student applying under Tier 4 (Child), is a genuine student.

Entry clearance and leave to remain applications

To qualify for entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) student, or as a 16 or 17 year old Tier 4 (Child) student, the applicant must satisfy you that they are a genuine student.

To make an assessment of an applicant's credibility, you must take into account all the information provided in the application and, if applicable, in the credibility interview.

You must not refuse an applicant on genuineness grounds without interviewing them, unless:

- the application has been refused previously on genuine student grounds and there have been no changes to the material circumstances and no new evidence
- there have been a significant number of very similar or identical applications and you have satisfied yourself by interviewing a sample of these applicants that they are not genuine

If, having reviewed the application, including information obtained during the interview, you are not satisfied that the applicant is genuine, refuse the application under the appropriate paragraph of the Immigration Rules. These are paragraphs 245ZV(k) for Tier 4 (General) entry clearance applications, 245ZX(o) for Tier 4 (General) leave to remain applications or 245ZZA(j) for Tier 4 (Child) applications where the applicant is aged 16 or over.

Tier 4 credibility: factors to be considered

This section lists factors that you must consider when assessing whether you are satisfied that an applicant is a genuine student. This is not a checklist of factors to consider and they will not be appropriate in every case. You must also take into account other issues that arise in particular cases.

The immigration history of the applicant and any dependant, in the UK and other countries

Examples include:

- previous visa applications for the UK and other countries, including reasons for any visa refusals

- the amount of time the applicant has spent in the UK or other countries on previous visas, and for what purpose
- whether the applicant has complied with the terms of previous visas for the UK and other countries

The applicant's education history, study and post study plans

Examples include:

- the amount of time that has elapsed since the applicant last studied, and whether the applicant has sound reasons for returning to, or commencing, formal study of this subject, particularly after any significant gap
- whether the applicant demonstrates sufficient commitment to the course
- whether the course represents [academic progression](#)
- the credibility of the applicant's rationale for, knowledge of, and level of research undertaken into, the proposed course of study and sponsoring institution, and living arrangements in the UK
- how the circumstances of any dependant may affect the ability or motivation of the applicant to study
- the relevance of the course to post-study plans in the UK or overseas
- whether the applicant intends to comply with the terms of their visa, including the requirement to leave the UK when their leave comes to an end (or, where lawful and appropriate, to apply to extend their leave under Tier 4 or to switch to another immigration route): you must bear in mind that only Tier 4 (General) students sponsored by a HEP with a track record of compliance, an overseas HEI or an embedded college offering pathway courses are permitted to extend their leave or switch to another route from within the UK

The personal and financial circumstances of the applicant and any dependant

Examples include:

- the economic circumstances of the applicant and any dependant in their region in their home country
- whether the applicant has a credible source of funds to meet course fees, and living costs for themselves and any dependants for the duration of the course in the UK, in light of the fact that they may have limited or no ability to work in the UK
- how the applicant was able to acquire the necessary funds for course fees, as well as accommodation in a UK city and living expenses in the UK for themselves and any dependant
- the distance between the applicant's place of study and their proposed accommodation in the UK
- the average monthly expenditure for the applicant and any dependant in the UK
- the applicant's personal circumstances, where these might make it difficult to complete a course of study

You must take account of the fact that the applicant will need to make a considerable investment to gain a qualification from the UK.

The qualification, course provider and agents

Examples include:

- if the applicant is applying to study at an institution that is under investigation or has been identified by the Home Office as an institution of concern in relation to immigration compliance
- where the application is being managed by an agent about whom the Home Office has concerns

Role of dependants

Where an applicant will be accompanied by a dependant or dependants and it appears that one of the main applicant's reasons for applying for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa is employment, education or health care benefits for the dependants, you must consider particularly carefully whether you are satisfied that the applicant is a genuine student.

Pull factors

Pull factors are known to influence students' choice of the UK as their destination - they can give an indication of the student's motivation in coming to the UK and whether they are a genuine student

Examples include:

- did they choose the UK because of the academic reputation of the UK's education institutions in comparison with those of other countries, for example, is the UK perceived to be the best for postgraduate study
- was the ease of working during or after the course a deciding factor

Related content

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Tier 4: interviews

This page tells you how to arrange an interview for a Tier 4 (General) student or a Tier 4 (Child) student who is aged 16 or 17.

You must ensure that the use of the Genuine Student Rule (GSR) for 16 and 17 year old applicants is proportionate and targeted to instances where there is evidence of risk. It is envisaged that the consideration of GSR will apply to a relatively low number of applicants within this route.

For in-country applications, you must complete an interview referral, authorised by your manager, and forward this to the interview administration team who will schedule an interview date and time.

Once an interview slot is allocated, the interview team will send a letter to invite the applicant to attend.

For out-of-country applications, Entry Clearance Officers (ECOs) must refer to an Entry Clearance Manager (ECM) to authorise the interview. In authorising a decision to consider the genuine student rule, the ECM must take account of risk factors.

Interviews may be arranged and conducted in a variety of ways, which will be affected by the location and availability of the applicant. These may include:

- a telephone interview where you must contact the applicant by phone and ask if they are able to answer questions about their application - if they confirm they are happy to do so, conduct the interview
- contacting the applicant by email or telephone to arrange an interview at a designated time and location

Where the applicant fails to undertake an interview without a reasonable explanation as to why they were unable to do so, you must consider whether to refuse the application on general grounds for refusal relating to failure to attend an interview (paragraph 320(7D) for entry clearance and paragraph 322(10) for leave to remain).

Official - sensitive: Start of section

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Official - sensitive: End of section

The interview can only be rearranged if the applicant raises compelling reasons why they cannot attend the interview and the interview team is satisfied with those reasons.

Failure to attend

If the interviewer confirms the applicant failed to attend the interview with no reason, or the reason given was unacceptable, you must refuse the application for their failure to attend interview.

After completion of the interview: genuine applicant

In-country applications

If the interviewer concludes that the applicant appears credible at interview, the application will be processed by an administrative officer (AO) caseworker. When passed back, the caseworker must note the details on CID and complete the consideration of the case.

If at the consideration stage the AO caseworker has reasons to believe the applicant is not genuine, they must pass the application to a higher executive officer (HEO), to consider refusal.

Out-of-country applications

If you are satisfied that the applicant appears credible at interview, and where all other aspects of the rules are met, then you must grant the application, confirming on Proviso that an interview has been undertaken.

If at the consideration stage, you are not satisfied that the applicant is genuine, then you must refuse the application, confirming on Proviso that an interview has been undertaken.

After completion of the interview: applicant not a genuine student

For in-country applications, if the interviewer concludes that the applicant is not credible, the case will be passed to the caseworker to assess the application. The caseworker must complete the consideration and take the interview information into account.

In all cases you must refuse the application if you are not satisfied that the applicant is a genuine student.

If you refuse the application, you must make sure the refusal letter fully explains the reasons for the decision and covers any information obtained at interview and includes any concerns raised as part of the caseworking process.

Refusals on this basis are subjective and a detailed refusal letter, as well as a transcript of the interview (if applicable), must support any decision. These documents will be important in any administrative review, so they must set out the reasons for refusal as fully and clearly as possible.

Abuse

If the applicant admitted, at interview or otherwise, that they provided fraudulent information as part of the application process you must also refuse under the appropriate general grounds for refusal.

In these circumstances, where it is an in-country application, you must pass the application to a HEO to quality check.

Official - sensitive: Start of section

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Related content

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Tier 4 (General): maximum time allowed to study below degree level

This page tells you about the maximum amount of time that can be granted to a person who is aged 18 years or over and is studying courses below degree level as a Tier 4 (General) migrant.

A person who is 18 or over cannot spend more than 2 years studying courses below degree level. You must refuse the application if the grant of leave for the person's proposed course of study would lead to them spending over 2 years studying below degree level as a Tier 4 (General) migrant since the age of 18.

Exception: maritime courses

The 2 year limit does not apply if the student is applying to study a course at below degree level, has never studied as a Tier 4 (General) migrant in the UK before, and is applying for leave to study a 3 year course which leads to an eligible qualification and is subject to a regulatory requirement by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency that they must spend at least 12 months at sea. See: [Tier 4 \(General\): Maritime Courses](#).

You must refuse the application if the grant of leave for the student's proposed course of study would lead to them spending over 3 years studying below degree level as a Tier 4 (General) migrant since the age of 18.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): maritime courses

From 6 April 2017, the 2 year time limit for Tier 4 (General) students studying below degree level was extended to 3 years for courses which are subject to a regulatory requirement by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) that the applicant must spend at least 12 months at sea.

The following courses, approved by the Merchant Navy Training Board (MNTB) for MCA certification, are delivered by UK maritime and training centres and are recognised as requiring 12 months of work at sea on-board a merchant vessel:

- foundation degree in:
 - Electro-technical Engineering
 - Marine Electrical Engineering
 - Marine Electrical and Electronic Engineering
 - Marine Engineering
 - Marine Operations
 - Nautical Science
 - Navigation and Maritime Science
- HNC/HND in:
 - Marine Engineering
 - Nautical Science

To be eligible to sponsor students under this provision, the Tier 4 sponsor must be an approved MCA centre which is on the list of [Marine and Coastguard approved Nautical Colleges and Yacht Training providers](#).

For information on how to calculate the correct period of leave to grant a student on a maritime course, see: [Tier 4 \(General\): maximum time allowed to study below degree level](#).

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The information on this page has been removed as it is restricted for internal Home Office use.

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Tier 4 (General): maximum time allowed to study at degree level or above

This page tells you about the maximum amount of time that can be granted to a Tier 4 (General) migrant studying courses at degree level or above.

Tier 4 (General) students are restricted to a maximum of 5 years study at degree level or above. Any period studying at degree level or above in the student route in place before 31 March 2009 also counts toward the maximum 5 years. Degree level courses are defined as those at:

- [Regulated Qualifications Framework](#) (RQF) level 6
- [Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework](#) (SCQF) level 9

Exceptions

Applicants who apply to study, or continue to study, a course listed below are not subject to the 5 year limit.

If the student is applying for any other course, all the time spent studying under Tier 4 should be counted, including time spent on courses listed in the table below.

Course	Requirements	Maximum period of study at degree level or above
A master's degree level course	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• the course must be at a higher education provider with a track record of compliance• the applicant must have successfully completed a degree level course (with no re-sits or repeat modules) of a minimum duration of 4 academic years	6 years
A course leading to the award of a PhD	The course must be at a higher education provider with a track record of compliance	8 years The 8 year limit only applies to students who have completed a PhD, postgraduate research qualification or research master's degree and are looking to undertake further study to follow a course

Course	Requirements	Maximum period of study at degree level or above
		<p>leading to the award of a PhD, postgraduate research qualification or Research Masters Degree (as listed in Annex 3 of the Tier 4 Migrant Guidance)</p> <p>You must not grant further leave under Tier 4 (General) if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the student has completed their PhD, postgraduate research qualification or research master's degree – students who have completed a postgraduate research qualification or a research master's degree at RQF 7 (SCQF 11) in the UK lasting 13 months or less are not subject to the 8 year study limit they have spent 8 years or more studying at degree level or above
<p>A course in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> architecture medicine dentistry veterinary medicine science music law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The music course must be at a music college that is a member of Conservatoires UK <p>For law courses the applicant must have completed a course at degree level in the UK and be progressing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a law conversion course validated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and the Bar Standards Board (England and Wales), a Master's in Law (MLaw) 	<p>There is no maximum period for these students. However, if a student applies for leave or an extension of leave for one of these courses, you must refuse the application if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a grant of leave for the course would lead to the student having spent more than 8 years studying in the UK at degree level and above <u>and</u> they have already completed a PhD, postgraduate research qualification or a master's degree by

Course	Requirements	Maximum period of study at degree level or above
	<p>in Northern Ireland, or an accelerated graduate LLB (Scotland)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the legal practice course (England and Wales) or, the solicitors course (Northern Ireland) or, a diploma in professional legal practice (Scotland) the bar professional training course (England and Wales) or the bar course (Northern Ireland) 	research
Doctorate Extension Scheme	The applicant must have been granted leave to remain on the Doctorate Extension Scheme.	Leave to remain in this category will not count towards the maximum time the applicant is allowed to study at degree level or above.

Definition of Higher Education Institution (HEI)

For Tier 4 purposes, a higher education institution (HEI) is either:

- a UK recognised body
- a body that receives public funding as an HEI from:
 - the Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland
 - the Office for Students for England
 - the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
 - the Scottish Funding Council
- any other provider registered as an HEI with the Office for Students

We also accept the following institutions as HEIs:

- Richmond, the American International University in London because it is recognised in statute in the Education (Recognised Awards) (Richmond The American International University in London) Order 2006
- Health Education England for sponsored students undertaking a recognised Foundation Programme for postgraduate doctors and dentists

You can check whether an institution is a UK HEI on the following websites:

- [England](#)
- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)

- [Recognised UK degrees](#)

Definition of Higher Education Provider (HEP)

A “**higher education provider**” is a Tier 4 sponsor which:

- in England, is an institution that is required to register with the Office for Students, because it is an “English Higher Education Provider”, as defined in the Office for Students Regulations and section 83 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017
- in Northern Ireland, is a higher education institution as set out in the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1993, or a body that provides higher education, and is recognised under the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, with “in developmental” or “established provider” status
- in Scotland, is an institution that provides higher education within the meaning of section 38 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 and which is a post-16 education body within the meaning of section 35(1) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005
- in Wales, is an institution that offers higher education provision and is a “regulated institution”, as defined in the Higher Education (Wales) Act 2015 (for the purpose of the 2015 Act, higher education is defined as education provided by means of a course of any description mentioned in schedule 6 to the Education Reform Act 1988).

Definition of a track record of compliance

A “**track record of compliance**” means a 4 year track record of immigration compliance and Educational Oversight, established by a Tier 4 sponsor in accordance with the requirements set out in the Tier 4 guidance for sponsors which is published on the visa and immigration pages of the GOV.UK website.

You can check the status of a Tier 4 sponsor by looking it up on the [Tier 4 register of sponsors](#). A sponsor which is an HEP with a track record of compliance will have the status “Tier 4 General Tier 4 Sponsor - Track Record”.

Calculating time periods counting towards time limits

You must calculate whether a Tier 4 (General) applicant’s previous study and their proposed study would exceed the maximum period of study permitted.

To determine whether to grant a Tier 4 (General) applicant a further period of leave to undertake their proposed course of study, you must determine how much leave they have already received to study courses as a Tier 4 (General) migrant or a student, and add the length of leave that they will receive if you grant their current application.

To calculate leave counting toward the time limit, you must add the proposed period of leave together with any current or previous leave. This period will be counted from either the date:

- leave would begin if granted, if the application is for entry clearance
- the current period of leave began, if the application is for leave to remain
- until the day the leave would expire if granted

You must also count any **previous periods of leave** the student has held under Tier 4 (General) or the Student route, including where the student has subsequently left the UK. This period will be counted from the date the leave began until the date it expired. If the applicant extended their Tier 4 student leave, or received any period of continuing leave in accordance with section 3c of the Immigration Act 1971, this will be included. If the applicant's leave was curtailed, you must take the date the curtailed leave expired.

When calculating leave you must consider the duration and level that the Tier 4 leave was granted for, including where a student changed to study a course at a different level or for a shorter duration without making a new application for leave. You must:

- count time in months – round individual days upwards or downwards to the nearest month (round dates falling on the middle day of the month downwards), and, you must not double-count time
- count the full period unless there are exceptional compelling and compassionate circumstances (for example, serious illness or disability)

You must not include any time spent in the UK as either a:

- Tier 4 (Child) student whilst under the age of 18
- Tier 4 (General) student whilst under the age of 18

If the student turned 18 during the course of their leave, you must commence the calculation from the date of their 18th birthday.

Deciding whether the application complies with the time limit requirement

If your calculation shows that the length of the course applied for in the current application would lead to the applicant having spent more than the maximum period permitted, you must refuse the application unless the application is to study a new course or complete a current course within 6 months of the time limit being reached if the student is subject to the 3-year time limit for studying a maritime course which has a regulatory requirement by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency for the student to spend 12 months at sea or 11 months of the time limit being reached, and one of the following applies:

- the student is subject to the 2 year limit for studying below degree level, has never studied as a Tier 4 (General) migrant in the UK before, and is applying for leave to study a 2 year course
- the student is applying to study a course being taught by an HEP which is also sponsoring the student, and the strict application of the 5 year time limit would prevent them from completing a fifth academic year at degree level or above
- the student is applying to study a course being taught by an HEP which is also sponsoring the student, is subject to the 6 year limit for studying a 4 year undergraduate degree at an HEP followed by other courses at degree-level or above, and the application of the 6 year time limit would prevent them from completing a sixth academic year at degree level and above

If these circumstances apply, you must not refuse the application on the basis that the time limit would be breached.

For the avoidance of doubt, this concession is not intended to extend the time limits for all students. Students who have already undertaken 5 years' academic study will not benefit.

Date calculators

Date calculators, for example [‘timeanddate.com’](http://timeanddate.com) may help in calculating how long the applicant has studied. If you use a date calculator, you must ensure you select the ‘include end date in calculation’ option, to obtain accurate details of the length of the courses. The period calculated will be expressed in days but will also include detail in ‘years, months and days’ which you can use for refusal purposes.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: employment

This page tells you what employment a Tier 4 student can undertake in the UK.

Type of sponsor	Course level	Work permitted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance overseas HEI and the student is on a short-term study-abroad programme in the UK 	Full-time course at degree level or above	Students can work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> part-time during term-time (up to a maximum of 20 hours a week) full-time during vacations on a work placement as part of the course full-time as a postgraduate doctor or dentist on a recognised foundation programme, providing they are being sponsored by Health Education England as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance 	Full-time course below degree level	Students can work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> part-time during term-time (up to a maximum of 10 hours a week) full-time during vacations on a work placement as part of the course as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance 	Part-time course	Students cannot work.
Sponsors which are not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance an overseas HEI sponsoring a study abroad student 	Any level	Students can work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> on a work placement as part of the course (but only if the education provider has Tier 4 Sponsor status) as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years

[Doctorate Extension Scheme students](#), on completion of the course, are allowed to work full-time without restrictions, except as a:

- doctor or dentist in training
- professional sportsperson (including as a sports coach)

Prohibited work

A Tier 4 (General) student must not:

- be self-employed, unless all of the following apply:
 - they have successfully completed a course at degree level or above at a sponsor that is a HEP with a track record of compliance
 - they have made an application for leave to remain as a [Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\) migrant](#) which is supported by an endorsement from a qualifying HEP before their Tier 4 leave has ended (and any appeal against that decision has been determined)
 - they have yet to receive a decision on their [Tier 1 \(Graduate Entrepreneur\) migrant](#) application
- fill a full-time, permanent vacancy, unless they have successfully completed a course at degree level or above at a sponsor that is a HEP with a track record of compliance or any other provider registered with the Office for Students, one of the following will also need to apply:
 - they have made a Tier 2 application supported by a certificate of sponsorship (CoS) assigned by a licensed Tier 2 sponsor before their Tier 4 leave has ended (and any appeal against that decision has been determined)
 - they have yet to receive a decision on their Tier 2 application
- be employed as:
 - a doctor or dentist in training (other than on a recognised foundation programme as recorded on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS))
 - a professional sportsperson (including coach), whether paid or not and where one or more of the indicators of the definition provided under paragraph 6 of the Immigration Rules applies to the student
 - entertainer

Tier 4 (Child)

A Tier 4 (Child) student under 16 years old cannot work at all during their time in the UK.

A Tier 4 (Child) student who is aged 16 or above, is allowed to work:

- part-time during term-time (up to a maximum of 10 hours a week)
- full-time during vacations
- on a work placement as part of the course
- as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer for up to 2 years

Volunteering

Tier 4 (General) students and Tier 4 (Child) students can volunteer while they are studying. Voluntary work is distinct from volunteering.

A Tier 4 (General) student can do voluntary work if they are permitted to work, but this work and any other (paid) work must not exceed the total number of hours of they are permitted to work during term time. For example, if a student is permitted to work 20 hours a week during term-time and has paid work of 15 hours a week during term time, they cannot do more than 5 hours voluntary work. If they are not permitted to work, they cannot do voluntary work.

Tier 4 (Child) students aged 16 and over can undertake voluntary work. Factors to take into account when considering whether a particular activity constitutes voluntary work or volunteering are:

- voluntary workers will usually have contractual obligations to perform the work (for example to attend at particular times and carry out specific tasks) with the employer being contractually required to provide the work – the contract does not have to be written. The worker is usually remunerated in kind
- volunteers do not have a contract. They must not be a substitute for an employee and they must not be doing unpaid work – for example, receiving payment in kind (although they are sometimes reimbursed for reasonable travel and subsistence expenses)
- volunteers usually help a charity or voluntary or public sector organisation

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: work placements

This page tells you about the requirements for work placements under Tier 4 of the points-based system.

Tier 4 (General)

The table below lists the requirements for work placements under Tier 4 (General).

The Tier 4 (General) sponsor will remain responsible for the student during the work placement.

Level of course and/or type of sponsor	Work placement requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• below degree level, or• at degree level (or above) but the sponsor is either:• not a higher education provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance• not an overseas HEI and the applicant is undertaking a short term study abroad programme in the UK	<p>The work placements must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be integral and related to the course• be assessed as part of the course• not exceed one third of the length of the course in the UK (two thirds of the course must comprise formal study)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• degree level or above and either:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ the sponsor is a HEP with a track record of compliance○ the sponsor is an overseas HEI and the applicant is undertaking a short-term study abroad programme in the UK	<p>The work placements must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be integral and related to the course• be assessed as part of the course• not exceed 50 per cent of the length of the course in the UK (half of the course must comprise formal study)

If the student is studying below degree level at a sponsor which is a Probationary Sponsor, the course cannot include a work placement.

Students are exempt from meeting the academic progression requirements where they are changing course to add a work placement to their original course of study. Therefore they are able to apply for additional leave to remain to complete their placement from within the UK.

Tier 4 (Child)

Tier 4 (Child) students who are aged 16 or 17 can undertake work placements as part of their course of study. The Tier 4 (Child) sponsor will remain responsible for the student during the placement.

The work placement must:

- be integral and related to the course
- be assessed as part of the course
- not exceed 50 per cent of the length of the course in the UK

Statutory requirements

Tier 4 work placements which exceed the permitted time limit due to a UK statutory requirement are exempt from time limits.

Work placements involving professional performance

Tier 4 students studying music, drama or dance can undertake work placements which involve a professional performance, where the:

- course is at or above:
 - [Regulated Qualifications Framework](#) (RQF) level 6
 - [Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework](#) (SCQF) level 9
- performance has been arranged by the sponsoring education provider and is an integral and assessed part of the course

Sports-related work placements

In certain circumstances, Tier 4 students are permitted to undertake a sports-related work placement as part of their course. These are permitted where the placement is an integral and assessed part of their course and does not involve the student filling a permanent vacancy. Additionally, Tier 4 students must not take up a role that requires them to play or coach sport as part of a work placement, unless they are doing as an amateur.

Postgraduate doctors and dentists

Postgraduate doctors and dentists can undertake a work placement if they choose to do so in addition to working:

- on the foundation programme
- an additional 20 hours per week during term-time (assuming that their sponsor is an HEP with a track record of compliance) in any capacity of their choosing

Work placements on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

The CAS has fields for sponsors to indicate if a course includes a work placement and to provide details about the placements. Only the field asking if the course includes a work placement is mandatory. If only this field is completed and no other details are provided, you are not expected to make further enquiries.

If, however, the sponsor completes the field 'percentage of work undertaken' and that percentage is over 33 per cent for Tier 4 (General), or 50 per cent for Tier 4 (Child), the sponsor must justify why the work placement exceeds the permitted percentage in the 'justification text' field. For example, the justification may be that it is a UK statutory requirement.

Sponsors may also provide the work placement address (although this is optional).

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (General): study abroad programmes

This page tells you about the requirements for Tier 4 (General) Students who are undertaking a study abroad programme in the UK and overseas.

Study abroad programmes in the UK

A student who is studying abroad at an overseas Higher Education Institution (HEI) and wishes to come to the UK as a Tier 4 (General) Student to undertake a short-term study abroad programme is permitted to do so. .

The qualification the student is studying will need to be validated as the same level as a UK degree or above by [UK NARIC](#). You will need to check this has been confirmed on the CAS.

Study abroad programmes overseas

A Tier 4 (General) student is permitted to complete part of their course overseas as a study abroad programme. Students who are changing course to add a study abroad programme to the original course of study, will be exempt from meeting the academic progression requirements, enabling them to apply for their additional leave to remain from within the UK. You must confirm the programme:

- is being undertaken at a partner institution of the Tier 4 sponsor, which enables the Tier 4 sponsor institution to continue fulfilling their sponsorship duties whilst the student is studying overseas
- is an additional period of study connected to the course which the student has already started studying in the UK
- will be assessed as part of the course

For the purposes of a study abroad programme, a partner institution is one which enables your Tier 4 sponsor institution to continue fulfilling their sponsorship duties whilst you are studying overseas.

If you have doubts that the study abroad programme meets these requirements, you must make verification checks and refuse the application if these are not confirmed.

Students are exempt from meeting the academic progression requirements where they are changing course to add a study abroad programme to their original course of study. Therefore they are able to apply for additional leave to remain to complete their programme from within the UK.

A study abroad programme is not available to students applying via the Tier 4 (Child) route.

Related content
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Tier 4 (General): postgraduate doctors and dentists

This page tells you about the requirements for people who apply for leave as a Tier 4 (General) student to study as a postgraduate doctor or dentist.

A Tier 4 (General) student who wishes to study as a postgraduate doctor or dentist must:

- have successfully completed a recognised UK degree in the UK in medicine or dentistry from:
 - an institution with a Tier 4 (General) sponsor licence
 - a UK publicly funded institution of further or higher education
 - a genuine UK private education institution which maintains satisfactory records of enrolment and attendance
- have been given permission to stay in the UK as a Tier 4 (General) student - this permission must have covered the applicant's final academic year and at least one other academic year of the applicant's studies leading to the above degree

Documents required

If a student is applying to take a recognised foundation programme as a postgraduate doctor or dentist they must provide the:

- certificate and/or transcript of results of the UK recognised degree in medicine or dentistry that they completed whilst in the UK as a student
- letter from their [sponsor](#) confirming that they have been offered a place on a foundation programme recognised by the medical community

Those applying under the [differentiation arrangements](#) need only provide the foundation programme letter.

Maximum period

The maximum period of approval for students to do a recognised foundation programme as a postgraduate doctor or dentist is 3 years. This includes time spent with leave under the postgraduate doctor or dentist rules in place before 31 March 2009.

You must refuse the application if:

- the person applies as a Tier 4 (General) student to study as a postgraduate doctor or dentist
- their proposed course of study means they are seeking entry clearance or leave to remain for over 3 years of study as a postgraduate doctor or dentist

Sponsors of postgraduate doctors and dentists

Postgraduate doctors and dentists who have been assigned a CAS for the 2 year foundation programme may only be sponsored by Health Education England (HEE). You must treat HEE as a higher education institution.

Work placements

For information on the requirements for postgraduate and dentist work placements, see [Tier 4: work placements](#).

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: Student Union Sabbatical Officers

This page tells you how a person can qualify for leave as a Tier 4 student while they are working as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer.

A Student Union Sabbatical Officer post is:

- elected by the members of a students' union (commonly at a higher education establishment)
- full-time
- usually salaried (with funds coming from the students' union itself, or directly from the educational institution)

Tier 4 students are allowed to take up a post as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer at the institution they are sponsored by while in the UK or they must be elected to a national position with the National Union of Students (NUS). However, terms of more than 2 years as a sabbatical officer at the same institution are not permitted under the Education Act 1994.

Sabbatical years are either taken:

- in between years of study (for example between years 2 and 3 of a typical degree, sitting the third year 12 months later than would have normally been the case)
- immediately after graduation

If a Tier 4 student wants to do the job after graduation and their permission to stay as a Tier 4 student has expired, they must apply again and meet the requirements of the category.

Tier 4 students are allowed to take up post as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer at the institution they are sponsored by while in the UK or at the National Union of Students.

Sabbatical officers may do additional work but this is restricted to part-time work during term-time (no more than 20 or 10 hours a week, as appropriate) and full-time work during holidays.

The requirement that a work placement be no more than 50 per cent of a Tier 4 student's overall course in the UK does not include any period that the student is in post as a Student Union Sabbatical Officer.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (General): Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES)

This page tells you how to consider applications made for further leave to remain under the Tier 4 (General) student Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES).

From 6 April 2013, students with entry clearance or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) student completing a course leading to the award of a PhD at a HEP with a track record of compliance can stay in the UK on a Tier 4 visa for 12 months after their expected course completion date.

The DES provides students gaining a PhD, or other doctorate level qualification, a longer period to gain further experience in their chosen field, seek skilled work, or develop plans to set up as an entrepreneur (although there will be no formal restrictions on the work they can take, other than on work as a doctor or dentist in training or as a sportsperson).

Students wishing to apply for further leave to remain in this category need to submit an application for further leave to remain using application form Tier 4 (General) Student and provide a new Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from their sponsor.

Under this scheme:

- students can bring dependants into the UK in line with the current Tier 4 rules
- students can switch into Tier 1 and Tier 2 (General) if required
- the standard Tier 4 fee will apply
- time spent under Tier 4 does not count towards settlement

You must check that the student:

- has existing leave as a Tier 4 (General) student to study a course at a HEP with a track record of compliance which leads to an award of a PhD level qualification conferring the title of doctor:
 - see annex 3 of the Tier 4 Policy Guidance for information about acceptable Postgraduate Research Qualifications but note that the annex also lists the research master's degrees, which do not meet the requirements for DES
- has a CAS which was issued no more than 60 days before the expected course completion date and which confirms their Tier 4 sponsor expects them to complete their course, and they will continue to sponsor them for 12 months following the course
- is applying no more than 60 days before the expected course completion date (as stated on the CAS) before the course end date specified on the new CAS
- meets the Tier 4 requirements under paragraph 245ZX of the Immigration Rules

Students do not need to hold or apply for (ATAS) clearance certificate to cover their time spent on the Doctorate Extension Scheme. If, however, they are currently studying a course (or undertaking a period of research that requires an ATAS clearance certificate), and their course end date given on the CAS is postponed for a period of more than 3 calendar months, you must check that they have obtained a new ATAS clearance certificate to cover the rest of their time on that course.

For how to grant an extension, see [Tier 4 \(General\): Doctorate Extension Scheme – Grant extension](#).

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: visa pilot

This page tells you about students participating in the Tier 4 visa pilot.

Eligibility

A Tier 4 student qualifies for the pilot if the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) is:

- for a master's course at [Regulated Qualifications Framework](#) (RQF) 7
- for a duration (excluding any pre-sessional courses) of 13 months or less
- issued by:
 - Imperial College London
 - University of Cambridge
 - University of Bath
 - University of Oxford
 - Cardiff University
 - Goldsmiths University of London
 - Harper Adams University
 - Newcastle University
 - Queen's University Belfast
 - The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
 - University of Bristol
 - Durham University
 - University of East Anglia
 - University of Edinburgh
 - University of Essex
 - University of Exeter
 - University of Glasgow
 - University of Leicester
 - University of Liverpool
 - University of Manchester
 - University of Nottingham
 - University of Reading
 - University of Sheffield
 - University of Southampton
 - University of Wales Trinity St. David (Swansea Campus)
 - University of Warwick
 - University of York

Based on overall visa refusal rates, these 27 universities have been invited to participate in a pilot that provides for qualifying students to be granted additional leave at the end of the course on the basis that, before issuing a (CAS), the sponsor has undertaken eligibility checks in respect of:

- English language: students at degree level and above must speak English at level B2

- previous qualifications: qualification or award certificate from previous study must be submitted
- [time limit](#): student must not exceed more than 5 years studying at degree level
- course requirement: course must meet the requirements of Tier 4
- [academic progression](#): course must be above the RQF level of the previous course where Tier 4 leave was granted (exceptions apply)
- [genuine student](#) criteria

Submission

Although you have the right to ask individual applicants for documentary evidence (and retain the ability to refuse the applications if they are not provided within the specified period), those who qualify for this pilot will benefit from the same document differentiation as [Appendix H](#) countries.

This means that they are not routinely required to submit:

- certificates or documents used by the Tier 4 sponsor to assess academic ability, for example:
 - qualifications
 - transcripts
 - references
- when applying in the UK, they are not required to submit evidence that they have completed their previous course in the UK (this will be noted on the CAS)
- English language tests or documents used by the Tier 4 sponsor to assess [English language ability](#) (for example a Secure English Language Test (SELT))
- documentary evidence of their funds, for example:
 - bank statements
 - building society passbooks
 - loan letters
 - (for Tier 4 (General) applicants) evidence of relationship to a parent or legal guardian who is providing financial sponsorship

Applicants whose CAS meets the eligibility requirements of this pilot will therefore only need to:

- complete the relevant box at section 5.4 of Appendix 8 to confirm that they have the documentary evidence required
- submit the VAF (and appendices), their travel document, any required Tuberculosis (TB) and [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#) (ATAS) certificates

There is no requirement for the Commercial Partner staff at the VACs to determine pilot eligibility as part of the submission process. This will mean that applicants wishing to submit documents will be allowed to do so.

Dependants

Eligible dependants will qualify for this document differentiation only if they submit their applications at the same time as the Tier 4 student and the applications can be considered together.

If the dependants submit their applications separately, they will need to submit full evidence of their ability to meet maintenance and accommodation requirements.

Official – sensitive: Start of section

The information on this page has been removed as it is restricted for internal Home Office use.

Official – sensitive: End of section

Length of leave

You must give students (and their dependants) who qualify under the pilot and meet the requirements of the Rules a 6 month period of leave to enter at the end of their course, regardless of the course length.

For example, if the course of study begins on 3 October 2017 and finishes on 7 July 2018, you must issue leave to enter until 7 January 2019. It is essential that you check that the correct leave is granted to minimise the inconvenience to students and the additional costs incurred in replacing the BRP.

Related content

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Tier 4: dependants

This page tells you about the requirements for dependants of Tier 4 students.

Tier 4 (General)

Under [paragraphs 319A-319J](#) of the Immigration Rules, only the following dependants are allowed to come to the UK to join a person granted leave as a Tier 4 (General) student:

- spouse
- civil partner
- unmarried or same-sex partner
- dependent children under the age of 18

Tier 4 (General) students who are studying in the UK for 6 months or longer can bring the specified dependants to the UK provided all the following requirements are met:

- the student is either:
 - a government sponsored student who has or is applying for leave for a full-time course of study that is longer than 6 months
 - studying a full-time course that is 9 months or more which is at postgraduate level at a HEP with a track record of compliance
 - applying for or has been granted leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) student on the [Doctorate Extension Scheme](#)
- the student is applying for entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain, to undertake a full-time course of study that is longer than 6 months and either:
 - has entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain as a Tier 4 (General) Student to undertake a course of study that is longer than 6 months
 - has last had entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain within the three months preceding the application as a Tier 4 (General) Student to undertake a course of study longer than 6 months
- the partner or child has either:
 - entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain as the partner/child of a Tier 4 (General) student with entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain, to undertake a course of study longer than 6 months
 - last had entry clearance, leave to enter or leave to remain within the three months preceding the application as the partner/child of a Tier 4 (General) student to undertake a course of study longer than 6 months

The Tier 4 (General) student and the partner/child must be applying at the same time.

Tier 4 (General) students who are studying in the UK for 6 months or less cannot bring dependants to the UK.

Tier 4 (Child)

Tier 4 (Child) students cannot bring dependants with them to the UK.

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4 (General): differentiation arrangements for dependants

This page tells you about the differentiation arrangements for dependants of Tier 4 (General) students.

Differentiation arrangements: requirements for dependants

A dependant of a Tier 4 (General) student will qualify for the differentiation arrangements if all of the following apply:

- the Tier 4 (General) student is sponsored by an education provider with Tier 4 sponsor status
- they are applying at the same time as the Tier 4 (General) student
- they are applying for entry clearance in their country of nationality or for leave to remain in the UK
- they hold the same nationality as the Tier 4 (General) student and both are nationals of one of the countries listed in Appendix H of the Immigration Rules

Documentary requirements

Dependants who apply for the differentiation arrangements must:

- indicate on their application form they are applying under the differentiation arrangements
- declare they hold the documentary evidence specified by the Immigration Rules and Tier 4 policy guidance

Under the differentiation arrangements, Tier 4 dependants must still provide:

- their passport
- their biometric residence permit
- a police registration certificate (where appropriate)
- evidence of relationship to the Tier 4 (General) student
- evidence that the relationship is 'subsisting' (this also applies to dependent children over the age of 16 years)
- evidence of 'dependence' (this also applies to dependent children who are living away from home)

Requesting supporting documents

When you are considering an application under the differentiation arrangements, you can still [request](#) supporting documents.

If the dependant does not provide specified documents relating to funds, you must [refuse](#) the application.

Related content
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Tier 4: grant or refuse

This section tells you how to grant or refuse an application under the Tier 4 categories of the points-based system.

The actions you must take will differ dependant on the type of application under consideration:

- [entry clearance](#)
- [leave to remain](#)

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: grant or refuse entry clearance

This page tells you how to grant or refuse an application for entry clearance.

Tier 4 (General): grant entry clearance

If the applicant meets all of the requirements of paragraph 245ZV of the Immigration Rules, and none of the general grounds for refusal in paragraph 320 apply, you must grant entry clearance for the length of the course plus the appropriate additional period.

The endorsements you must use are:

- D: Tier 4 (General) Student
- D: Tier 4 (General (S)) Student

Cat D endorsements (which must include the sponsor licence number in the sponsor details) plus police registration where required:

- Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance for study at degree level and above:
T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 20 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)
- Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance for study at below degree level:
T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 20 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)
- Independent School which can issue Tier 4 General CAS to students over the age of 16 years:
T4 G Student SPX* Work limit 10 hrs p/w term time. No Public Funds (+POL)
- Sponsor that is not an HEP with a track record of compliance at any RQF level:
T4 G Student SPX * No Work except Work Placement. No Public Funds (+POL)

Issue a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) visa for leave greater than 6 months

For more information on the hours that a Tier 4 migrant can work, see: [Tier 4: Employment](#).

Tier 4 (Child): grant entry clearance

If the applicant meets all of the requirements of paragraph 245ZZA of the Immigration Rules, and none of the general grounds for refusal in paragraphs 320 apply, you must grant entry clearance.

You must grant entry clearance for the length of the course as stated on the Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) up to a maximum of:

- 6 years (if the child is under 16 years of age)

- 3 years (if the child is 16 or 17 years of age)

The endorsement you must use is one of:

- D: Tier 4 (Child) Student
- D: Tier 4 (Child (S)) Student

Cat D endorsements (which must include the sponsor licence number in the sponsor details); if 16+ plus police registration where required:

- Age 16+:
 - T4 C Student SPX * Work Limit 10 hrs p/w term time. Age 16+ No Public Funds (+POL)
- Under 16:
 - T4 C Student. No Work SPX* No Public Funds (+POL)

Issue a BRP visa for leave greater than 6 months

Tier 4 (General): refuse entry clearance

If the applicant has not provided the evidence that they meet all the requirements of paragraph 245ZV, or if any of the general grounds for refusal in paragraph 320 apply, you must refuse the application.

Tier 4 (Child): refuse entry clearance

If the applicant has not provided the evidence that they meet all the requirements of paragraph 245ZZA, or if any of the general grounds for refusal in paragraph 320 apply, you must refuse the application.

Rights of appeal and administrative review: out-of-country applications

There are no appeal rights for those who are applying from overseas, except where the appeal is on human rights grounds.

If an application for entry clearance is refused under the points-based system and the applicant thinks the Home Office has made an error in considering their application, they can apply for an [administrative review](#). For more information, see: [Tier 4 migrant guidance](#).

Related content

[Contents](#)

Tier 4: entry clearance refusal paragraphs

This page tells you which paragraph of the [Immigration Rules](#) you must refer to if you are refusing an application for entry clearance as a Tier 4 (General) migrant.

Reason for refusal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules
No valid CAS	245ZV(b)
Does not qualify for points – valid CAS – supporting documentary evidence missing	245ZV(b)
Maintenance – documents missing	245ZV(c)
Maintenance – documents provided but does not meet points	245ZV(c)
No ATAS certificate provided	245ZV(da)
ATAS issued for course that doesn't meet Tier 4 requirements	245ZV(da)
Postgraduate doctor or dentist – no UK degree – no evidence of UK study	245ZV(e)
Postgraduate doctor or dentist – period requested exceeds three year maximum	245ZV(e)
No sponsor consent, following sponsorship by a Government or international scholarship agency	245ZV(f)
Below degree level study – maximum length of leave already granted	245ZV(g)
Does not meet the minimum age requirement of 16 years old	245ZV(h)
16 or 17 years old – no parental approval of application	245ZV(i)
16 or 17 years old – no parental approval of care arrangements in the UK	245ZV(j)
Not a genuine student	245ZV(k)– Tier 4 (General) 245ZZA(j) – Tier 4 (Child)

Related content

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Tier 4: grant or refuse extension

This page tells you how to grant or refuse an application for an extension of leave.

A Tier 4 (General) student can only apply to extend their leave to study at their current sponsor, or at another sponsor, if their current period of Tier 4 leave is sponsored by:

- a HEP with a track record of compliance
- an overseas HEI
- an embedded college offering pathway courses
- an independent school

A Tier 4 (General) student who is sponsored by any other type of institution must apply for a visa from outside the UK if they wish to undertake further study under Tier 4.

To determine the institution type of the sponsor, you can check the [Tier 4 register of sponsors](#).

A Tier 4 (General) student who is applying for further leave to remain in Tier 4 must be [academically progressing](#).

Tier 4 (General): grant extension

If the applicant meets the requirements of paragraph 245ZX of the Immigration Rules, and there are no general grounds for refusal, you must grant leave to remain on:

- code 2A conditions if the applicant is only allowed to work 10 hours
- code 2 conditions if the applicant is only allowed to work 20 hours
- code 3 if the applicant is not allowed to work

For more information on the hours that a Tier 4 student can work, see: [Tier 4 - employment](#).

Tier 4 (General): period to grant

You must grant leave for the full period of the course plus:

- one month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional 4 months after the course ends if the total duration of the course lasts 12 months or longer
- one month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional 2 months after the course ends if the total duration of the course is 6 months or longer but less than 12 months

- one month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional one month after the course ends for a pre-session course that is less than 6 months' long
- 7 days before the course starts and an additional 7 days after the course ends for a course of less than 6 months that is not a pre-session course
- one month before the course starts or 7 days before the intended date of travel, whichever is later, and an additional month after the course ends, if the person is studying as a postgraduate doctor or dentist

The intended date of travel is the date recorded by the applicant on their application form. If the grant of entry clearance is made less than 7 days before the intended date of travel, entry clearance will be granted with immediate effect.

In cases where you grant an extension after the course has finished, you must grant the usual additional period from the date of decision. However, for courses that only merit an additional period of 7 days and that course has ended, you must grant 17 days from the date of your decision.

Tier 4 (General): period to grant for courses comprising separate, independent modules

For applications for leave to study courses such as the Association of Business Executives (ABE) or other courses that are made up of a series of independent modules, you will receive a separate Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for each module of the course being studied. You must only grant leave up to the end date of the stage that is provided by the sponsor, plus any relevant additional leave (unless it is an ACCA or CIMA course and the CAS specifies that it should be treated as one, long course).

This may lead to a period of greater than one month passing between modules and the applicant having to leave the UK to make an application for their next module.

Tier 4 (General) sponsors offering [Association of Chartered Certified Accountants \(ACCA\)](#) courses must be an ACCA 'approved learning partner'.

Tier 4 (Child): grant extension

If the applicant meets the requirements of paragraph 245ZZC of the Immigration Rules, and there are no general grounds for refusal, you must grant leave to remain on:

- code 2A conditions for Tier 4 (Child) applicants aged 16 years and older
- code 3 conditions for Tier 4 (Child) applicants under the age of 16

Tier 4 (Child): period to grant

You must grant leave for the period that is the shortest of the periods below, plus 4 months:

- the length of stay the applicant asks for
- the length of the applicant's course
- maximum 3 years (for children aged 16 to 17)
- maximum 6 years (for children aged under 16)

If an applicant aged 16 to 17 is on a course which is longer than the maximum 3 years permitted, they will need to apply again before their permission to stay runs out. Applications for further leave from students who are aged 18 or above must be made under Tier 4 (General).

Tier 4: refuse extension

Tier 4 (General):

- if the applicant does not meet the requirements of paragraph 245ZX, or if any of the general grounds for refusal apply, you must refuse their application

Tier 4 (Child):

- if the applicant does not meet the requirements of paragraph 245ZZC, or any of the general grounds for refusal apply, you must refuse their application

Tier 4 (General): dependants

If the applicant does not meet the requirements of paragraphs [319A to 319K](#) of the Immigration Rules, or if any of the general grounds for refusal apply, you must refuse the application. For more information on Tier 4 dependants, see [Tier 4 dependants](#).

Related content

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Tier 4: Doctorate Extension Scheme - grant extension

This page tells you how to grant an extension application under the Tier 4 (General) student Doctorate Extension Scheme (DES).

Students who meet the qualification criteria will be granted further leave until 12 months beyond the course end date specified on the new Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). In this case, the course end date is the date the PhD is expected to be confirmed by the sponsor as having been completed to the standard required for the award of a PhD, and recorded on the CAS accompanying the application for leave as a Tier 4 (General) student on the Doctorate Extension Scheme.

During the remaining period of study, the student's leave will be subject to the usual Tier 4 conditions. However, on completion of the course, students will be allowed to work full-time without restrictions, except as:

- a doctor or dentist in training
- a professional sportsperson (including as a sports coach)

You must not count leave to remain granted as a Tier 4 (General) student on the Doctorate Extension Scheme towards the maximum time allowed to study at degree level or above.

Although leave will be granted as a Tier 4 student, there is a new case type in CID, Tier 4 (Gen) – Doctorate Extension Scheme.

You must grant condition code: 4E on the Biometric Residence Permit (BRP).

You must lay out the front of card as follows:

- T4(G) DOCT EXT SCH
- LEAVE TO REMAIN
- WORK FULL-TIME
- NO DR/DEN/SPORT
- POST COURSE

PhD and other doctorate level courses frequently take longer to complete than originally planned. Students whose expected course completion date slips beyond the expiry of their existing leave must apply for a period of further leave to remain to complete their course, and will be issued leave expiring 4 months beyond the end date of their course. This will entitle them to normal restricted Tier 4 work rights, for example, condition code 2.

If they wish to remain in the UK beyond the end of their course to seek work under the Tier 4 Doctorate Extension Scheme, students will need to make a further application no more than 60 days before the end of their course.

Related content

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Tier 4: how to complete refusal notices for extensions

This page tells you how to complete a Tier 4 refusal notice for an application to extend leave in the UK.

Applications made on or after 20 October 2014

An applicant can ask for a decision to be reviewed if they think the Home Office has made a mistake about the result of their application to remain in the UK.

[Administrative review](#) is available to anyone who made an in-country Tier 4 application on or after 20 October 2014.

On or after the 20 October 2014 an applicant can only appeal against:

- refusal of a human rights claim
- refusal of a protection claim, which is a claim for refugee or for humanitarian protection status
- revocation of protection status

[Section 1 of the Immigration Act 2014](#) replaces separate powers for giving removal directions with a single power. This means migrants who need, but do not have, leave to remain in the UK are liable to removal.

This makes a migrant removable as a consequence of having no leave. If the person has no leave as a result of a refusal decision, the new templates (listed below) make it clear to the migrant that, subject to the outcome of any administrative review, they are liable to removal and informs them which country they will be forcibly removed to if they fail to depart voluntarily. No further removal decision needs to be made.

As a result of this change, you must use the following new letters to reflect this single decision:

Refusals:

- Tier 4 (General) Refusal Letter IA 2014 – ICD.4133 IA
- Tier 4 (Child) Refusal Letter IA 2014 – ICD.4134 IA
- Tier 4 (Dependant) Refusal Letter IA 2014 – ICD.3966 IA
- IA

Other:

- T4 Withdrawal Migrant and Dependant IA 2014 – ICD.3969 IA

When the application is entered on GCID, you must identify if the application was made on or after 20 October 2014 and therefore falls under the new administrative review process. You must do this by entering the conditions flag 'IA 2014'.

Applications made before 20 October 2014

The DocGen letters you must use for a refusal notice are either:

- Tier 4 (General) - ICD 4133 – general student
- Tier 4 (Child) – ICD 4134 – child student

You must change the content depending on whether the person has a full right of appeal, or no right of appeal.

Rights of appeal

Refusal decisions are served with section 47 decisions which attract a full right of appeal.

When you select the relevant refusal notice, DocGen will automatically complete the migrant's details and the date of the application. You must then enter wording to reflect the details of the refusal and include standard paragraphs which are available from DocGen.

Appeal codes

Refusal and curtailment decision notices now contain fields for appeal codes. There is separate guidance available on how to complete these fields.

Completing the notice - section A

You must follow the procedures below when you complete the standard paragraphs (SPs) in the refusal notice:

SP2

1. Identify the reason for refusal from the standard paragraphs in DocGen – you can find these under the file path: document / standard wordings / TBC standard wordings / PIDP: standard wordings.
2. When you have selected the standard wording, you may also enter your own text giving the specific reason or reasons for which you have refused the application.

SP3

3. Enter the relevant standard wordings – this will input the formal refusal paragraph.

SP4

4. Enter the standard paragraph from DocGen and write a brief summary of the documents considered.

Complete the notice - section B

When you complete section B of the refusal notice you must:

- enter the amount of points claimed and awarded for:
 - attributes
 - maintenance
- write a brief explanation for why you have or have not awarded points – you must not go into more detail than the reasons you have given in SP2

Complete the notice - section C

For section C you must select one of the following options, depending on the applicant's appeal rights:

- full right of appeal – option 1
- no right of appeal – extant leave – option 3
- no right of appeal – out of time – option 4

Additional documents

If the applicant has a full right of appeal, you must also complete both:

- ICD 1989 – refusal form (this includes a summary of the person's immigration history and a list of documents prepared for the appeal bundle)
- ICD 1041 – appeal form

If you are responsible for completing the ICD 1041, the date of service of appeal will be:

- the date of decision – for applications served to the applicant in the public enquiry office (PEO)
- 2 working days after the notice is posted – for all postal decisions

The date the applicant has to appeal by is 10 working days after the refusal has been served.

Related content

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Tier 4 (General): CID codes and appeal rights for extension applications made before 20 October 2014

This page tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is for applications made before 20 October 2014. It also tells you what the relevant paragraph of the Immigration Rules and the relevant CID code are if you are refusing an application for an extension of leave as a Tier 4 (General) student.

Appeal rights

The table below tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is if they:

- applied in time
- do not have any leave on the date you refuse their decision (known as 'extant leave')

If the applicant applied out of time or has any leave remaining on the date that you refuse their application, they will have no right of appeal. This is the case regardless of the reasons why you refuse their application.

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
Illegal entrant	Full right of appeal	245ZX(a)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
No switching	Full right of appeal	245ZX(b)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal no switching
No sponsor consent	Full right of appeal	245ZX(g)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Maintenance – documents missing	Full right of appeal	245ZX(d)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of maintenance
Maintenance – documents provided but does not meet points	Full right of appeal	245ZX(d)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of maintenance
Documents forged or not genuine or material facts not disclosed	Full right of appeal	322(1A) (if the document(s) or deception relates to the current application) 322 (2) (if the	TR4 ST General LTR refusal conducive grounds

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
		document(s) or deception relate to a previous application) Leave to remain paragraphs 322(1A) and 322(2) – deception	
Applicant's presence is not conducive to the public good	Full right of appeal	322(5). Not desirable to let a person remain in the UK – leave to remain	TR4 ST General LTR refusal conducive grounds
No valid certificate of acceptance for studies (CAS)	Full right of appeal	245ZX(c)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal not in possession of CAS
Does not qualify for points – valid CAS – supporting documentary evidence missing	Full right of appeal	245ZX(c)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal not in possession of CAS
No academic technology approval scheme (ATAS) clearance certificate provided	Full right of appeal	245ZX(ea)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
CAS assigned for course that doesn't meet Tier 4 requirements	Full right of appeal	245ZX(c)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal not in possession of CAS
Postgraduate doctor/dentist – no UK degree – no evidence of UK study	Full right of appeal	245ZX(f)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Postgraduate doctor or dentist – period requested exceeds 3 year maximum	Limited right of appeal. However, if a section 47 removal decision is served at the same time as the application is refused, the decision will attract a full right of appeal (providing there is no extant	245ZX(f)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
	leave at the date of decision).		

Related content

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Tier 4 (Child): CID codes and appeal rights for extension applications made before 20 October 2014

This page tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is if they made their extension application before 20 October 2014. It also tells you the relevant paragraph of the Immigration Rules and the relevant CID code if you are refusing an application for an extension of leave as a Tier 4 (Child) student.

Appeal rights

The table below tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is if they:

- applied in time
- do not have any leave on the date you refuse their decision (known as 'extant leave')

If the applicant applied out of time or has any leave remaining on the date that you refuse their application, they will have no right of appeal. This is the case regardless of the reasons why you refuse their application.

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
Illegal entrant	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (a)	TR4 ST Child LTR Refusal other reasons
No switching	Full right of appeal	245ZZC(b)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal no switching
Maintenance documents missing	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (d)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal lack of maintenance
Maintenance documents provided but does not qualify for points	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (d)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal lack of maintenance
No financial sponsor consent	Full right of appeal	245ZZC(k)	TR4 ST Child LTR Refusal other reasons
Documents forged or not genuine or material facts not disclosed	Full right of appeal	322(1A) (if the document(s) or deception relates to the current application)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal conducive grounds

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
		322 (2) (if the document(s) or deception relate to a previous application) Leave to remain paragraphs 322(1A) and 322(2) – deception	
Student's presence is not conducive to the public good	Full right of appeal	322(5). Not desirable to let a person remain in the UK – leave to remain	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal conducive grounds
No valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (c)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal not in possession of CAS
No valid CAS – supporting documentary evidence missing (16 and 17 year olds only)	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (c)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal not in possession of CAS
No valid CAS – course does not meet Tier 4 requirements	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (c)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal not in possession of CAS
Applicant is not under 18	Limited right of appeal. However, if a section 47 removal decision is served at the same time as the application is refused, the decision will attract a full right of appeal (providing there is no extant leave at the date of decision).	245ZZC (e)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
More than one month gap between end of current leave and start date of new	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (j)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
course			
Applicant has child(ren) under the age of 18	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (f)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
Foster care or relative provisions not satisfied	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (g)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
No parental approval of the application	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (h)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
No parental approval of applicant's care arrangements in the UK	Full right of appeal	245ZZC (i)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
Has had access to public funds	Full right of appeal	322(4) and 255ZZC(d) (maintenance)	TR4 ST Child LTR refusal other reasons
Breach of section 50	Full right of appeal	322(3) and 245ZZD	TR4 ST Child LTR Refusal other reasons

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Tier 4 dependants: CID codes and appeal rights for extension applications made before 20 October 2014

This page tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is if they applied for an extension before 20 October 2014. It also tells you the relevant paragraph of the Immigration Rules and the relevant CID code if you are refusing an application for an extension of leave as the dependant of a Tier 4 (General) student.

Appeal rights

The table below tells you what the applicant's right of appeal is if they:

- applied in time
- do not have any leave on the date you refuse their decision (known as 'extant leave')

If the applicant applied out of time or has any leave remaining on the date that you refuse their application, they will have no right of appeal. This is the case regardless of the reasons why you refuse their application.

Dependent partners

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
Refusal in line with main applicant	Same as main applicant	319C(b)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Illegal entrant	Full right of appeal	319C (a)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
No switching	Full right of appeal	319C (h)-(i)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal no switching
Maintenance – missing documentation	Full right of appeal	319C(g)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of maintenance
Maintenance – insufficient funds	Full right of appeal	319C(g)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of maintenance
Has had access to public funds	Full right of appeal	322(4) and 319C(g) (maintenance)	TR4 ST General LTR refusal other reasons
Unmarried or same-sex partner –	Full right of appeal	319C(c)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other

Reason for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
subsisting relationship or degree of relationship			reasons
Spouse or civil partner – subsisting relationship	Full right of appeal	319C(d)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
All partners – Intention to live together	Full right of appeal	319C(e)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
All partners – Intention to leave	Full right of appeal	319C(f)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Documents forged or not genuine or material facts not disclosed	Full right of appeal	322(1A) – if the document(s) or deception relate to the current application, or 322(2) – if the document(s) or deception relate to a previous application. Leave to remain paragraphs 322(1A) and 322(2) – deception.	The statistical code to use will depend on what type of deception was used. For guidance ask your senior caseworker.
Applicant's presence is not conducive to the public good	Full right of appeal	322(5). Not desirable to let a person remain in the UK – leave to remain.	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal conducive grounds

Dependent children

Reasons for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
Illegal entrant	Full right of appeal	319H(a)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
No switching	Full right of appeal	319H (h)-(j)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal no switching
Maintenance – missing documents	Full right of appeal	319(g)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of

Reasons for refusal	Right of appeal	Paragraph of the Immigration Rules	CID code
			maintenance
Maintenance – insufficient funds	Full right of appeal	319(g)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal lack of maintenance
Refusal in line with main applicant	Full right of appeal	319H(b)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Marriage, or independent life or family unit	Full right of appeal	319H(d)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Over 18 years of age	Full right of appeal	319H(c)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Has had access to public funds	Full right of appeal	322(4) and 319H(g) (maintenance)	TR4 ST General LTR refusal other reasons
Intention to leave	Full right of appeal	Paragraph 319H(e)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Requirement for sponsoring parents	Full right of appeal	319H(f)	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal other reasons
Documents forged or not genuine or material facts not disclosed	Full right of appeal	322(1A) – if the document(s) or deception relate to the current application, or 322(2) – if the document(s) or deception relate to a previous application. Leave to remain paragraphs 322(1A) and 322(2) – deception.	The statistical code to use will depend on what type of deception was used. For guidance ask your senior caseworker.
Migrant's presence is not conducive to the public good	Full right of appeal	322(5). Not desirable to let a person remain in the UK – leave to remain.	TR4 ST General LTR Refusal conducive grounds

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