**Student Visa FAQs**

* *Do I need a Student Route visa?*

All international students studying a full-time, on-campus course need a Student Route visa to study in the UK.

You'll also need this visa if you're on a part-time postgraduate course, but the following restrictions apply:

* + - * No employment (including work placements)
      * No dependants

If you have valid Settled or Pre-settled status as an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen under the EU Settlement Scheme you will not require a Student Route visa. If you have a different visa which allows you to study in the UK, you may be exempt. If you are unsure, check the [Government website](https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/switch-to-this-visa).

If you are joining us for an Exchange or Study Abroad programme of 6 months or more you will also need a Student Route visa.

* *Is the University of St Mark & St John (Plymouth Marjon University) a Higher Education Provider with a Track Record of Compliance?*

Yes we are. You should indicate this in the correct section when you make your visa application.

* *How do I get a Student Route visa?*

You can apply for your Student Route visa online.

You'll need a CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) and the unique number it contains. The Visa team will issue this once you've met all the academic and non-academic conditions of your offer.

* *When will I receive my CAS?*

Your CAS will be sent to you by email once you hold an unconditional firm offer with Plymouth Marjon University and we have confirmed that you have paid the required 50% tuition fee deposit for your first year’s tuition fees.

* *Do I have to apply for a new visa with Plymouth Marjon University if I already have a Tier 4 or Student Route visa from somewhere else?*

Yes, you'll need a new visa because a Tier 4 or Student Route visa is only valid for study at the institution that is named on the visa.

In order to register on the course, we'll ask you to provide your visa to study at Plymouth Marjon University, or proof that you have submitted an application for a University of St Mark & St John (Plymouth Marjon University) visa.

* *I have a different visa type. Can I study with this?*

You may be allowed to study if you have another visa type, since some allow for study as well.

* Send us a scanned copy of your visa to [tier4@marjon.ac.uk](mailto:tier4@marjon.ac.uk) to check whether your current visa is eligible for study at Plymouth Marjon University.
* *I am already in the UK – how can I get a visa?*

If you're already in the UK and hold a student visa for a different institution you'll still need to apply for a new Student Route visa.

* You won't be able to register on to your new course until you have applied for a new visa.
* *Can I apply for a Student Route visa if I am in the UK as a tourist or Standard Visitor visa holder?*

You cannot switch to the Student Route visa in the UK if you have entered as a tourist Standard Visitor. You must apply in your home country.

* *Can I travel to the UK whilst I am waiting for my Student Route visa application to be decided?*

No, you must wait until your visa has been issued to you before you travel to the UK.

You cannot enrol with the University if you have entered the UK as Standard Visitor when you require a Student Route visa.

* *Where can I find out more about the application process for visas?*

You can find supporting information about student visas from:

* + - UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)
    - UK Visas and Immigration
* *My visa has been refused – what should I do?*

Please send a scanned copy of the visa refusal document to [tier4@marjon.ac.uk](mailto:tier4@marjon.ac.uk)

We may be able to send you a new CAS, depending on the reason for refusal.

You may be able to contact the Home Office to request a [Visa Administrative Review.](https://www.gov.uk/ask-for-a-visa-administrative-review?msclkid=fad1ac9fcfe211ecaccfbf5c422086b2)

* *When do I need to make a visa extension application when I am in the UK?*

You need to make a visa application before your current visa expires.

If you do not do this, you will be an overstayer and your visa will be refused.

You can apply from up to 3 months before your current visa expires.

* *What is a Biometric Residence Permit?*

You’ll get a biometric residence permit (BRP) as part of your visa application.

This will include your name, date and place of birth, fingerprints, a photo, your immigration status and any conditions of your stay.

* *How do I prove I have a visa if I am an EEA student and have not been issued with a BRP?*

EEA nationals who have used the UK Immigration: ID check app will receive your visa as a digital immigration status which you can view and prove online

* *What happens if I haven’t yet got my BRP card yet?*

Your BRP card may not be immediately available for collection as there can sometimes be production delays. If this is the case the Post Office will let you know when your BRP card is likely to be delivered to them.

If you are asked by one of the bodies below to prove your visa status you should show them the confirmation that your visa has been issued to you which will usually be sent to you as an email along with your passport and ask them to follow the processes described below.

* + Employers

Your prospective employer needs to use the Employer Checking Service. Once the request is received UKVI will confirm your right to work directly to the employer.

* + Landlords

Ask your landlord to use the Landlord Checking Service. Once the request is received UKVI will confirm your right to rent directly to the landlord.

* + Registering with a GP or accessing NHS services

Anyone can register with a GP surgery If you are asked by the NHS, you can advise them that you are waiting for the delivery of your BRP card. If the NHS wishes to confirm your status, they should contact Status Verification, Enquiries and Checking (SVEC) at UKVI.

* + Opening a bank account

The decision to open a bank account is a decision for the bank in question. The absence of a BRP should not impact on your ability to open a bank account but you should check the exact requirements for opening an account with your chosen bank.You can request a letter to confirm your student status by emailing [studentrecords@marjon.ac.uk](mailto:studentrecords@marjon.ac.uk) .

* *I have lost my BRP card, what do I do?*

Report it by following the [UKVI instructions](https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/lost-stolen-damaged).