

N.U.in England: NCH Visa Guide 2019



Non-Visa Nationals Guide

This information is for U.S. citizens and other students who are visa-exempt (<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>). **IF YOU REQUIRE A VISA**, please refer to our Visa-Required Nationals Guide.

Important Reminders for All Students

This document has been prepared based on the information and links provided by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI).

Please check with the British consular authority in your region for the most updated visa requirements and processes for the United Kingdom. The information listed below is intended as an informational guide only and does not constitute legal advice.

Northeastern University and NCH have no influence on the outcome of immigration applications and no ability to contact UKVI to inquire about an individual visa application, or to expedite the process for an individual student. In addition, N.U.in employees are unable to provide advice to students or families concerning visa requirements and/or application processes.

Students are responsible for completing any visa applications or registrations correctly and in an effective manner, and for obtaining any required permissions prior to the program start date. If the student cannot obtain a valid visa in time for the program start date, please refer to the N.U.in Withdrawal Policy and contact the N.U.in office to discuss next steps.

Do I need a visa for N.U.in England?

U.S. citizens and other students who are ‘non-visa nationals’ may be able to enter the UK as Short-Term Students without prior entry clearance for up to 6 months but will not be allowed to work, to have recourse to public funds, or to extend their stay beyond 6 months. Students who are ‘visa nationals’ ([see Appendix 2 of the visitor immigration rules](#)) will need to apply for a Short-Term Study Visa *before* departing for England. If you are a visa-required national, please refer to the Visa-Required Nationals Guide for further information.

All students should check to see if they need to obtain a UK visa prior to travelling to England or if they can obtain the appropriate permission at the UK border (<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>). This tool also provides an overview of the applicable visa process and details about supporting documentation requirements.

Information for ‘Non-Visa Nationals’

When you visit UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI)’s website (<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>) to see if you need a visa, you will be asked to select your nationality shown on your passport or travel document.

After making your selection, you may see the following:

You won’t need a visa to come to the UK

However, you should bring documents with you to show at the border that you:

This means you do not need to apply for a visa before you travel to the UK, **BUT** you still need to obtain the correct immigration permission at the UK border. Refer to the Short-Term Study Visa Requirements below. **Please note, if you are planning to obtain the appropriate entry permission at the UK point of entry, you must not transit through the Republic of Ireland. Due to the common travel arrangement between the UK and Ireland, you will be unable to obtain the appropriate permissions if you transit through Ireland. Should you choose to transit through the Republic of Ireland, you will need to obtain your visa in advance—please refer to the Visa-Required Nationals Guide.**

What if I hold a European Union (EU) / European Economic Area (EEA) / Swiss passport?

If you are a ‘non-visa national’ who may be impacted when the UK leaves the EU, you may see the following notification when you check to see if you need a visa (<https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>):

You do not need a visa to come to the UK

When the UK leaves the EU, the rules for how long you can stay without a visa may change. [Check if you need to act now](#) so you can travel as planned.

This means you will need to closely monitor implications of Brexit, and check with the British consular authority in your region for the most updated visa requirements and processes for the UK. Please note, this will include:

- If the UK leaves the EU with a deal
- If the UK leaves the EU without a deal

- What you will need to show at the UK border

Please note that this information changes and is updated regularly, so please be sure to monitor this information on a regular basis.

Entry to the UK

If you plan to enter the UK as a Short-Term Student, then you can obtain the appropriate permissions on arrival in the UK. You must declare that study is the main purpose of your visit to the Immigration Officer at the UK border and satisfy the entry requirements in order to qualify for entry to the UK as a Short-Term Student under the Immigration Rules. Please be sure to check that your passport has been correctly stamped with a Short-Term Study stamp before leaving the immigration checkpoint.

Important Note: Students should NOT make plans to make their first entry into the UK from anywhere in the Republic of Ireland (Dublin, Shannon, Galway, etc.). Given the common travel area with the UK, you will not be able to obtain the correct visa stamp in your passport and you will need to leave the UK and enter again before you are able to attend classes. Please make plans to enter the UK either from another EU country or directly from your home country. Should you choose to enter the UK directly from the Republic of Ireland, you will be required to obtain the Short-Term Study visa ***before you travel to the UK***, and as such, you should follow the information in the Visa-Required Nationals Guide.

Important Note: Students should not use the e-Gates at the airport upon arrival to the UK. Students must see a border officer when going through immigration to obtain the correct visa. If you do not do this, you will not have the correct visa and time allowance for you to study in the UK.

Important Note: The Short-Term Study visa for Non-Visa Nationals is only single entry. If you leave the UK (e.g. you take a trip to Spain for the weekend), you will need to ensure that you carry all the documents required to request re-entry for the purpose of study again at the UK border.

Short-Term Study Visa Requirements

These documents should be carried with you on entry to the UK, in order to satisfy the immigration requirements at the point of entry. **Please note that the below list is not exhaustive**. All students should confirm supporting documentation requirements directly with the British consular authority responsible for their country of residence.

NCH will provide you with the documentation listed with an asterisk (*). NCH will send these to you after you have submitted your valid passport copy within your N.U.*in* portal. Please allow at least 5-7 business days for processing.

1. **A valid passport** with at least one blank page (front and back); your passport should valid for the full duration of your stay in England.
2. **Proof that you are seeking entry as a student visitor** for a limited period not exceeding 6 months.* NCH will provide you with proof of enrollment, as well as a letter verifying that your tuition and housing are pre-paid and guaranteed.

3. **Proof of acceptance on a course of study** which is provided by an approved organization.*
4. **Accommodation details** of where you intend to stay in England.*
5. **Proof that you intend to leave the UK at the end of your visit and can meet the cost of the return journey.** The border patrol officer may require you to show a return ticket, so please be sure to carry proof of your round-trip itinerary.
6. **Proof of adequate financial means** to support yourself for your stay. Please note, the NCH letter may not fulfill the 'financial' requirement. It is recommended that you have available copies of your bank statements from the six months prior to the program showing adequate funds are available to support yourself for the semester in the event that this is requested by a border patrol officer on entry.
7. **Contact details of a parent or legal guardian** in your home country.

You must not intend to take employment or engage in business activities in the UK, and you should be prepared to attest to this on entry, in the event that you are asked by a border patrol officer.