

## Dependants of Student Route Students

Your dependants can apply for immigration permission to join or remain with you in the UK only if:

- You are government-sponsored and your course is longer than six months
- You are studying at Postgraduate Level on a course that is 12 months or longer at a Public funded Higher Education Institute
- Your current or most recent immigration permission was as a Student Route Visa or a Tier 4 Student.

The only family members who can make applications are:

- Your husband or wife
- Your civil partner - this means you are a same sexed couple who have registered your partnership to gain formal recognition of your relationship
- Your unmarried partner or same sex partner - you must have been living together in a relationship similar to a marriage or civil partnership for a period of at least 2 years
- Your children (aged under 18)

You must intend to live together with your dependant(s) for the duration of the course. If you have children, the immigration rules state that both parents should be present in the UK (except under very exceptional circumstances – see Immigration rules – Part 8 on Family Members). If you have a baby born in the UK, it is not necessary to apply for a visa unless they intend to leave the UK and re-enter.

Applications for a baby can be made in the UK or in the home country before returning to the UK. Please be aware that from the date of the baby's birth, they are entitled to three months free NHS healthcare but once they are three months old they must pay for secondary healthcare. Therefore it is recommended they submit a visa application as soon as possible so that the NHS Surcharge payment can be made, entitling the baby to access NHS Care after the three month period expires. Birth in the UK will not make the baby a British Citizen as a baby must have a parent with British Citizenship or settled status in the UK to qualify as British.

If a dependant is currently in the UK on a Visitor Visa it is important that they must return back to their home country to apply as a dependant. It is also important they declare any criminal convictions when making an application.

### Financial Requirements

Each dependant must have a certain amount of money available. The funds can be held in your bank account, the dependant's own bank account or in a joint bank account. The money must be held in the bank account for minimum period of 28 days prior to the dependant making a visa application. If your dependant is also government sponsored then your sponsor must write a letter confirming they are funding your dependant(s). The amount required for a dependant if you study in London is £845 per month and you are required to show funding for a maximum of up to 9 months £7605.00. Add on 4 months extra to visa end date not actual course end date and the financial requirement for dependants is not increasing from 1st December but you are advised to check with International Student Advice Team before you apply in case of any changes.

From 1st December 2020, dependant applicants from Differentiation Countries (Low Risk) will now have to show evidence of funds when applying to join the main applicant (student) in the UK but if you have been a resident in the UK for 12 months or longer with permission and valid leave, you will be exempt from the financial requirement. It is still important your dependant still obtains the financial evidence as the Home Office are entitled to ask them for it at any point while they are processing the application.

Documents to include:

- Passport and (if applicable) Biometric Residence Permit
- Two UK passport size photos (taken within the last 4 weeks)
- Original Marriage Certificate/Civil Partnership (if applicable)
- Tenancy Agreement or Contract
- Birth Certificate (if the child is born in the UK)

It is recommended you speak to one of the International Student Advisors to check what documents you require as this will depend on your circumstances and how many dependants you have.

## Cost

A visa application made in the UK is £494.20 per dependant if making a standard application or £1104.20 for priority service. Dependants will also have to pay the IHS (Immigration Health Surcharge) at the time they make an application. This is £470 per year per dependant. If applying overseas the visa fee is £348 standard.

## Working

Your dependants will be able to work in the UK if you are applying for leave for 12 months or more at Postgraduate Degree level or are a government sponsored student on a course longer than 6 months. They can take any type of employment or self employment. They cannot work as a professional sports person or entertainer. There is no restriction to the amount of hours a dependant can work. Dependants will have to pay tax and have National Insurance. Please call to apply for a National Insurance Number.  
Tel: **0345 6000 643**

## Schooling for your Children

Dependant Children aged between 5 and 16 can attend a government primary or secondary school in the UK for free. However, some schools may sometimes refuse places if they consider the stay to be too short or they do not have available places.

For more information please go to the following links:

[www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members](https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members)

[www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Dependants](https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Dependants)

[www.gov.uk/schools-admissions/admission-criteria](https://www.gov.uk/schools-admissions/admission-criteria)

For more information call: **020 8411 4507** or email the International Student Advice Team at: [intadvice@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:intadvice@mdx.ac.uk)  
You can also book an appointment via myUniHub.

Middlesex University International Student Advice Team have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate. Middlesex University however, cannot be held responsible for any omissions or errors. This publication is a guide and it is not intended to replace the complex and diverse legislation covered. Statutes and regulations may change during the year without notice. If in doubt seek independent advice.

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