



Home Office

## Prospective students

This guidance is based on the Immigration Rules.

Archive

## Prospective students

### About this guidance

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p><b>Immigration Rules part 3, paragraphs 85 to 87.</b></p> <p>This guidance tells you how to consider applications from people who apply for leave to remain as prospective students.</p> <p>This route was closed to new entrants with effect from 1 October 2013. It remains open for individuals already in the route to extend their leave in the UK up to the maximum period of six months.</p> <p>This guidance does not replace the Immigration Rules and you must read the relevant rules together with this guidance. See related link: Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87.</p> <p>Changes to this guidance – This page tells you what has changed since the previous version of this guidance.</p> <p>Contact – This page tells you who to contact for help if your senior caseworker or line manager can't answer your question.</p> <p>Information owner – This page tells you about this version of the guidance and who owns it.</p> <p>Safeguard and promote child welfare – This page explains your duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and tells you where to find more information.</p>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Changes to this guidance</a></p> <p><a href="#">Contact</a></p> <p><a href="#">Information owner</a></p> <p><b>Related links</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a></p>
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## Prospective students

### Key facts

This page shows you the key facts for prospective students.

Category: Prospective students	
Eligibility criteria	<p>An applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have been admitted to the UK with a valid prospective student entry clearance</li> <li>• show a genuine and realistic intention to take a course of study that meets the Tier 4 requirements, within six months of entering the UK</li> <li>• intend to leave the UK:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ on completion of their studies, or</li> <li>○ on the expiry of their leave to enter if they are not able to meet the requirements for an extension of stay or leave to remain as a Tier 4 student.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• maintain and accommodate themselves and any dependants without recourse to public funds or working</li> <li>• spend no more than six months in the UK in this category</li> <li>• not be in the UK in breach of immigration laws, except for any period of overstaying:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ for 28 days or less which will be disregarded, or</li> <li>○ if the application was submitted before 9 July 2012.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Application forms	<p>Extension – FLR(O) Settlement – not applicable</p>
Cost of application:	<a href="#">Fees for Home Office services</a>
Entry clearance mandatory?	Not applicable
Is biometric information required for applications made in the UK?	No
Code of leave to remain granted	Code 3
Entry clearance endorsements	C: PROSPECTIVE STUDENT: LTE 6 months, Code 3
Conditions of leave to remain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot work.</li> <li>• Cannot claim public funds.</li> </ul>
How long is leave to remain normally granted for?	Six months leave. An applicant cannot spend more than six months in the UK in this category.
Are dependants allowed?	Yes
Work and study allowed?	No work permitted
Is switching into this category allowed?	No
Does this category lead to settlement (indefinite leave to remain)?	No

Is knowledge of language and life required?	No
CID case type	Prospective students - LTR
Immigration Rules paragraphs	<a href="#">Paragraph 85 – 87</a> <a href="#">Part 5 of Appendix F</a> – cross referencing purposes only

Archive

## Prospective students

### Changes to this guidance

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page lists the changes to the 'Prospective students' guidance, with the most recent at the top.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date of the change</th> <th>Details of the change</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>21 February 2014</td> <td> <p>Six month review by the modernised guidance team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor housekeeping and plain English changes throughout.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 October 2013</td> <td> <p>Change request in line with changes to the Immigration Rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throughout the guidance:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ links to Immigration Rules paragraphs 82-87 amended to paragraphs 85-87</li> </ul> </li> <li>• About this guidance:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ first paragraph, changed 'leave' to 'leave to remain'</li> <li>○ second paragraph removed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key facts:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ heading 'Eligibility requirements', new first bullet point and fourth bullet point removed</li> <li>○ heading 'Application forms', reference to initial application forms removed</li> <li>○ heading 'Entry clearance mandatory', changed</li> <li>○ heading 'Immigration Rules paragraphs', added 'Part 5 of Appendix</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date of the change	Details of the change	21 February 2014	<p>Six month review by the modernised guidance team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor housekeeping and plain English changes throughout.</li> </ul>	1 October 2013	<p>Change request in line with changes to the Immigration Rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throughout the guidance:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ links to Immigration Rules paragraphs 82-87 amended to paragraphs 85-87</li> </ul> </li> <li>• About this guidance:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ first paragraph, changed 'leave' to 'leave to remain'</li> <li>○ second paragraph removed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key facts:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ heading 'Eligibility requirements', new first bullet point and fourth bullet point removed</li> <li>○ heading 'Application forms', reference to initial application forms removed</li> <li>○ heading 'Entry clearance mandatory', changed</li> <li>○ heading 'Immigration Rules paragraphs', added 'Part 5 of Appendix</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Contact</a></p> <p><a href="#">Information owner</a></p> <p><b>Related links</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p>
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		<p>F – cross referencing purposes only’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry or extension requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ page renamed ‘Extension requirements’</li> <li>○ link to ‘Entry Clearance Guidance – Visit and Transit (VAT)’ removed</li> <li>○ new fourth paragraph inserted</li> <li>○ fifth paragraph changed</li> <li>○ fifth paragraph, fourth bullet point changed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Grant or refuse entry clearance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ this page has been removed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Grant or refuse entry at UK port: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ new second paragraph</li> <li>○ sub-heading ‘Refuse entry’, reference to paragraph 82 to 87 of the Immigration Rules replaced with part 5 of Appendix F</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Leave to enter refusal wording: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ sub-heading ‘Non-visa national with no entry clearance’, the wording has been amended to reflect the changes to the Rules.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
		<p>For previous changes to this guidance you will find all earlier versions in the archive. See related link: <a href="#">Prospective students - archive.</a></p>		

ARCHIVE

## Prospective students

### Extension requirements

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page tells you how to check if a prospective student application meets the requirements to be granted leave.</p> <p>This route was closed to new entrants with effect from 1 October 2013. It remains open for individuals already in the route to extend their leave in the UK up to the maximum period of six months.</p> <p>When considering an application you must check the applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• has a valid application form</li><li>• has a genuine passport or travel document</li><li>• meets the substantive requirements of the category, and</li><li>• does not satisfy any of the general grounds for refusal.</li></ul> <p>For more information, see related links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specified application forms and procedures</li><li>• General grounds for refusal.</li></ul> <p>This route was closed to new entrants with effect from 1 October 2013. It remains open for individuals already in the route to extend their leave in the UK up to the maximum period of six months.</p> <p>An applicant must meet the requirements of paragraph 85 of the Immigration Rules to be granted leave to remain as a prospective student. An applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• show a genuine and realistic intention to take a course of study that meets the Tier 4 requirements, within six months of entering the UK</li><li>• intend to leave the UK:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ on completion of their studies, or</li></ul></li></ul>	<p><b>Related links</b></p> <p><b>See also</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a></p>
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ if they are not granted as a Tier 4 migrant, when their leave expires</li><li>● maintain and accommodate themselves and any dependants without recourse to public funds or working</li><li>● have entered with valid entry clearance in this category,</li><li>● spend no more than six months in the UK in this category, and</li><li>● not be in the UK in breach of immigration laws, except for any period of overstaying:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ for 28 days or less which will be disregarded, or</li><li>○ if the application was submitted before 9 July 2012.</li></ul></li></ul> |  |
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## Prospective students

### Grant or refuse entry at a UK port

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This section tells you how to grant and refuse entry at a UK port to a person who seeks entry as a prospective student.</p> <p>This route was closed for new entrants from 1 October 2013, however, someone can still enter in this capacity where they applied for entry clearance before this date. Anyone who arrives at port with valid entry clearance as a prospective student after 1 October 2013 must be considered against part 5 of Appendix F of the Immigration Rules.</p> <p><b>Grant entry</b> If a person meets all the requirements of a prospective student and they have entry clearance in this category, you must grant them entry to the UK.</p> <p>You must be satisfied on the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the passenger has valid entry clearance as a prospective student</li><li>• the passenger genuinely intends to study as a Tier 4 migrant and leave the UK after their studies, and</li><li>• there are no grounds for cancelling the permission to enter the UK, under paragraph 2A of schedule 2 to the Immigration Act 1971.</li></ul> <p>You must endorse the passport with your personal date stamp to record the start of the leave to enter.</p> <p>The statistical code is 'VPS'. The code for ISCID is 'STS Short term student'.</p> <p><b>Refuse entry</b> You must refuse leave to enter if the passenger does not meet all of the requirements of Part 5 of Appendix F of the Immigration Rules or if any of the general grounds for refusal in paragraphs 320 to 321A of the Immigration Rules apply.</p> <p>For more information on refusing entry, see related link: Refusal of leave to enter.</p>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Leave to enter refusal wording</a></p> <p><b>Related links</b> <b>See also</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 320 to 324</a></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules Appendix F</a></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Act 1971 schedule 2</a></p>
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For examples of refusal wording, see related link: [Leave to enter refusal wording.](#)

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## Prospective students

### Leave to enter refusal wording

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page gives you some suggested wording for when you refuse an application for leave to enter as a prospective student.</p> <p><b>Introduction</b> You have applied for leave to enter the United Kingdom as a prospective student but your application has been refused.</p> <p><b>Visa national with no entry clearance</b> Under the Immigration Rules, you are required to produce a passport or other identity document endorsed with a valid and current United Kingdom entry clearance issued for the purpose for which entry is sought, and you do not have such entry clearance. Paragraph 320(5)</p> <p><b>Non-visa national with no entry clearance</b> You are seeking to enter the United Kingdom in order to (insert details) but I am not satisfied that entry is being sought for a purpose covered by the Immigration Rules.</p> <p>For more information on refusing leave to enter to passengers who have entry clearance, see related links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cancellation of entry clearance (not conferring leave)</li><li>• Cancellation of entry clearance.</li></ul>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><b>Downloads</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 320 to 324</a></p>
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## Prospective students

### Grant or refuse an extension of stay

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This section tells you how to grant and refuse applications for leave to remain as a prospective student.</p> <p><b>Grant an extension</b></p> <p>If a person meets all the requirements for a prospective student and there are no general grounds for refusal, you must grant them leave to remain. The applicant must have been granted entry clearance in this category to be granted an extension. It is not possible to switch into this category.</p> <p>It is unlikely you will see many applications for an extension of leave as a prospective student as most people are given the maximum six months entry clearance. If the entry clearance officer granted less than six months leave you must make sure the reasons for this no longer apply. To do this you can request the applicant's visa application form or check on the Central Reference System (CRS).</p> <p>A person cannot have more than six months leave in total as a prospective student. You must make sure the leave you grant does not take the applicant's total leave in any capacity to more than six months.</p> <p>The CID code is 'S4 Student extension – other than to end of course'.</p> <p>You must grant leave on code 3 conditions.</p> <p><b>Refuse an extension</b></p> <p>If an applicant does not meet all of the requirements in paragraph 85 of the Immigration Rules, or if any of the general grounds for refusal in paragraphs 322 apply, you must refuse an extension of leave.</p> <p>If the applicant has existing leave on the date you refuse the application or did not have any leave on the date they applied they will not have a right of appeal. This is the case regardless of the reason why their application is refused.</p>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Extension refusal wording</a></p> <p><b>Related links</b></p> <p><b>See also</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>Downloads</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 320 to 324</a></p>
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An applicant will have a right of appeal if they:

- have applied for an extension of leave before their previous leave has run out, and
- do not have any leave left as a result of the decision to refuse.

The applicant's right of appeal will be:

- limited, if you refuse the application because the applicant:
  - did not enter the UK with the correct entry clearance, or
  - would have spent more than six months in the UK in this category if you granted them an extension of leave
- full, if you are refusing leave for any other reason.

For more information on rights of appeal, see related link: [Appeals policy](#).

For examples of refusal wording for an extension of leave, see related link: [Extension refusal wording](#).

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### Extension refusal wording

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page gives you suggested wording for when you refuse applications for an extension of leave as a prospective student.</p> <p><b>Introduction</b> You have applied for leave to remain in the United Kingdom as a prospective student but your application has been refused.</p> <p><b>Applicant was not admitted to the UK with a valid prospective student entry clearance</b> In view of [insert reason here], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you were admitted to the United Kingdom with valid entry clearance as a prospective student. Paragraph 87 with reference to 85(i)</p> <p><b>Applicant does not have a realistic intention to switch into the Tier 4 migrant category</b> In view of [insert reasons here], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you can demonstrate a genuine and realistic intention of undertaking, within six months of your date of entry, a course of study which would meet the requirements for an extension of stay as a student under paragraphs 245ZX or 245ZZC of the Immigration Rules. Paragraph 87 with reference to 85(ii) and 82(i)(a)</p> <p><b>Applicant does not intend to leave the UK at the end of their study or after their leave expires</b> In view of [insert reasons here], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you intend to leave the United Kingdom on completion of your studies or on the expiry of your leave to enter if you are not able to meet the requirements of the Immigration Rules for an extension of stay as a student in accordance with paragraph 245ZX or 245ZZC of the Immigration Rules. Paragraph 87 with reference to 85(ii) and 82(ii)(a)</p> <p><b>Applicant does not meet the maintenance and accommodation requirement</b> In view of [insert reason here], the Secretary of State is not satisfied that you will be able without working or recourse to public funds to meet the costs of your intended course and accommodation and the maintenance of yourself and any dependants while making</p>	<p><b>In this section</b></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse extension of stay</a></p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a></p>
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arrangements to study, and during the course of your studies.  
Paragraph 87 with reference to 85(ii) and 82(iii)

**The applicant would spend more than six months leave in the UK if they were granted an extension**

In view of [insert reason here], the Secretary of State is satisfied that you would, as a result of an extension of stay, spend more than six months in the United Kingdom.  
Paragraph 87 with reference to 85(iii)

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## Prospective students

### Dependants

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page tells you which dependants can be granted leave to join a person with leave as a prospective student.</p> <p>Spouses and civil partners of prospective students can be granted leave under paragraphs 76-78 of the Immigration Rules.</p> <p>Children of prospective students can be granted leave under paragraphs 79-81 of the Immigration Rules.</p> <p>For more information, see related links:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partners of students and prospective students</li><li>• Children of students and prospective students.</li></ul>	<p><b>Related links</b></p> <p><b>See also</b></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 76 to 81</a></p>
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## Prospective students

### Contact

<p><a href="#">Key facts</a></p> <p><a href="#">Extension requirements</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse entry at UK port</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grant or refuse an extension of stay</a></p> <p><a href="#">Dependants</a></p>	<p>This page explains who to contact for more help with a specific case in the prospective students category.</p> <p>If you have read the relevant Immigration Rules and this guidance and still need more help with this category, you must first ask your senior caseworker or line manager.</p> <p>If the question cannot be answered at that level, you may email the study and visit operational policy team for guidance on the policy, see related link.</p> <p>Changes to this guidance can only be made by the modernised guidance team (MGT). If you think the policy content needs amending you must contact the study and visit operational policy team, see related link, who will ask the MGT to update the guidance, if appropriate.</p> <p>The MGT will accept direct feedback on broken links, missing information or the format, style and navigability of this guidance. You can send these using the related link: Email: Modernised guidance team.</p>	<p><b>Related links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Changes to this guidance</a></p> <p><a href="#">Information owner</a></p> <p><b>External links</b></p> <p><a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a></p> <p>Links to staff intranet removed</p>
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## Prospective students

### Information owner

<a href="#">Key facts</a>	This page tells you about this version of the 'Prospective students' guidance and who owns it.	<table border="1"><tr><td>Version</td><td>9.0</td></tr><tr><td>Valid from date</td><td>21 February 2014</td></tr><tr><td>Policy owner</td><td>Study and visit operational policy</td></tr><tr><td>Cleared by director</td><td>Naomi Hatton</td></tr><tr><td>Director's role</td><td>Director, operational rules and policy</td></tr><tr><td>Clearance date</td><td>25 September 2013</td></tr><tr><td>This version approved for publication by</td><td>Richard Short</td></tr><tr><td>Approver's role</td><td>Grade 7, modernised guidance team</td></tr><tr><td>Approval date</td><td>19 February 2014</td></tr></table>	Version	9.0	Valid from date	21 February 2014	Policy owner	Study and visit operational policy	Cleared by director	Naomi Hatton	Director's role	Director, operational rules and policy	Clearance date	25 September 2013	This version approved for publication by	Richard Short	Approver's role	Grade 7, modernised guidance team	Approval date	19 February 2014	<b>Related links</b>  <a href="#">Changes to this guidance</a>  <a href="#">Contact</a>  <b>External links</b>  <a href="#">Immigration Rules paragraphs 85 to 87</a>  Links to staff intranet removed
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