



Applying for your Student visa using the ID Check App FAQs – March 2023

Who can use the UK Immigration: ID Check app for their application instead of attending an application?

The following groups can use the app instead of needing to attend an appointment:

- EU/EEA/Swiss students applying overseas for their visa with a biometric passport
- People of any nationality applying to extend their visa in the UK who have a Biometric Residence Permit

What is the advantage of applying using the app?

If you apply using the app, you will not need to book or attend a physical appointment to provide your fingerprints. However, it does mean that you have to ensure you meet the requirements of the visa before applying as you will not be able to rely on a member of staff giving you guidance on your documents at an appointment.

Where can I download the app?

You can find out how to download the app on this government web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-uk-immigration-id-check-app>

FAQs for applications made outside the UK

The guidance says I can only apply for my visa in the country of my nationality or one that I am a resident in. If I don't need to attend an appointment, why can't I apply from any country?

The immigration rules have not been updated to reflect that some people are able to apply using the ID check app. Therefore, if you are following the you should be in either the country of your nationality or one you are resident in.

You must not apply for your Student visa in the UK using the app if you are only here as a tourist.

I am trying to use the app but haven't received a verification code on my phone. What do I do?

If you are not able to receive a verification code to your phone, you will be directed to book an appointment to provide your finger prints.

The app won't scan my passport. What do I do?

There are some circumstances where the app will not read the biometric chip in your passport correctly. In this case you will be directed to book an appointment to provide your fingerprints. You will receive a sticker in your passport and Biometric Residence Permit if you are unable to use the app.

Do I need to complete the application form on the same device where I downloaded the app?

No, once you have completed all the stages of the app it is possible to complete your application form on another device because you will have set up a UKVI account at the start of the process.

If I have used the app to apply for my visa outside the UK, will I get a sticker in my passport and a Biometric Residence Permit?

If you have used the app to apply for your visa outside the UK, you will receive a digital status. You will not have a sticker in your passport because you do not need to submit your passport.

You will be able to view and prove your digital status through the following web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>

You will need to view and prove your digital status in the following circumstances:

- For the pre-enrolment portal, if your Student visa has been granted;
- At Campus Enrolment if you have not uploaded a scan of your PDF status;
- When looking for private accommodation as part of Landlord checks;
- As part of right to work checks.

It is not possible to get a physical visa if you have been granted a digital status, although the UKVI are moving towards all Student visa holders having a digital status in the future.

Please continue reading for advice on applications in the UK.

FAQs for applications made outside the UK

My visa is for less than six months and I don't have a Biometric Residence Permit. Am I able to use the ID check app when I apply to extend my visa in the UK?

Currently, only people who have a Biometric Residence Permit are able to use the app in the UK. If you only have a sticker in your passport for the full length of your programme e.g. pre-session English language programmes, you will need to attend an appointment to provide your fingerprints.

If I have used the app to apply for my visa in the UK, will I get a digital status or a Biometric Residence Permit?

This depends on your nationality:

- Visa nationals will receive both a digital status and a Biometric Residence Permit.
- Non-visa nationals will only receive a digital status.

You can check if you are a Visa national on the following web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-visitor-visa-national-list>

I'm a non-visa national. Is it possible to get a Biometric Residence Permit as well as a digital status?

If you are able to apply successfully using the app and you are a non-visa national, you will not be able to get a Biometric Residence Permit.

When will I need to use my digital status?

You will be able to view and prove your digital status through the following web page:

<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>

You will need to view and prove your digital status in the following circumstances:

- For the pre-enrolment portal, if your Student visa has been granted;
- At Campus Enrolment if you have not uploaded a scan of your PDF status;
- When looking for private accommodation as part of Landlord checks;
- As part of right to work checks.

If you have both a digital status and a Biometric Residence Permit you can provide either document to LSE at campus enrolment.

It is not possible to get a physical visa if you have been granted a digital status.

My programme ends after the 31 December 2024. My digital status is correct but my Biometric Residence Permit expires on the 31 December 2024. Do I need to get my Biometric Residence Permit corrected?

You do not need to tell UKVI if your BRP expires on 31 December 2024 but your immigration status (for example, your visa) allows you to stay longer.

You will not need a BRP from 1 January 2025. You'll be able to prove your immigration status online, without a BRP.

UKVI will update their information on how to prove your immigration status in early 2024. You do not need to do anything and your immigration status will not be affected.

Important information for all students who have been issued with a digital status

- You must check your digital status (and Biometric Residence Permit where applicable) for errors when you receive it.
- Errors on digital statuses for applications made outside the UK must be reported within 10 days of you receiving your status.
- Errors on the conditions of your digital status/Biometric Residence Permit for applications made in the UK must be reported via an Administrative Review within 14 calendar days of receiving your status.

Failure to check your visa and report any incorrect information e.g. names, working rights, length of visa within the correct timeframe may mean that you lose out on time in the UK or the ability to work.

Find out more about what to check on your visa in our [infosheet](#).

Where can I get more advice?

Student Advice and Engagement Team:

<https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/immigration-advice/secure/isvat-query-form>

UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA):

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Applying-for-a-Student-route-visa-outside-the-UK>

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Making-a-Student-route-application-in-the-UK>

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Passport-visa-and-BRP-problems>