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## Admission of students from overseas

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## **School admissions: applications for overseas students**

In most cases, children arriving from overseas have the right to attend schools in England.

It is the responsibility of parents to check that their children have a right, under their visa entry conditions, to study at a school. To help parents we recommend that those wishing to apply for a state funded school check that they have a [right of abode](#) or that the conditions of their visas otherwise permit access to a state-funded school.

Foreign nationals cannot use the 6 month visitor visa or a 6 month short-term study visa to enter the UK to enrol as a pupil at a school. Find out what these visas can be used for on the [visitor visa](#) and [short term study visa](#) pages.

To find out more visit the [Department for Education](#).

## **Prove you have right of abode in the UK**

Having 'right of abode' means you are allowed to live or work in the UK without any immigration restrictions, which means:

- you will not need a visa to come to the UK
- there is no limit on the length of time you can spend in the country.

All [British citizens](#) automatically have right of abode in the UK. [Some Commonwealth citizens](#) may also have right of abode.

You can prove you have right of abode if you have a UK passport describing you as a 'British Citizen' or 'British Subject with Right of Abode'.

Otherwise you need to apply for a '[certificate of entitlement](#)'.

There will be no change to the rights and status of EU citizens currently living in the UK until 30 June 2021. You and your family can apply to the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) to continue living in the UK.

## **Apply for a certificate of entitlement**

You can apply for a certificate of entitlement to prove you have right of abode in the UK. It goes in your passport. You need to apply for a new certificate when your passport expires. How you apply for a certificate of entitlement depends on whether you are inside or outside the UK. You cannot get a certificate if you already have a British passport or a valid certificate of entitlement in another foreign passport.

## **Apply in the UK, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man**

A certificate of entitlement costs £372 in the UK. Read the guidance to [check you can apply](#). [Fill in the form online](#). You'll usually be able to keep your documents while your application is being processed. You can also [apply in other ways](#).

## **Get help to apply online**

You can [get help with completing the online form](#) if you:

- do not feel confident using a computer or mobile device
- do not have internet access

You can only use this service if you're applying in the UK. You cannot get immigration advice through this service.

## **Apply from outside the UK or from a British overseas territory**

If you are not in the UK, or you live in a British overseas territory, you must [apply online](#). A certificate of entitlement costs £388 outside the UK.

## **North Korea**

You cannot apply online if you're living in North Korea. To apply from North Korea you must:

- download the [application form and guidance](#) - read the guidance if you need help filling in the form
- [read the instructions](#) to find out where to take your completed form

## **If your application is refused**

Your application fee will not be refunded if your application is refused because you do not qualify for right of abode or you do not send in enough evidence to support your claim.

## **Changes to travelling to the UK using National Identity (ID) Cards**

As part of the Government's ambition to build back a safer, fairer and more prosperous UK, we are phasing out the use of National Identity (ID) cards as a valid travel document to enter the UK. This means that from 1 October 2021, most EU, EEA and Swiss nationals will need to use a valid passport to travel to the UK. ID cards will no longer be accepted as a valid travel document and it will not be possible to enter the UK using them.

The changes won't affect British and Irish nationals using Gibraltar ID cards and passport cards, they can continue to use these to travel to the UK as they do now.

The changes also will not affect EU, EEA and Swiss nationals who have applied to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June 2021 or otherwise have protected rights under the Citizens' Rights Agreements.

EU, EEA and Swiss nationals in these exempt groups can still use their national ID cards to travel to the UK at least until 31 December 2025. They'll also be able to use them after that date, if the cards meet the security standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation.

The phasing out of ID cards will help strengthen the security of our border and bring EU, EEA and Swiss nationals in line with rules for travellers across the world entering the UK.

Find out more on GOV.UK

Please link to the GOV.UK site: [Visiting the UK as an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/visiting-the-uk-as-an-eu-eea-or-swiss-citizen)