Student Visas & Immigration Information Session
A VERY WARM WELCOME FROM

Global Recruitment & Admissions

Irem Ozsoy
Country Manager

International Student Advisory Team

Layla Riedler
Senior International Student Adviser (Immigration)
HOW TO ASK A QUESTION

If you have any questions during the webinar please follow the instructions below:

If joined from PC

1. Expand GoToWebinar Control Panel
2. Expand Questions window
3. Type your questions here

If joined from smart phone app

1. Raise your hand
2. Click and then type your questions here
JUST LIKE THE STOCK MARKET

• THE RULES ON IMMIGRATION CHANGE CONSTANTLY THEREFORE IT IS IMPORTANT TO SEEK UP-TO-DATE IMMIGRATION ADVICE AT ALL TIMES

PLEASE NOTE: We endeavour to ensure that the information and advice in these slides are accurate and up to date, but since both your situation and the legislation relating to your immigration status can change at short notice you should always check the latest Tier 4 Policy Guidance for any changes or seek up to date advice from an authorised Immigration Adviser.
AIMS

• Understand the application process
• Identify required documents
• Tier 4 Pilot Scheme for Masters
• Know where to seek help and support
• Questions
WHAT VISA DO I NEED?

• **Tier 4 (General):** you should apply for this visa if:
  - you are coming to study a course that is **6 months or more** in duration
  - you are coming to study a **Pre-Sessional English** course first only and would like to **extend** your visa in the UK to study a main degree course
  - you would like to work/do an internship

• **Short-term study visa:** you should apply for this visa if:
  - you are coming to study a course that is **less than 6 months** long
  - you do **not** want to extend your visa from within the UK
  - you **cannot** work on this visa
WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR MY TIER 4 VISA?

There are rules regarding when you can make a visa application:

• After you have been assigned your CAS. Before your CAS is issued you must meet all of the conditions of your offer.

• When you meet the Tier 4 requirements.

• You cannot apply more than 3 months before the start of your course.
APPLICATION PROCESS

• Have your documents ready and apply online outside of the UK at https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/tier4.

• Have your bank card ready to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge and to pay to submit the application

• Take your application and documents to your appointment at a Visa Application Centre (VAC). You may have a credibility interview where you asked about your course and reasons for studying at the University of Reading.

• When your application has been processed your passport containing a vignette will be sent back to you along with a decision letter if you paid for courier service. Alternatively you will need to collect them from the VAC.

• USA – attend a US Department of Homeland Security application support centre to provide biometrics. Then post your application. Provide a prepaid electronic shipping label to have your documents returned.

• Your BRP will be sent to the University or a local Post Office if you are coming to the UK for longer than 6 months.
IMMIGRATION HEALTH SURCHARGE (IHS)

• Who needs to pay?
  • if you are applying for a visa from outside of the UK to come for more than 6 months or you are applying to extend your visa in the UK.

• What are you entitled to?
  • you will be able to use the NHS like a local resident e.g. book doctors appointments and receive hospital treatment

• What is not included?
  • prescriptions
  • dental treatment
  • eye tests

• How much does it cost?
  • 0 – 6 months = £150
  • 6 – 12 months = £300
  Example: if your visa is issued for 1 year and 6 months long you will pay £450
APPLICATION FEES

• The application fees vary depending on which service you choose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application type</th>
<th>Time for a decision</th>
<th>Cost per person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard application</td>
<td>15 working days</td>
<td>£348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority visa service</td>
<td>5 working days</td>
<td>£568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super priority service</td>
<td>Within 24 working day hours</td>
<td>£1,304</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• You must pay with a bank card as payments are made online
Funds Required

How do I work out how much I need to show in my bank statement?

• First year of your **course fees**
  
  +

  **Living costs**
  (£1015 per month of your course up to a maximum of 9 months)

• Any tuition fees paid before you apply can be **deducted** from the total amount.

• Any University of Reading accommodation fees paid - not exceeding £1,265 can be **deducted** from the total amount.

• This can be evidenced on your CAS or by receipts.
WHAT BANK STATEMENTS MUST SHOW

- Your name or parent(s) name
- Account number
- Date of statement
- Bank’s name and logo
- Amount available
- Amount must be available for 28 consecutive days
  OR
- You can get a letter from the bank stating the above

Bank statements must not be older than 31 days at the date of the application. If using electronic statements, every page must be stamped by the bank (and on both sides if the statement is printed double-sided).

- If replying on parent(s) funds you must submit your original birth certificate and a letter from your parent(s) consenting to you using their funds to study in the UK.
DOCUMENTS TO APPLY FOR YOUR VISA YOU WILL NEED:

• Completed **online application form**

• Current **passport**

• Evidence of legal residence, if you are not a national of the country in which you are applying

• Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

• **For under 18 years old only:** letter of parental consent confirming the relationship between you and your parent(s), and that they consent to your application, living independently and travelling independently to the UK.

• **Financial evidence** e.g. bank statement, sponsorship letter
• Evidence of **English language ability** as stated on your CAS

To get an offer for a course you will need to evidence your English language level.

The evidence you provide will depend on the course you are going to study. Contact the Admissions Team for information on what you will need.
• Evidence of any qualifications mentioned in your CAS e.g. certificate

• Tuberculosis (TB) certificate:
  • if coming to the UK for longer than 6 months; and
  • you are resident in any of the countries listed on the UK Government website: https://www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa/countries-where-you-need-a-tb-test-to-enter-the-uk

• ATAS certificate (if applicable)

• Translations (if applicable)

ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE ORIGINAL!
DIFFERENT DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

• If you are a national of one of the following countries you do not need to submit evidence of your finances or qualifications:
  Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, The Dominican Republic, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, New Zealand, Oman, Peru, Qatar, Serbia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United States of America

• You must apply in the country you are living in or in the UK

• Very important that you still obtain the evidence of your qualifications and Evidence and meet the Tier 4 requirements
ARE YOUR DOCUMENTS IN ENGLISH?

• If any of your documents are not in English, they **must be translated** by a certified (professional) translator and include:
  ▪ Details of the translator/translation company's **credentials** (qualifications)
  ▪ Confirmation that it is an **accurate translation** of the original document
  ▪ The translator/translation company's **full name and contact details**
  ▪ The **date** of the translation
  ▪ The **original signature** of the translator or an authorised official of the translation company

• Any documents not translated may not be considered

• Submit **both** the original document and the translation
ABOUT THE TIER 4 PILOT SCHEME

• The University of Reading is pleased to have been selected by the UK Home Office to take part in the small pilot scheme due to our visa refusal rate being consistently the lowest in our region.

• The scheme offers Master's level students the opportunity to benefit from a streamlined visa application process.

• Eligible students will be granted six months leave after their course end date which will be helpful if they wish to stay on in the UK to look for work.
WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY UNDER THE TIER 4 PILOT?

• Students applying for a Tier 4 visa to commence a Master’s degree of 13 months duration or less at the University of Reading in September 2019.

• Students on a single CAS to study a Pre-sessional English course followed by a Master’s degree of 13 months duration or less.

• Students applying overseas (entry clearance) or applying within the UK following successful completion of their previous course.

• Not available to Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma students.

• Dependants of an eligible student who makes a Tier 4 student dependant visa application at the same time as the main applicant.

• Those who meet the Tier 4 visa requirements.
DOCUMENTS UNDER TIER 4 PILOT

As part of the scheme, you do **not** need to submit financial or qualification documents as part of your visa application. You **still must meet the Tier 4 requirements** which include:

- maintaining the required amount of funds for at least 28 days
- holding evidence of your academic qualifications
- having the required level of English language proficiency

If you submit the above documents they may be considered as part of the application and if they do not meet the requirements the application will be refused.

Documents that **must** be submitted:

- Current passport
- Tuberculosis (TB) Test (if required)
- Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate (if required)
THINGS TO REMEMBER

• Check you are eligible to apply
• Don’t apply too soon!
• Check what type of English language level evidence you need
• Check if you require a TB test certificate or ATAS certificate
• Make sure you have calculated your funds correctly
• Hold the money in your account for 28 days, never going below the level of funds required
• Ensure that your bank statement is not more than 31 days old
• Officially translate all documents into English

• ASK FOR HELP!
TIER 4 WORKING RIGHTS

• Who can work?
  • Tier 4 students studying a full-time programme at the University of Reading

• How many hours can I work?
  • The amount of hours you can work will depend on what you are studying

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours per week term-time</th>
<th>Hours per week vacation*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Sessional English</td>
<td>10 hours per week</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate degree</td>
<td>20 hours per week</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate programme</td>
<td>20 hours per week</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Students on a Short-term study visa or Tier 4 part-time cannot work

*check the University website for information on the term dates
IF YOU NEED HELP

• Email Advice
  • send your questions to immigration@reading.ac.uk

• Telephone advice
  • call +44(0)118 378 8038

• The Essentials website contains a wealth of information for international students, you can visit it here: www.reading.ac.uk/international-students
THE TEAM

- Katie Robertson
  Head of International
  Student Advisory Team
  & Home Office
  Compliance

- Megan Ablitt – Administrator

- Amy Rhodes - Home Office Compliance Officer

- Layla Riedler - Senior
  International Student Adviser (Immigration)

- Dave Rolls – Immigration Adviser

- Sedtin Wan – Senior
  International Adviser (Student Experience)
QUESTIONS