



Servizio Relazioni Internazionali

UOC Mobilità Internazionale

IMPORTANT: BEFORE READING INFORMATION BELOW REMEMBER THAT VISA REQUIREMENTS ALSO DEPENDS ON THE NATIONALITY OF THE MOBILITY PARTICIPANT. BEFORE PLANNING A PERIOD OF STUDY/TRAINESHIP IN THE UK YOU ARE RECOMMENDED TO CAREFULLY CHECK THE REQUIREMENTS AT THE SECTION “IF YOU NEED A VISA” OF THE OFFICIAL UK GOVERNMENT WEBSITE. FURTHERMORE YOU ALSO HAVE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY THE HOSTING UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTION. THE IMMIGRATION POLICY IN THE U.K. CAN VARY THEREFORE ALWAYS REFER TO THE RELEVANT OFFICIAL RESOURCES (WEBSITE) FOR AN UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.
(<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>)

STUDY UP TO 6 MONTHS IN THE U.K. (EEA NATIONALS)

You can visit the UK to study at an accredited institution for up to 6 months (including also short piece of research that's relevant to your course or 'elective'/optional additional placement, if you're studying medicine, nursing, dentistry or veterinary medicine and science) **without a visa**. Your stay cannot exceed the 6 months (unless in the case of blended mobility where the physical component does not exceed 6 months).

At the UK border you must provide a valid passport or travel document. Your passport should be valid for the whole of your stay in the UK.

You may also be asked to prove that:

- you've been accepted on to a course by an accredited institution, for example a letter of acceptance on official headed paper stating the course name, duration and cost
- your research or training is relevant to the course you're studying overseas, for example a letter from your home education institution describing how it's relevant
- you're able to support yourself and your dependents during your trip (or have funding from someone else to support you)
- you're able to pay for your return or onward journey (or have funding from someone else)
- you've arranged accommodation for your stay
- you'll leave the UK at the end of your visit

Your hosting university will issue a **Standard Visitor Visa Letter** that you can bring along for safe entering in the U.K.

For detailed information see the website [Visit the UK as a Standard Visitor - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

STUDY FOR MORE THAN 6 MONTHS IN THE U.K. (OR SHORTER PERIOD FOR NON EEA NATIONALS)

You can apply for a Student visa in order to follow a full-time course at degree level or above that's equivalent to a UK higher education course and is being delivered as part of a longer course abroad.

The earliest you can apply for a visa is 6 months before you start your course.



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When you apply for your Student visa you must provide:

- a current passport or other valid travel documentation
- a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from your course provider

You may also need to provide:

- proof you have enough money to support yourself and pay for your course - this will vary depending on your circumstances
- a valid [ATAS certificate](#) if your course and nationality require it
- your [tuberculosis test results](#)
- proof you can read, write, speak and understand English to the level B2 on the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages \(CEFR\) scale](#).

You must [apply for your visa](#) within 6 months of receiving your CAS.

For detailed information see the website: [Study in the UK on a Student visa - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

TRAINEESHIP MOBILITY IN THE U.K.

Participants who have been awarded a traineeship mobility in the United Kingdom (UK) through the Erasmus+ programme will require a T5 visa through the UK Government and Authorised Exchange Category (GAE).

EXCEPTION: The only excepted category from this rule is European Economic Area (EEA) / European Union (EU) students who come to the UK for a **research mobility** that lasts **less than six months**¹.

Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS)

Before the participant can apply for a T5 visa they will need to obtain a T5 Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS) number from the British Council who are classified by the UK Home Office as a licensed Category A sponsor. The Erasmus+ Coordinator (e.g. the sending university) needs to email a complete application to the [T5 team](#). All communication with the British Council in respect of the issuing of a CoS will be via the university coordinator who is responsible for updating participants on the progress of their applications.

¹ It is up to the sending university and the host to decide if the placement is a research. **If the participant is an EU/EEA citizen and their placement is deemed a research and it lasts less than 6 calendar months, then the participant does not need a visa.** This exception applies to both undergraduates and recent graduates, regardless if the mobility is mandatory for their course or voluntary. It is recommended that if you have been selected for an Erasmus Traineeship period but you will actually carry out a research period for less than 6 months your learning agreement and acceptance letter by the hosting institution reflect this (e.g. using the term Research and, eventually, using the Learning Agreement for Studies instead of the one for Traineeship).



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Required Documents:

- 1) A fully completed [T5 CoS Application Form](#)
- 2) Copy of the participant's passport (The passport expiry date must be valid for 6 months after the intended departure date from the UK)
- 3) Confirmation letter from sending university
- 4) Acceptance letter from host organization (on letter headed paper with an official stamp, signed and dated by the appropriate signatory, containing the participant's job title during the placement, description of duties and start and end dates of the placement.)
- 5) Erasmus+ Learning Agreement for Traineeships
- 6) Transcript of Records
- 7) Copy of the participant's overseas criminal record check and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check certificate/s (if participants are undertaking [regulated activity](#) in relation to children and/or adults)
- 8) Copy of the contract of employment from the host organisation, (only required if the participant receives a salary)

Please note it can take up to **four/five weeks** to issue a CoS. Once the participant has been issued their CoS number they will be able to apply for their T5 Government and Authorised Exchange (GAE) visa through UK Visas and Immigration where they must complete an [online application](#).

We recommend that no travel plans are made or costs incurred until a decision has been made regarding the participant's CoS and a visa has been approved by the U.K. Government Office. To avoid disappointment please submit applications early but no more than **3 months** before the placement start date.

IMPORTANT: T5 CoS application is a separate procedure from the VISA request. The Erasmus+ Coordinator is in charge ONLY of the T5 CoS Application while the mobility participant will be responsible for the VISA request.

For detailed information see the website: [Temporary Work – Government Authorised Exchange visa](#)

OTHER TIPS (FOR ALL TYPES OF MOBILITIES)

Health Insurance

Remember that as part of the visa application process participants staying in the UK for longer than 6 months you will have to pay a [health surcharge](#) (called the 'immigration health surcharge' or HIS).

Entering the U.K.

If your country is not included on the list of [visa nationals](#) or you might not have been required to apply for a visa in advance of travelling to the UK, you can request entry as a visitor at immigration control on arrival. You may need to explain to a Border Force Officer the reasons for your stay in the UK and provide the visa letter issued by the hosting institution. You will receive an entry stamp in your passport to reflect your visitor permission.



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If you got a visa in advance of travelling and you are an EEA National you can use a new, quicker and easier way of crossing the border and entering the UK: eGates.

There are over 250 eGates in place at 15 air and rail ports in the UK to enable quicker travel into the UK. Please take a look at the [Gov.UK webpage Guide to faster travel through the UK border](#) which features a video showing how to use the eGates.

In all cases it is very important that you keep evidence of your travel to the UK. This could be a boarding card, ticket or booking as you could be required to present evidence of it upon enrolment at the hosting university.