

# EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

January 2021



HM Government

EU Settlement Scheme

OFFICIAL

# WHAT IS THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME?



If you are an **EU, EEA or Swiss citizen who was resident in the UK by 31 December 2020**, you and your family members (including children and non-EU citizens) need to apply to the **EU Settlement Scheme** to continue living in the UK **beyond 30 June 2021**.

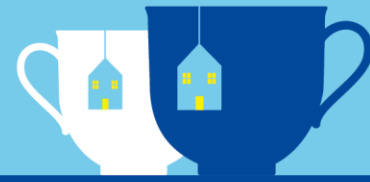


Even if you have lived in the UK for many years or you have a UK permanent residence document you still need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.



You do not need to apply if you are an **Irish citizen** or if you have **indefinite leave to remain or enter**, but you can if you want to.

# WHAT IS 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 in the UK beyond **30 June 2021**.

This status means you can continue to be eligible for:

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

# WHO SHOULD APPLY?



Except in a few cases, **EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who were resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, and their non-EU family members**, need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

## EEA countries and Switzerland:

Austria  
Belgium  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Republic of Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Germany

Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland\*  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Netherlands

Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland

*\* Irish citizens do not need to apply, but they can if they want to. Their non-Irish, non-British family members will need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme if they want to stay in the UK. A family member of a relevant person of Northern Ireland is also able to make an application to the scheme.*

# FAMILY MEMBERS OF EU, EEA AND SWISS CITIZENS



Non-EU family members who were living in the UK by **31 December 2020** also need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Close family members who were not living in the UK by 31 December 2020 will be able to join their EU family member in the UK at **any point in the future**, as long as the relationship still exists and their EU family member was resident in the UK by 31 December 2020 and usually has successfully applied to the scheme by 30 June 2021.



Close family members are: spouses, civil partners, unmarried partners and dependent children, grandchildren, parents and grandparents.



Family members do not need to be from the EU, they can come from anywhere in the world.



**Children** need to secure an immigration status as well as adults. For information about applying on behalf of children, visit [gov.uk/apply-settled-status-for-child](https://www.gov.uk/apply-settled-status-for-child)

# HOW TO APPLY TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME



You need to complete a **short 3 step online application form** using a computer, tablet or mobile phone.



Your application saves automatically, so you can start the application and complete it at a different time if you want to.



Once you have made an application for yourself, this can be linked to your family member's application, using your unique applicant number.



It is **free to apply** to the EU Settlement Scheme.



Application **guidance** can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).  
Once you have read the guidance, start your application at [gov.uk/eusettlementscheme](https://www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme)

# HOW TO APPLY

## STEP 1: IDENTITY



You can **verify your identity** and nationality using a valid passport or valid national identity card (if you are an EU citizen), or a valid biometric residence card or permit (if you are a non-EEA citizen).

**You can either:**



**Scan** your identity document using the **EU Exit: ID Document Check app** on compatible iPhone or Android.



**Send** in your identity document by post.



**Visit** a location providing access to the ID document scanning service. To check availability of this service and for more information, visit [gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations](https://www.gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations)

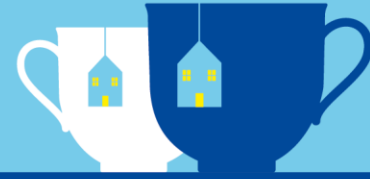


You will also have to upload a **digital photo** of yourself.



# HOW TO APPLY

## STEPS 2-3: RESIDENCE AND CRIMINALITY



### Proof of Residence

Prove your residence in the UK by providing your National Insurance number, if you have one. In some cases, you may need to upload additional documents to your application, for example if you do not have a National Insurance number.



### Criminality Check

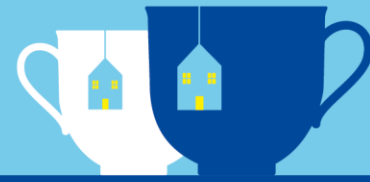
Complete the criminality check by declaring any criminal convictions. Only serious or persistent criminality will affect your application.



Successful applicants will get **digital proof** of their status through an online service: [gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status](https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status). You will not get a physical document unless you are from outside the EEA and do not already have a biometric residence card. You can track the progress of your application online.



# PRE-SETTLED STATUS AND SETTLED STATUS



## Pre-settled Status

If you receive **pre-settled status**, also known as limited leave to remain or enter, this means you can stay in the UK for a period of five years. This will allow you to remain in the UK until you are eligible for settled status, generally once you have lived continuously in the UK for five years. Then you can apply for settled status.

## Settled Status

If you receive **settled status**, also known as indefinite leave to remain or enter, this means there is no time limit on how long you can stay in the UK. You can go on to apply for British citizenship if you meet the requirements and want to apply.



Both **pre-settled status and settled status** allow you to continue to live, work and study in the UK beyond 30 June 2021.

# SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE IF YOU NEED HELP TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION



## EU Settlement Resolution Centre

For questions about your application call **0300 123 7379**.

Find out about call charges on [gov.uk/call-charges](https://www.gov.uk/call-charges)

You can also ask a question using the online form: [eu-settled-status-enquiries.service.gov.uk](https://eu-settled-status-enquiries.service.gov.uk)



## Assisted Digital Service

This free service is available over the phone and in person if you need help to complete the online application form.

Contact We-Are-Digital by calling **03333 445 675**.

To check the availability of this service and for more information, visit: [gov.uk/eu-assisted-digital](https://www.gov.uk/eu-assisted-digital)



## ID Document Scanning Service

This service is available to complete the proof of identity step if you do not have access to the **EU Exit: ID Document Check app**.

There may be an administrative fee to use this service. To check availability of this service and for more information, visit: [gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations](https://www.gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations)



# SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE IF YOU NEED HELP TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION



## Translated information

The guidance on the EU Settlement Scheme has been translated into 25 European languages and Welsh.

For translated guidance, visit: [gov.uk/settled-status-translations](https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-translations). For translated materials, visit: [gov.uk/settled-status-translated-materials](https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-translated-materials)



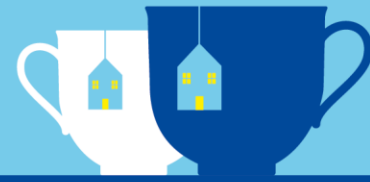
## Community organisations

If you need more help with your application, you can contact a support organisation.

For more information, visit: [gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme)



# APPLY NOW TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME



You can apply to the **EU Settlement Scheme** now and the deadline is **30 June 2021**.



Your rights will remain unchanged until then, provided that you were resident in the UK by 31 December 2020.



**Apply now:** [gov.uk/eusettlementscheme](https://www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme)