



Home Office

The Windrush Scheme application United Kingdom (UK)

Version 03/2026

This application form can only be used if you are in the UK and:

- you are a national of a Commonwealth country or group listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you either settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your arrival or you have the right of abode
- you are a national of a Commonwealth country or group listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and your settlement status lapsed because you left the UK for more than 2 years and you are now lawfully in the UK and have strong ties with the UK
- you are the child of a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy and your parent was settled before 1 January 1973 or has the Right of Abode and was ordinarily resident in the UK on 1 January 1973 (or satisfied this provision and is now a British citizen), and you were either:
 - born in the UK or arrived in the UK before you were 18 years old, you were not automatically a British citizen or a citizen of the UK and Colonies from birth and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your birth or arrival; or
 - born in the UK or arrived in the UK before the age of 18, you are a British citizen, and you automatically became a citizen of the UK and Colonies/British citizen at birth
- for any nationality - you arrived in the UK lawfully before the end of 1988 and are settled in the UK

The Windrush Scheme sets out which proof of immigration status each group can apply for. These are summarised on page 4 of this application form.

This form cannot be used to apply for a British passport.

The Windrush Scheme

We will consider your application under the Windrush Scheme Policy: www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-scheme

There is no fee for this application.

Each applicant must complete a separate form.

Once we have received your application, we may contact you to discuss it over the phone or you may be invited to attend an appointment. However, we may be able to decide your application on the information you have already provided.

You will be sent details of how to provide your fingerprints and photograph (biometrics) at a Service and Support Centre. This will be free of charge. You will need to do this before we can decide your application.

If you have any questions or need help completing this application, you can:

- Call the Windrush Help Team on 0800 678 1925 (this line is free to call from within the UK);
- Email commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gov.uk.

The information you provide as part of this application will not be passed to Immigration Enforcement.

The Data Protection Act 2018 governs how we use personal data. For details of how we will use your personal information and who we may share it with, please see our Privacy Notice for the Border, Immigration and Citizenship system at www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-information-use-in-borders-and-citizenship. This also explains your key rights under the Act, how you can access your personal information and how to complain if you have concerns.

Evidence to support your application

If you can provide documents relating to the time you have spent in the UK, that will help us to decide your application. We will consider any evidence you are able to provide. We will also look at Home Office records and we may check records of other government departments to confirm when you arrived in the UK, and that you have lived here continuously since then.

You do not have to send original documents. You can send copies. We will let you know if we need to see the original document.

If you can't find your documents, we can still help. We will consider your evidence in the round. We will not refuse your application without giving you the opportunity to provide more information, except where you are clearly not eligible for the Scheme, for example, if you have told us that you were not in the UK at the relevant time or that you are not a national of one of the countries or member of one of the groups covered by the Scheme.

If you are concerned about which documents to send with your application, contact the Help Team to discuss it.

What evidence may help us decide your application

The types of evidence that are most helpful are those that show your arrival in the UK and your time spent in the UK such as:

- passport or other document showing your arrival in the UK
- photocopy of a current passport, a driving license, an eVisa (Please send us your share code. You can get a share code via GOV.UK at www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status), or other documents that shows your identity
- marriage or civil partnership certificate
- your birth or adoption certificate
- birth certificate or adoption certificate of any children you have had in the UK
- letters or documents from government departments such as tax or benefits (if you do not have them we may be able to check the records for you)
- letters or documents from your employer or past employer
- letters or documents from your doctor or hospital
- letters or documents from your school or college
- certificates for qualifications obtained in the UK
- **If you believe you have Right of Abode, please submit a passport-sized photograph of yourself in addition to your supporting evidence.**

You do not need to contact other government departments to ask them for your tax, school, benefits or medical records. Please only send us what you already have. If we need more, we may contact the relevant government department directly, or advise you what you need to do.

If you need to travel before you have received a decision on your application please contact the help Team.

Windrush Compensation Scheme

The Windrush Compensation Scheme was set up to compensate members of the Windrush generation and their close family who suffered losses and impacts because they could not demonstrate their lawful status in the UK.

If your application to the Windrush Scheme is successful, you may want to consider applying for compensation.

More information on the Windrush Compensation Scheme can be found here: www.gov.uk/apply-windrush-compensation-scheme

A successful application under the Windrush Scheme does not mean you will receive compensation if you apply.

Windrush Scheme Application

What do you want to apply for (you can tick more than one)? If you are not sure what you wish to apply for leave it blank and we will consider what you are eligible for under the Windrush Scheme Policy.

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- **you are a national of a Commonwealth country or group listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you either settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your arrival, or you have the right of abode. You can apply for:**

a document confirming that you are already a British citizen ☐

British citizenship ☐

proof that you have the right of abode in the UK ☐

proof that you have the right to live permanently in the UK ☐

- **you are a national of a Commonwealth country or group listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and your settled status lapsed because you left the UK for more than 2 years and you are now lawfully in the UK and have strong ties with the UK. You can apply for:**

settlement (indefinite leave to remain) (if you are already lawfully in the UK) ☐

British citizenship (if you are already settled in the UK) ☐

- **you are the child of a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, your parent was settled before 1 January 1973 or has the Right of Abode and was ordinarily resident in the UK on 1 January 1973 (or who satisfied this provision and is now a British Citizen), you were born in the UK, or arrived in the UK before you were 18 years old, you are not automatically a British citizen/citizen of the UK and Colonies from birth, and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your birth or arrival. You can apply for:**

British citizenship ☐

proof that you have the right of abode in the UK ☐

proof that you have the right to live permanently in the UK ☐

settlement (indefinite leave to remain) (if you are already lawfully in the UK) ☐

- **you are the child of a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme policy, your parent was settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 or has the Right of Abode and was ordinarily resident in the UK on 1 January 1973 (or who satisfied this provision and is now a British citizen), you were born in the UK or you arrived in the UK before the age of 18, and you are a British Citizen, and you automatically became a citizen of the UK and Colonies/British citizen at birth. You can apply for:**

a document confirming that you are already a British citizenship ☐

- **for any nationality - you arrived in the UK lawfully before the end of 1988 and you are settled in the UK. You can apply for:**

a document confirming that you are already a British citizen ☐

proof that you have the right of abode in the UK ☐

proof that you have the right to live permanently in the UK ☐

This form cannot be used to apply for a British passport.

Please complete as much of the application form as you can, in capital letters and using a black pen.

Please post your completed application (no stamp needed) to the address on the following page. Please write the address exactly as below or detach the page with the address and stick it on your envelope.

Freepost UKVI DEPARTMENT 220

1. About you

1.1 What is your name as shown in your passport. If you do not have a passport, enter the name you are now known by:

☐ Mr

☐ Mrs

☐ Miss

☐ Other (state)

Family name:

All given names:

Are you now, or have you ever been, known by another name or names? If yes, please write them here and explain when and why you used that name (for example, marriage, divorce or other):

1.2 Date of birth (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy) :

1.3 Country of birth:

1.4 Place of birth:

1.5 What is your gender as now:

☐ Male

☐ Female

1.6 What is your current address:

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

1.7 Please list any other addresses in the UK where you have lived in the last 5 years and the dates you lived there (add an extra page if necessary):

From (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

To (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

From (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

 To (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

From (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

 To (dd mm yyyy):

Day

Month

Year

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

2. Contact details

Please provide your contact details:

2.1 What is your daytime telephone number:

2.2 What is your evening telephone number:

2.3 If you are happy for us to contact you by email, please provide your email address:

Email address:

3. Your family

Your mother:

3.1 Your mother's name:

3.2 Your mother's date of birth (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy) :

3.3 Your mother's town and country of birth:

3.4 Your mother's nationality:

3.5 Has your mother ever held any other nationality?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.6 If you have answered 'yes' to question 3.5, please state what nationality they held and when they held it:

3.7 If possible, please provide any information about any passports your mother has held:

3.8 Did your mother ever enter the UK?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.9 If you have answered 'yes', please state when your mother entered the UK for the first time (provide the date in the format dd mm yyyy):

Your father:

3.10 Your father's name:

3.11 Your father's date of birth (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy) :

3.12 Your father's town and country of birth:

3.13 Your father's nationality:

3.14 Has your father ever held any other nationality?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.15 If you have answered 'yes' to question 3.14, please state what nationality they held and when they held it:

3.16 If possible, please provide any information about any passports your father has held:

3.17 Did your father ever enter the UK?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.18 If you have answered 'yes', please state when your father entered the UK for the first time (provide the date in the format dd mm yyyy):

Your grandparents:

3.19 Do you have a grandparent who was born or adopted in the UK or who became a British citizen?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.20 If you have answered yes, please provide details, including their name, date of birth, town and country of birth and nationality:

3.21 If possible, please provide any information about any passports your grandparents have held::

Your partner

3.22 Are you (please tick):

☐ Married

☐ Civil partnership

☐ Neither

3.23 Date and place of your marriage or civil partnership (if applicable) - provide the date in the format dd mm yyyy:

3.24 Your partner's full name:

3.25 Your partner's date of birth (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy):

3.26 Your partner's town and country of birth:

3.27 Your partner's nationality:

3.28 Has your partner ever held any other nationality?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.29 If you have answered 'yes' to question 3.28, please state what nationality they held and when they held it:

3.30 If possible, please provide any information about any passports your partner has held:

3.31 Does your partner live with you?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.32 If they do not live with you, what is their current address:

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

You should only answer questions 3.33 - 3.34 if you are a woman.

3.33 Were you married to your current partner on 1 January 1983?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3.34 If you were married to someone else on 1 January 1983, please provide that person's full name, date of birth, town and country of birth and nationality and the date and place of your marriage:

4. Immigration adviser

4.1 Do you have an immigration adviser acting for you in relation to this application?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you have answered yes to question 4.1, please answer the following:

4.2 Name of immigration adviser:

4.3 Name of immigration adviser's organisation:

4.4 Address of immigration adviser:

Property number:

Street name:

Town/city:

County:

UK postcode:

4.5 Telephone number of immigration adviser:

5. Good character

You only need to complete questions 5.1 and 5.2 if you wish to apply for British citizenship or settlement (indefinite leave to remain). You do not need to complete it if you have settled status or Right of Abode and only want confirmation of this.

5.1 Have you been convicted of any criminal offence in the UK or any other country (you must include spent and unspent convictions)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please give details below for each criminal conviction, starting with the most recent on. Please provide date, offence and sentence. Please use an additional sheet if necessary.

We will consider whether individuals applying for British citizenship are of good character, taking any criminal convictions into account. We will consider whether you have Right of Abode or settlement.

5.2 Are you on trial or facing prosecution for any criminal offence in the UK or any other country?

☐ Yes

☐ No

You only need to complete question 5.3 if you are applying for British citizenship.

5.3 Please give any other information which will help us decide whether you are of good character. Please use an additional sheet if necessary.

If you have committed a criminal offence, we can balance that against evidence of good character. For example, charity work or being active in your community. Tell us about any positive evidence you want us to consider here:

6. How long you have lived in the UK

Answering the following questions will help us to establish how long you have lived in the UK, but if you do not have the information, we may be able to check other records:

6.1 When did you first arrive in the UK (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy) :

6.2 On what passport or document did you enter the UK?:

6.3 Do you still have that passport or document?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are able to do so, please provide the passport, or copies of it, with your application.

6.4 Your current passport number (if you have one):

6.5 Do you still have any expired passports?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are able to do so, please provide the passport, or copies of it, with your application.

6.6 Do you have a Home Office reference number (if you have had previous contact with the Home Office, you may have been given a reference number)? :

6.7 Please provide the following if you have them:

Your national insurance number:

Your NHS number:

Your UK driving licence number:

6.8 Have you lived outside the UK for any period of more than 2 years since you arrived?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6.9 If yes, explain when and where you lived outside the UK::

6.10 Please provide brief details of your life in the UK (for example, schools attended, work history and reasons for any periods of absence of more than 2 years). You do not need to provide detailed information as we will contact you if we need more information. Please read the information on the guidance page about evidence you can send with your application.

7. Residence in the UK

If you are applying for British citizenship you must complete this section.

You can only apply for British citizenship on this form if:

- you are a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your arrival
- you are the child of a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy who was settled in the UK before 1 January 1973, you were born in the UK or arrived in the UK before you were 18 years old and you have been continuously resident in the UK since your arrival or birth
- you are a national of a Commonwealth country listed in the Windrush Scheme Policy, you settled in the UK before 1 January 1973, but your settled status lapsed because you left the UK for more than 2 years, **but** you are now back in the UK with settled status

7.1 Do you want to attend a citizenship ceremony?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you are married to a British citizen (if not go to question 7.4)

7.2 Have you been living continuously in the UK for the last 3 years?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.3 If yes, were you outside of the UK for more than 270 days in total during this 3 year period?

☐ Yes

☐ No - Go to question 7.6

7.4 Have you been living continuously in the UK for the last 5 years?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.5 If yes, were you outside of the UK for more than 450 days in total during this 5 year period?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.6 Have you been outside the UK for more than 90 days in the last year?

☐ Yes

☐ No

7.7 If you have answered 'yes' to any of the questions above (on absences), please tell us how long you have been outside the UK and why. There is discretion to overlook periods of absence if there is good reason.

Other information

7.8 If there is anything else you want to include in your application please tell us here:

8. Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in this application is correct.

I understand that I may be liable to prosecution if I have knowingly or recklessly provided false information.

The Data Protection Act 2018 governs how we use personal data. For details of how we will use your personal information and who we may share it with please see our Privacy Notice for the Border, Immigration and Citizenship system at www.gov.uk/government/publications/personal-information-use-in-borders-immigration-and-citizenship. This also explains your key rights under the Act, how you can access your personal information and how to complain if you have concerns.

☐ Please tick here if you do **not** want to be contacted by the Help Team about making a compensation claim.

Signature:

Date (provide date in the format dd mm yyyy):