



Home Office

You should read this information guide to help you decide which documents may be useful in supporting the statements that you have made on your visa application form (VAF).

It is not a list of documents that you must submit. We do not expect you to provide all of the documents listed below, it is for you to decide which documents are most relevant to your application.

The submission of all or any of these documents does not guarantee that your application will be successful.

Guide to supporting documents

Returning Resident

Information about you

These documents are important because they provide information about your personal circumstances in the country in which you are applying.

<p>Completed visa application form</p> <p>In some countries, you must apply online. You should check our list of supported countries to see whether you should make an online application</p>	<p>¾ If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit application form VAF4B.</p> <p>¾ If you make an online application you must also print off the application form and submit it with any supporting documents that you have chosen to submit.</p>
<p>A current and valid travel document or passport and a copy of your previous passport</p>	<p>You will not be issued a visa if you do not have a valid passport or travel document.</p>
<p>One passport-sized colour photograph</p>	<p>This must comply with the requirements in our photo guidance.</p>
<p>Evidence of your permission to be in the country where you are applying, if you are not a national of that country</p>	<p>This could be a residence permit, 'green card' or valid visa showing your current immigration status.</p>
<p>Previous passports</p>	<p>These are to show your previous travel history</p>
<p>Evidence of your marital status</p>	<p>This could include a marriage certificate, a civil partnership certificate, a divorce certificate or a death certificate</p>
<p>Evidence of your current employment or studies</p>	<p>This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ a letter from your employer on company headed paper – detailing your salary and the length of your employment, confirming that you have been given time off work, and stating whether this time off is paid or unpaid ¾ a letter from your education provider on headed paper – confirming your enrolment and leave of absence ¾ business registration documents confirming the business owner's name and the date when the business started trading

Information about your ties to the UK

You may wish to provide some of the following documents to help to show us that you have lived in the UK within the last 2 years.

Evidence of income received or taxes that you have paid in the UK	This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ HMRC form P60 ¾ UK payslips ¾ Council tax bills ¾ bank statements ¾ business accounts
Evidence of your receipt of a UK pension or state benefits	This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ pension book/ statement ¾ correspondence or documentation from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
Evidence of your entitlement to indefinite leave to remain (ILR) or indefinite leave to enter (ILE)	This could be copies of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ your passport with your ILR or ILE stamp/vignette ¾ Home Office letter confirming your permission to stay in the UK
Evidence of when you last left the UK	This could include your: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ travel tickets ¾ boarding cards ¾ passport
Evidence of your close connection to the UK	This could include a variety of any of documents to show ownership or occupancy of property: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ¾ Land Registry documents ¾ mortgage statements ¾ rent book or tenancy agreement ¾ council tax statements ¾ utility bills

If you have previously held Indefinite Leave to Enter the UK (ILE) or Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK (ILR) and you have been away from the United Kingdom for more than 2 years, you may still qualify as a Returning Resident. You need to satisfy the Entry Clearance Officer (ECO) that there are exceptional circumstances why you should still qualify for Returning Resident status. You should provide the detail of these exceptional circumstances by completing the 'additional information' part of the application form. You should also provide any additional supporting documents that support your statements. These could include evidence of your previous residence, your ties to the United Kingdom, and reasons why you have been away from the UK and now wish to return to resume your residency.