

Prepare the evidence you need.

You must prove that:

- you've been accepted onto an English language course that lasts 11 months or less and includes no other subjects
- your course is with an accredited institution
- you have enough money to support yourself without working or help from public funds, or that relatives and friends can support and house you
- you can pay for your return or onward journey

If you're under 18 you must also:

- have made arrangements for your travel and stay in the UK
- have the consent of your parent or guardian to study in the UK

Documents you'll need.

When you apply you must provide:

- a current passport (with a blank page for your visa).
- evidence that you can support yourself during your trip.
- details of where you intend to stay and your travel plans- *you should not pay for accommodation or travel until you get your visa*
- evidence that you've paid your course fees or have enough money to pay them
- contact details for at least one parent or guardian in your home country, if you're under 18 years old
- [a certified translation](#) if any documents are not in English or Welsh

Documents about your course:

You must provide written proof of the course you're studying "letter of acceptance"

If you're under 18

If you're under 18 you need to provide additional documents if:

- you're travelling on your own
- you're travelling with someone who is not your parent or guardian

Travelling on your own

You can travel to the UK without an adult (someone 18 or older).

You must have written consent from both parents (or one parent if they have sole responsibility) or your legal guardian. This must confirm they consent to:

- your visa application
- your living arrangements and care in the UK
- your travel to the UK

They also need to provide proof that you have somewhere suitable to live during your stay in the UK, including:

- the name and date of birth of the person that you will be staying with
- an address where you will be living
- details of your relationship to the person who'll be looking after you
- consent in writing so they can look after you during your stay in the UK

Your parent, guardian or school must tell the relevant local authority about your visit if either of the following are true:

- you're under 18 and have a disability
- you're going to be looked after for more than 28 days by someone who is not a close relative (called 'private foster care')

You should provide a reply from the local authority if you have one.

Travelling with an adult

If you travel to the UK with an adult (someone 18 or older), you need to identify them in your visa application.

Their name will appear on your visa, and you'll be refused entry to the UK if you arrive in the UK without them.

You can identify up to 2 adults in your visa application, and your visa will only be valid if you travel with at least one of them.

The adult can apply for a visa at the same time, but you must each complete separate applications.

Apply

You must apply online before you come to the UK. The earliest you can apply is 3 months before you travel to the UK.

As part of your online application, you'll need to book an appointment at a visa application centre to provide your documents and prove your identity.

The visa application centre may keep your passport and documents while processing your application.

How long it takes to get a decision.

Once you've applied online, proved your identity, and provided your documents, you'll usually get a decision within 3 weeks.

Apply online

After you apply

You'll get a letter containing the result of your application. This will explain what you need to do next.

Find out what happens after you get your decision.

After you arrive in the UK

Biometric residence permits (BRPs)

What a BRP is

A biometric residence permit (BRP) can be used to confirm your:

- identity
- right to study
- right to any public services or benefits you're entitled to

You'll usually get a BRP if you:

- apply to come to the UK for longer than 6 months
- extend your visa to longer than 6 months
- apply to settle in the UK
- [transfer your visa to a new passport](#)
- apply for certain [Home Office travel documents](#)

You do not have to apply separately for a BRP.

What's on your BRP

Your BRP will include:

- your name, date and place of birth
- your fingerprints and a photo of your face (this is your [biometric information](#))
- your immigration status and any conditions of your stay
- whether you can access public funds, for example benefits and health services