What is the EU Settlement Scheme?

If you are an EU citizen, you and your family members are able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK. This information also applies to EEA and Swiss nationals, who are all eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

The EU Settlement Scheme allows you and your family members to get the immigration status you need to continue to live, work and study here in the UK. This status means that you continue to be eligible for:

- public services, such as healthcare and schools
- public funds and pensions
- British citizenship, if you want to apply and meet the requirements.

How do I apply?

You need to complete a short online application form, using a computer, tablet or mobile phone. The application will ask for basic factual information like your name, address, contact details and nationality. It is free to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Application guidance can be found on GOV.UK.

Once you have read the guidance, start your application at gov.uk/apply-eu-settled-status.

Before you apply

You will need the following to complete your application:

- Access to the internet on a computer, tablet or smartphone
- A valid passport, national identity card, or biometric residence card (if you are a non-EU citizen)
- A recent photograph of yourself or the ability to take one using a smartphone or camera
- Your National Insurance number, if you have one
- You may need to provide proof of residence, for example bank statements, utility bills and pay slips. For a list of suggested evidence that is accepted visit gov.uk/eu-evidence-of-residence.
Proof of identity

Verify your identity and nationality using your passport, national identity card, or biometric residence card (if you are a non-EU citizen). You can either scan your identity document using an Android device, send in your identity document by post or visit a location providing access to the ID document scanning service. A list of locations can be found at gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations. You will also need to provide a digital photo of yourself, so it can be checked against your identity document.

Proof of residence

Prove your residence in the UK by providing your National Insurance number, if you have one. If you do not have one, do not worry. A list of suggested evidence that is accepted can be found at gov.uk/eu-evidence-of-residence.

Criminality check

Complete the criminality check by declaring any criminal convictions. Only serious or persistent criminality will affect your application. This will not affect the vast majority of EU citizens and their family members.

Approval

Subject to application checks, you will be granted settled or pre-settled status, depending on how long you have lived in the UK.

You will get digital proof of your status through an online service. In most cases your new immigration status will be granted within a couple of weeks. You can track the progress of your application online or by contacting the EU Settlement Resolution Centre.

Once you receive your status, details will be provided on how to access it at GOV.UK.

Support is available if you need help to complete your application. For more information on the EU Settlement Scheme, including the support available, visit gov.uk/eu-settled-status.