Visa information

Student mobility in the United Kingdom

If you are a student in France and you have been accepted in one of the following programmes in a UK higher education institution, then you might need to apply to a Student Visa

Relevant programmes:
1. A bachelor’s degree or a master’s degree;
2. a dual-degree or an exchange programme;
3. a PhD as a full-time non-working student.

Does your mobility last longer than 6 months?

YES

You need to apply for a Student visa

Before registering you must have the following supporting documents in your possession:
1. A Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from your UK course provider;
2. A valid passport;
3. Evidence that you can support yourself throughout your course;
4. Evidence of your English proficiency (for ex. the UKVI IELTS Academic test).

Application costs
- £348 to apply for a Student visa;
- £470 immigration health surcharge (IHS) for each 12 months of your visa
Applicants with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) will be entitled to a full refund on healthcare surcharge;

Where and when to apply
- Apply within max. 6 months before your course starts.
- Your request will be processed within 3 weeks.
- Submit your visa application on the GOV.UK student visa page.
EU and EEA nationals who hold a passport will usually apply using the UKVI ID check app and will not be required to attend a Visa Application Centre to give biometrics.

When can you arrive in the UK?
You can arrive in the UK 1 month before your course starts.

NO

You can stay in the UK as a student for up to 6 months without a visa

This is called the Visit route.

What you need at the UK border:
A valid passport

To be able to enter the UK:
- you must be studying at an accredited higher education institution (HEI)
- the HEI must provide you with an offer letter confirming the course to be studied or the course being studied overseas
- you must be able to demonstrate that you are able to support yourself financially
- you must be able to accommodate yourself throughout your studies
- you must leave the UK at the end of the 6-month period

What you cannot do
If you enter on the Visit route you are not able to be employed, this includes unpaid work and work experience. The only exception is if you are undertaking a clinical placement in medicine, veterinary medicine or dentistry.

What you cannot do

When can you arrive in the UK?
You can arrive in the UK up to 1 week before your course starts.

This is the overview from the UK Government pages:

The British Council is not a visa advisory service. Please refer to official UK governmental websites for guidance.