



## What documents do we issue?

Foreign nationals granted immigration status (for example permission to enter or stay in the UK) will receive evidence of their status in either physical form (BRP or BRC) or digital form (eVisa). Some individuals may receive both a physical card and an eVisa. Individuals who will only have an eVisa currently include EEA citizens with status under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS), and those with immigration permission under the UK's points-based immigration system and British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) route. eVisas are increasingly being rolled out on more routes and to more nationalities.

BRCs (EUSS BRC) are issued to non-EEA nationals with status under the EUSS if they have never had a biometric card. Some non-EEA nationals have a previous version of the BRC (EEA Rights BRC) which was issued to them when the UK was part of the EU. Some of these EEA Rights BRC holders also have status under the EUSS, but some do not. Importantly, everyone with status under the EUSS has an eVisa which can be relied upon as evidence of status.

EEA citizens who work in the UK but live outside of the UK may hold an FWP and an eVisa.

## What are BRPs, BRCs, FWPs and eVisas?

BRPs, eVisas and some BRCs are evidence of the holder's right to stay in the United Kingdom and show the conditions of a person's stay. FWPs are similar documents and are evidence of the holder's right to enter, live and work in the UK. They enable confirmation of identity as part of the process for opening a bank account in the UK and rights to study and/or work here, and to access public services. For some immigration categories, the National Insurance Number will appear in the remarks on the reverse of a BRP.

Some foreign nationals, such as refugees, will **only** hold a BRP as evidence of their identity and status in the UK and will not be able to produce any other form of identity document. Others will have alternative forms of ID – for example, a passport or national identity card.

## How can BRPs, BRCs, FWPs and eVisas be used?

For the purposes of this guidance, individuals with a BRP, BRC or FWP can present their document for the purpose of identity checks. More detail on the design and security features of BRP/Cs and FWPs to aid the checking of these documents is set out below.

Individuals with an eVisa as evidence of their status are able to use the online 'view and prove your immigration status' service (<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>) to provide a time-limited code ('share code') to third parties such as landlords, employers and banks which will allow the third party to access, view and confirm identity and immigration status details. Financial institutions and others can check someone's identity and immigration status, if they have their share code and the individual's date of birth, using the online 'check someone's immigration status' service: <https://www.gov.uk/check-immigration-status>. The digital system has the benefit of providing real time information, direct from Home Office systems, reflecting the individual's current status. It also enables checks to be conducted without physical documents changing hands.

This is part of the Home Office's plans to develop a border and immigration system which will be digital by default, which means we will increasingly replace physical and paper-based products and services for all routes with accessible, easy to use online and digital services. [Your responsibilities under money laundering supervision - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/your-responsibilities-under-money-laundering-supervision)



## Checking the BRP, BRC or FWP

The following advice sets out how you can manually check a BRP, BRC or a FWP. If a customer provides one of the above documents as proof of identity, you must take reasonable steps, including the following, when checking the document:

### Look at the document carefully:

- Is it clean and in good condition? Does it look tampered with?
- check that relevant expiry dates have not passed.

### Check the Permit Number:

- This is on the front of the permit in the top right-hand corner.
- It should start with two letters. The third character in the permit number can be 'X' or a digit. The last six characters will be digits. The permit number should not be raised.

### Check the Holder's Image:

- The holder's image will always be in grey-scale.
- Check that it matches the person presenting it to you.

### Check the biographical details (name, date of birth, etc)

- Check that they match the details of the person presenting it to you. If the person's name is long it may appear 'cut off' on the BRP. This is not a mistake - it is because there is limited space on the BRP card.
- Check the dates of birth listed so that you are satisfied these are consistent with the appearance of your customer.

### Check the 'Tactile Feature' (on the back):

- The back has a raised design incorporating the four national flowers of the United Kingdom.
- The design can be seen by shining a light across the permit.
- You can also feel the raised design by running your finger over it.

### Feel the permit:

- It should feel thicker than a driving licence.
- The permit will have a distinctive sound when flicked.
- The permit should not be bent or folded.

**Check the holder's immigration conditions.** These are shown on both the front and the back of the permit. For example, it might confirm that an individual has no right to work or can only work a limited number of hours per week.







**Back UV** - Back image of the card when viewed under ultraviolet light.



**Front Optically Variable Device (OVD) 1**  
A clear kinegram with fine line details are present in the area of the holder's image



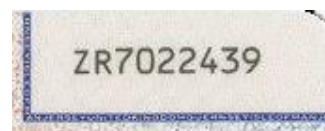
**Front Optically Variable Device (OVD) 2**



**Front UV** - Front image of the card when viewed under ultraviolet light.



**Permit number** - The number of the residence permit (top right) of the card is laser engraved.




Physical checks can also be performed on the BRP, BRC and FWP. As they are made entirely from polycarbonate, they will have a distinctive sound when flicked, and the holder's image will always be in grey-scale. The permit should not be bent or folded, as this is likely to cause it to break. Contact with water should be avoided to prevent damage to the chip.

Identity document validation technology is available that will assist you to check BRPs and BRCs electronically.



## eVisa image from the online 'view and prove your immigration status' service

### Checker profile

 **Check someone's immigration status**


**BETA** This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Back](#)

## Their immigration status

<b>Name</b>	John Doe
<b>Status</b>	Settlement, also known as indefinite permission to stay

There is no limit on how long they can stay in the UK.



[Rotate](#)

### Details of check


<b>Organisation or company</b>	<b>Job title of checker</b>
Another Company Ltd	Administrator
<b>Date of check</b>	<b>Reference number</b>
5 July 2021	SC-4CL8BW2-ZX
<b>Purpose of check</b>	
Another reason	

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### For further information visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/recognising-fraudulent-identity-documents>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/identity-document-validation-technology>

<https://www.gov.uk/check-immigration-status>

## **B) Documents relating to individuals from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, the USA (known as B5JSSK nationals), the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland**

Since 20 May 2019, the majority of individuals from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and the USA (known as B5JSSK nationals) have been able to use the eGates at UK airports, sea ports and Brussels and Paris Eurostar terminals, to enter the UK. Those individuals wishing to do so must hold a biometric passport. Those individuals not in possession of a biometric passport or who choose not to use an eGate will be processed by a Border Force Officer at the manned passport control point. From 1 January 2021, the above will also apply to individuals from the EEA and Switzerland.

As a result, the majority of B5JSSK nationals entering the UK will no longer have their passport endorsed with the date of their entry by Border Force. The majority of EEA citizens and Swiss nationals will also not have their passport endorsed with the date of their entry by Border Force. However, in some cases, individuals may choose to see an officer and request an endorsement in their passport, which will evidence their date of entry to the UK.

Those entering the UK as a visitor or business visitor will be granted leave to enter for a maximum period of up to six months and will be unable to work or access public funds. Those coming to live in the UK for more than six months will have a visa or entry clearance in their passport and will collect their Biometric Residence Permit post arrival, providing them with a means of evidencing their status in the UK.

If evidence of entry into the UK is required along with a valid passport, the following documents are recommended as acceptable evidence. These include (but are not restricted to) the following:

- An original or copy\* of a boarding pass or electronic boarding pass for air, rail or sea travel to the UK, establishing the date of arrival in the UK in the last six months;
- An original or copy\* airline, rail or boat ticket or e-ticket establishing the date of arrival in the UK in the last six months;
- Any type of booking confirmation (original or copy\*) for air, rail or sea travel to the UK establishing the date of arrival in the UK in the last six months;
- Any other documentary evidence which establishes the date of arrival in the UK in the last six months.

\*a copy can be a hardcopy such as a photocopy or an electronic copy such as a screenshot

Full information and guidance regarding the expansion of the use of eGates has been provided to carriers and travellers prior to their arrival in the UK and is available on gov.uk.

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**For further information visit:**

<https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control/at-border-control>

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