

Visa requirements for students from outside the European Economic Area (EEA)

If you are not an EEA applicant this offer is conditional upon your compliance with all UK visa arrangements. If you do require a visa to study in the UK you should ensure that the duration of the visa includes September 2012 in order to cover the period when re-sit examinations take place. If you accept this offer you are advised to start the process of obtaining a visa immediately. It is not advisable to wait until you receive the results of any pending examinations because some embassies take a significant time to process visa applications.

Owing to the part-time nature of this course it is not possible to get a 'Tier 4' student visa. Thus international students should make enquiries as to the basis upon which they would be entitled to enter the U.K. for study weekends. Work done online in between the study weekends can be done off-site and is outside the jurisdiction of the UK Borders Agency.

The most appropriate visa to cover a part-time course is the Student Visitor Visa. This visa allows students on a distance learning course to come to the U.K. to attend for classes. Such a visa usually lasts 6 months, and the holder of such a visa can spend only a maximum of 6 months in the U.K. out of any 12 month period. It is a single entry visa which means that each time the holder visits the U.K. either a new visa application will have to be made or a new stamp put into the holder's passport on entry into the U.K. depending on which country the holder comes from. For more information follow the links from UKVISAS which explain visitor visas in general and the specific policy issues for student visitors:

- www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/howtoapply/infos/inf2visitors#21552282
- <http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/ecq/visitandtransit/studentvisitor>

Another route for overseas students is to apply for the Post-Study Working Visa, which allows successful applicants to stay in the U.K. for a period of 2 years following successful completion of an undergraduate course in the U.K. It allows recent graduates the opportunity to gain work experience in the U.K. but study is allowed. Such visas are awarded on a points system and more details can be found at:

- http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/files/pdf/working/work_awaiting_psw.pdf

It is the responsibility of individual students to ensure that they have complied with all relevant immigration matters before they enrol on the course.