



Guide to Short-Term Study with a Standard Visitor Visa in the UK 2025



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While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this guide is accurate, students are strongly advised to check the detailed Home Office guide for up-to-date information in case policies change: gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa



Do I need a visa?

If you have been accepted onto a programme at ESCP London Campus and you have confirmed your place with us, you must check whether you require a visa before you travel to the UK.

- Visa Nationals may require a visa to study in the UK for 6 months or less.
- You can check whether you require a visa at the Home Office website: [gov.uk/check-uk-visa](https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa)
 1. Enter your nationality.
 2. Question: What are you coming to the UK to do? Answer: Study.
 3. Question: How long are you planning to study in the UK for? Answer: 6 months or less.

If you need a visa, you must apply for a Standard Visitor visa before you arrive in the UK. Your visa will be multiple entry, so you can leave during breaks and return to the UK using the same visa as long as it is valid.





What is a Standard Visitor Visa?

Standard Visitor visas cannot be extended and do not grant employment rights, but do have less strict requirements than other visas. If you require a visa, and if the length of your course at ESCP London Campus is six months or less, you will need to apply for a Standard Visitor visa. The Standard Visitor visa is granted for six months and allows for multiple entries during its validity time.

You can apply for a Standard Visitor visa if you:

- are 16 years old and over
- have an unconditional offer from ESCP London Campus to study a course that is six months or less in length
- are not planning to work in the UK (this visa does not allow you to do any type of work/internship)
- do not intend to extend your studies or visa while you are in the UK: this visa does not allow you to extend your stay from inside the UK, and you will have to return to your home country to apply for another visa
- have sufficient funds to cover the course fees, accommodation and living expenses; and
- You intend to leave the UK at the end of the six-month period of leave granted, and you can meet the cost of your living expenses and onward or return journey.
- You can find more information on the official government website:

[gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa](https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa)



Who Should Apply for a Standard Visitor Visa?

1. Students on the following programmes:

- Advanced Master in Finance, Master of Science in Real Estate, Master of Science in Marketing and Digital Media, Master of Science in Hospitality Management.
- Master in Management (one Term): Students on this programme are strongly advised to decide before they apply for a visa whether they intend to stay in the UK for one semester or two. If you intend to stay for two semesters, you must apply for the Student visa. If you intend to stay for one semester, you should apply for a Standard Visitor Visa.

2. Students who need to undertake a re-sit examination in London while studying in another country.



Restrictions

If you enter the UK as a short-term student on Standard Visitor visa, you are not allowed to:

- Study a full-time course for more than six months.
- Undertake internship, work experience or work placement in the UK.
- Take any employment, whether paid or unpaid.
- Bring family members.
- Extend your stay in the UK.
- Switch to a Student visa in the UK.
- Study in the UK for extended periods through frequent or successive periods as a short-term student.

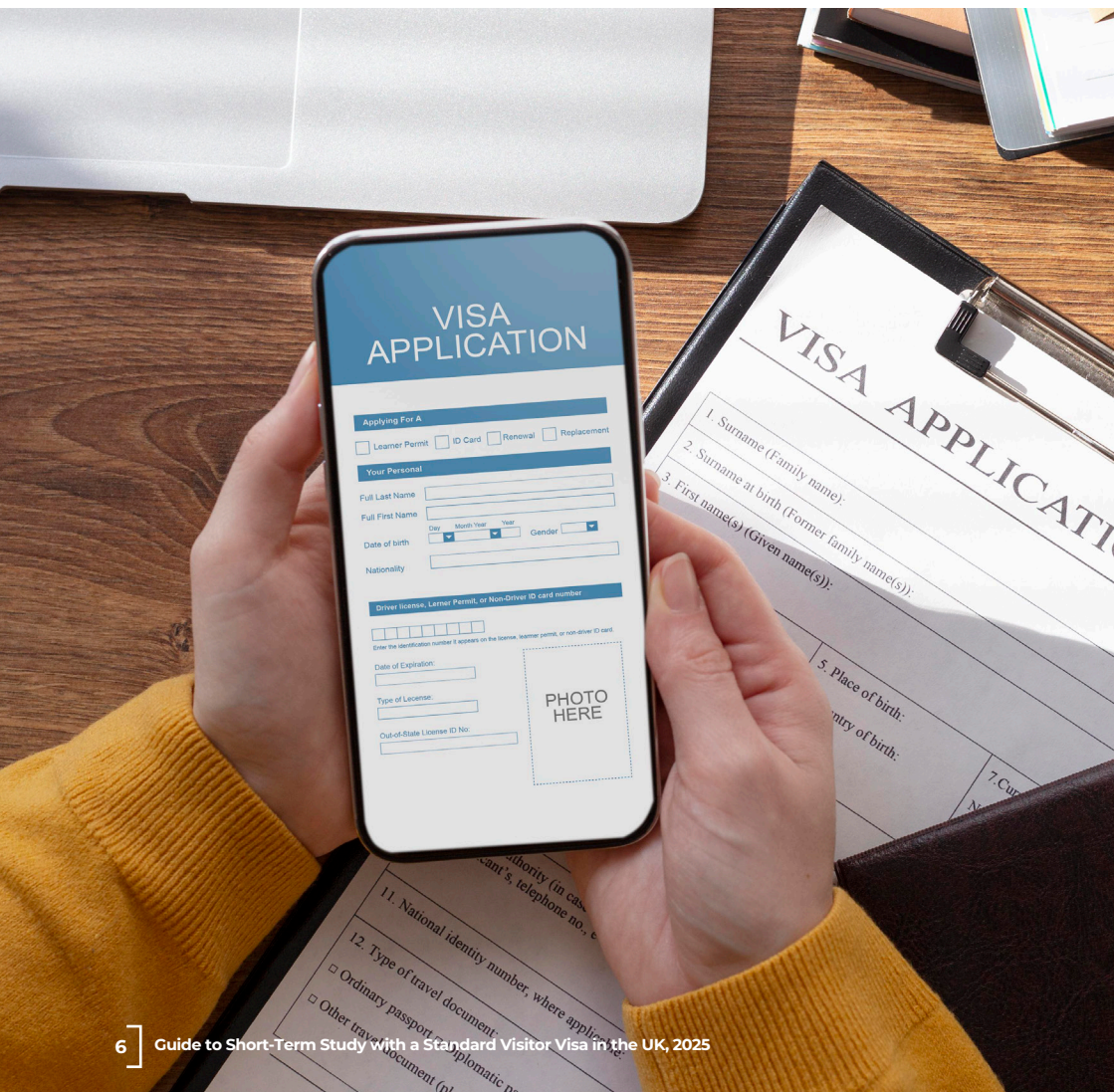
Applying for a Standard Visitor Visa

You must apply online before you come to the UK. As part of your application, you'll need to book an appointment at a visa application centre to prove your identity and provide your documents. The visa application centre may keep your passport and documents while processing your application.

To apply please visit: gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/apply

The visa fee is £127 as of April 2025

You can apply for a Standard Visitor visa up to three months before you plan to arrive in the UK. Processing time is approximately three weeks after submitting an application.



Supporting Documents

1. A valid passport. You will need a passport that is valid for the full period of your study and a page in your passport that is blank on both sides for your visa.
2. A visa letter. This is the essential document that you need to request from ESCP London Campus for your Standard Visitor visa application. Please contact Visa Team at visasupportlondon@escp.eu for further instructions. This letter will include details of your studies including dates, so please make sure that it is accurate.
3. Accommodation details, including where you will stay and your travel plans.
4. If you are under 18 years old, you must show that suitable arrangements have been made for your travel, reception and care in the UK.
5. Under-18s must provide proof that you have a parent or guardian in your home country or country of habitual residence who is responsible for your care, and can confirm that they consent to the arrangements for your travel, reception and care in the UK. You must provide contact details for at least one parent or guardian in your home country, details of travel, accommodation, and care arrangements in the UK, and written consent from said parent or legal guardian.
6. Evidence that you have enough money to support yourself while you are in the UK, showing that you can pay for your tuition fees, accommodation and other living expenses. We recommend that you have £1,334 per month for living expenses. If someone is sponsoring you, you must provide a Sponsorship Certificate.
7. If you receive a scholarship, you should submit an original letter confirming which costs are being met.
8. Evidence that you can meet the cost of your return journey.
9. Evidence that you have permission to be in the country from which you are applying if you are not a national.

Also note that

- All documents (except the letter of acceptance from ESCP) must be original and in English. Any original document that is not in English must be accompanied by a fully certified translation by a professional translator/translation company. This translation must include the details of the translator/translation company's credentials, confirmation that it is an accurate translation of the original document, and the translator/translation company's contact details.
- You should carry all documents used to make your visa application with you in your hand luggage when you come to the UK, as the Border Officers may ask to check these when you arrive.

You may need to provide additional documents depending on your circumstances.

Please check this link for further details and updates:

gov.uk/government/publications/visitor-visa-guide-to-supporting-documents



Receiving your Standard Visitor Visa

If your application is approved, you should receive a Standard Visitor visa sticker in your passport. The visa will be valid for six months, and the start and end dates will be stated on it. You must check that the dates are correct and cover the course.

If you apply for a Standard Visitor visa at the border, the Immigration Officer will stamp your passport.

GRADUATE IMMIGRATION ROUTE:

Students with a Standard Visitor Visa are not eligible for the Graduate Immigration Route. For brief information, please check:

homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/14/fact-sheet-graduate-immigration-route



Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)

If you are an EU/EEA, Swiss or Non-visa national you do not need to obtain a standard Visitor visa. Instead you must apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) 48-72 hours before you travel to the UK.

Key Information About the ETA: An ETA is a digital permission to travel to the UK. The ETA costs £16 and is valid for two years or until your passport expires whichever is earlier. It allows multiple entries for stays of up to six months. The ETA does not grant permission to work (long-term work or employment) in the UK.

Applications can be submitted online or via the UK ETA app.

Decisions are typically received within three working days.

Important Notes: The ETA is not a visa but a travel authorization. It does not guarantee entry—you must still be cleared by a UK Border Force Officer upon arrival. If you receive a new passport, you must apply for a new ETA. Without an ETA, you may be denied entry at the UK border.

For more details or to apply, visit the <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-an-electronic-travel-authorisation-eta>

FAQ



⌚ How much money do I need to have in my bank account when I apply for a Standard Visitor visa?

When you apply for a Standard Visitor visa, you need to show that you have enough money to support yourself without receiving money from the UK government and without working in the UK. While there are no specific requirements, you must show that you have enough to cover your course fees, plus accommodation and living expenses. We recommend that you have the full tuition fees for the first year of your study, plus £1,483 per month for living expenses.

⌚ When should I apply for my Standard Visitor visa?

You can apply three months before the start date of the course.

⌚ Can I leave and re-enter the UK as a Standard Visitor student?

A Standard Visitor visa that is applied for from overseas before travel is a multiple-entry visa, so you can re-enter the UK as long as your visa is valid. You may be required to show proof that you are still studying. However, a Standard Visitor visa issued at the airport is a single-entry visa and you must bring all your documents with you to show at the border every time you enter the UK.

⌚ Will I be interviewed as part of the visa application process?

The UKVI reserves the right to invite any applicant for an interview. Some examples of the sort of questions you might be asked at an interview are as follows:

- Why did you choose ESCP London Campus?
- How do you intend to travel to ESCP London Campus?
- Where will you be living in the UK?
- Have you ever studied in the UK before?
- How are you funding your studies?
- What do you intend to do after your course has finished?



⇒ **Should I take an English-language test?**

You do not have to demonstrate your English-language ability as part of the visa application itself, as there is no minimum-ability level required for this visa.

⇒ **My course involves an optional internship; can I undertake it in the UK?**

Unfortunately, work is not permitted whilst in the UK on a Standard Visitor visa, so you cannot do an internship even if it is unpaid. We will help you complete your internship in another country where you are permitted to do so.

⇒ **Can I extend my stay in the UK with a Standard Visitor visa?**

No. The Standard Visitor visa cannot be extended and you cannot apply for any other immigration category whilst in the UK as a short-term student.

⇒ **When should I leave the UK?**

Students must intend to leave the UK at the end of the six-month period of leave granted or earlier.

⇒ **I have a re-sit exam to take and I have to come to the UK for two weeks. Which visa do I need?**

You should apply for Standard Visitor visa.

⇒ **Can I apply for a Short-Term Student (11-month) visa?**

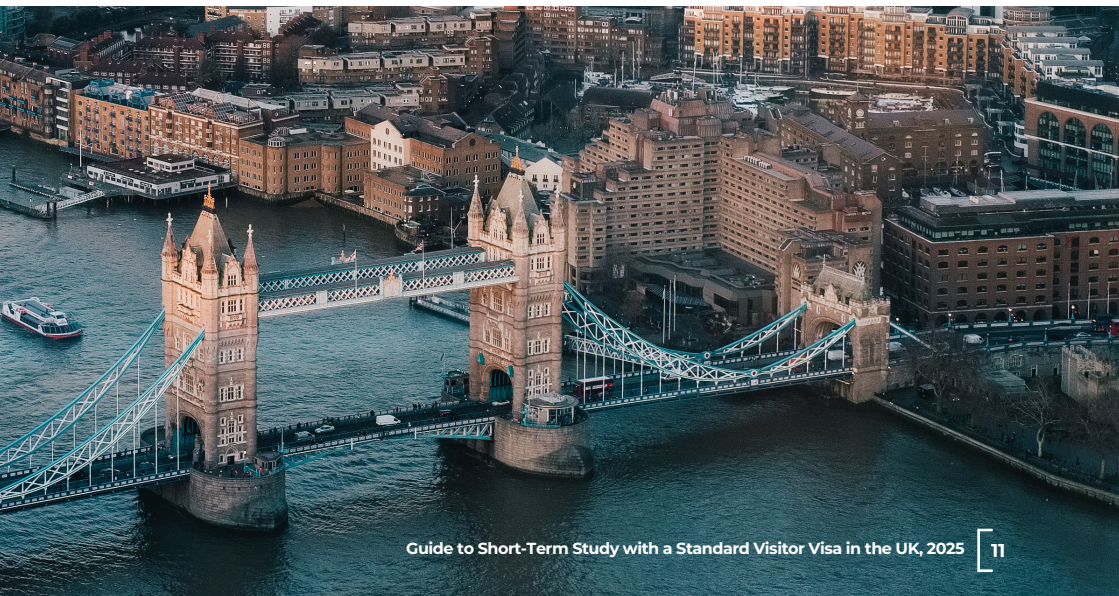
No - this route is for applicants who want to come to the UK solely to study English language.

⇒ **What should I do if my visa application is refused?**

You should inform us immediately and we will check the possibility of submitting another application.

Whom should I contact if I have a question about my visa?

For visa queries, please contact the ESCP London Visa Officer at: visasupportlondon@escp.eu





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ESCP benefits from the best international accreditations. Our European campuses enjoy national recognition.



5 European Higher Ed accreditations

BERLIN
Heubnerweg 8–10
14059 Berlin, Deutschland

LONDON
527 Finchley Road
London NW3 7BG,
United Kingdom

MADRID
Arroyofresno 1
28035 Madrid, España

PARIS RÉPUBLIQUE
79, av. de la République
75543 Paris Cedex 11, France

PARIS MONTPARNASSE
3, rue Armand Moisan
75015 Paris, France

TURIN
Corso Unione Sovietica, 218 bis
10134 Torino, Italia

WARSAW
c/o Kozminski University
International Relation Office
57/59 Jagiellońska St.
03-301 Warsaw, Poland

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