



Treaty Series No. 2 (2024)

# Agreement

between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Kingdom of Norway on Right to Reimbursement of Immigration Health Charge for Students and their Family Members

Oslo, 20 December 2023

[The Agreement entered into force 1 January 2024]

*Presented to Parliament  
by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs  
by Command of His Majesty  
January 2024*



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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT  
BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE KINGDOM OF  
NORWAY ON RIGHT TO REIMBURSEMENT OF IMMIGRATION  
HEALTH CHARGE FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS**

**Note No. 1**

*British Embassy Oslo to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

*Oslo  
20 December 2023*

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway and has the honour to refer to the Convention on Social Security between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, signed at Oslo on 19 June 1990, as amended by an exchange of Notes in 1992 and further amended and reinstated with effect from 1 January 2021 with integrated Protocol Concerning Medical Treatment of 19 June 1990, and to recent discussions between the Department of Health and Social Care for the United Kingdom and the Ministry of Health and Care Services for Norway concerning the application of the United Kingdom's Immigration Health Charge, and has the honour to propose the following Agreement:

1. Students and their family members, to whom the Protocol applies and whose permits to enter, stay or reside in the United Kingdom began on or after 1 January 2021, shall be entitled on application to reimbursement of the Immigration Health Charge.
2. For the purposes of this Agreement the following definitions apply:
  - a. "Convention" means the Convention on Social Security between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, signed at Oslo on 19 June 1990, as amended by an exchange of Notes in 1992 and further amended and reinstated with effect from 1 January 2021;
  - b. "Family member" means a student's spouse, minor children, and dependent children who have reached the age of majority;

- c. "Protocol" means the Protocol to the Convention Concerning Medical Treatment of 19 June 1990;
  - d. "Student" means a person who has been accepted by a higher education institution in the United Kingdom to pursue a full-time course of study leading to a higher education qualification recognised by the United Kingdom, including diplomas, certificates or doctoral degrees at a higher education institution, which may cover a preparatory course prior to such education, in accordance with national law, or compulsory training;
  - e. "United Kingdom" means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
3. A person may apply to the relevant institution of the United Kingdom for the reimbursement (in whole or part, as the case may be) of an Immigration Health Charge paid, where the conditions in Article 4 are met.
4. The conditions are:
- a. an Immigration Health Charge has been paid by or on behalf of that person to the United Kingdom as part of an application for a permit to enter, stay or reside in the United Kingdom;
  - b. the person was a student or family member as defined in Article 2 and was within the application of the Protocol at the time the Immigration Health Charge was paid;
  - c. the permit to enter, stay or reside in the United Kingdom commenced on or after 1 January 2021 and before the date on which the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023, enters into force between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Norway; and
  - d. the person does not intend to exercise an activity as an employed or self-employed person in the United Kingdom during the period to which the Immigration Health Charge relates, after their claim for reimbursement has been settled.

5. Where a claim is made in accordance with Article 3, the relevant institution of the United Kingdom shall process and settle that claim within a reasonable period, but not later than three calendar months after the day on which the claim was received, and shall make any reimbursement of the Immigration Health Charge paid in accordance with this Agreement.
6. Where the Immigration Health Charge was paid by another person on behalf of a person to whom this Agreement applies, reimbursement may be made to that other person.
7. It is agreed that the United Kingdom may impose charges in accordance with its national law in respect of healthcare which does not constitute immediate medical treatment necessitated during a temporary stay in the United Kingdom under Article 2 of the Protocol and which is provided to a person in respect of whom reimbursement has been made during that person's stay for the period to which that reimbursement relates.

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, His Britannic Majesty's Embassy has the honour to propose that this Note Verbale together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' reply shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments, which shall enter into force on the date on which the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023, enters into force between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Norway.

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway the assurance of its highest consideration.

#### **Note No. 2**

*Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the British Embassy Oslo*

*Oslo  
20 December 2023*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway presents its compliments to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy and has the honour to refer to its Note No. 50/2023 dated 20 December 2023 concerning an Agreement between the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland on right to reimbursement of Immigration Health Charge for Students and their Family Members, and which reads as follows:

“As Above”

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform His Britannic Majesty's Embassy of the consent of the Kingdom of Norway to the proposed Agreement, and that His Britannic Majesty's Embassy's Note together with this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our Governments, and which shall enter into force on the date on which the Convention on Social Security Coordination between Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, dated 30 June 2023, enters into force between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway avails itself of the opportunity to renew to His Britannic Majesty's Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.

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