

UK NATIONALS STUDYING IN THE EU/EEA/SWITZERLAND – CONTINUING YOUR STUDIES

What does Brexit mean for you?

On 29 March 2019, the UK is due to leave the European Union (EU). Whilst the specific nature of its departure is still being considered, if you are a UK student in the EU, there are a number of things you should consider in the event of a no deal after 29 March 2019. These include your residency rights, access to healthcare, and your tuition fee status at your EU institution.

As per advice from the UK Government, it remains committed to a negotiated and orderly departure from the EU. However, it is the duty of a responsible government to continue to prepare for a range of possible outcomes, including the possibility of no deal.

If you are a UK student in the EU, you should speak to your higher education provider in the first instance about completing your studies there. They will be able to advise you about all of the above.

The information below is designed to support any student wishing to continue their higher education studies in Scotland after Exit day on 29 March 2019.

The following is covered here:

- Information for students wishing to return to Scotland to continue their higher education studies
- Student support for UK nationals wishing to study in Scotland for the 2019-20 academic year
- Where to go for further information

Information for students wishing to return to Scotland to continue their higher education studies

We recommend that you try to complete your study at your current provider if possible. Your circumstances will vary depending on where you are studying and any changes to arrangements currently in place. In order to understand how a no deal exit may affect you, in the first instance you should contact your course provider for any individual advice about completing your studies. It is advised you regularly check the [FCO 'Living in' country guides](#) for the country where you are studying for the most up-to-date information.

Some EU Member States have already given assurances to UK Nationals about their residency and other citizen rights. While the UK Government continues to negotiate EU exit, you should make sure you are correctly registered as resident in the Member State where you are studying. The [FCO 'Living in' country guides](#) for each Member State has details on how you can do this.

However, we are aware that some students who are currently undertaking an undergraduate or postgraduate course of study at an EU/EEA or Swiss university may be uncertain about continuing their course, particularly if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. This could mean you find it difficult to complete your studies in the EU due to one or a combination of reasons such as: affordability of tuition fees, access to healthcare, or a change in immigration requirements.

Moving to a course at a Scottish institution

If you cannot, or do not wish to, remain at your EU/EEA or Swiss institution after the UK leaves the EU, you may wish to apply to a Scottish higher education provider to complete your studies.

What to do next?

1. Speak to your department office or course tutor about their withdrawal process. You will normally have to fill in some paperwork, such as a declaration to say you want to end your studies and request a copy of your transcript. **Please note – it is recommended that you do not withdraw from your course until you have a confirmed place at another university.**

2. If you are interested in applying to a Scottish University: you should visit the UCAS website for further information - <https://www.ucas.com/>.

Enter the subject, location or university at which you're interested in studying HERE - Click the search icon.

Shortlist courses that you're interested in using the shortlist icon from either the course listings page or the search results page.

You should also contact the individual universities that you're interested in applying to – before you make any application to UCAS. This will help you understand more about their criteria for accepting transfer students, including any requirements to supply copies of your transcripts, modules and course descriptions for any study you have already taken (particularly if you are transferring into a course).

3. If you are interested in undertaking an HNC or HND course at a Scottish college, you should apply directly to the college(s) where you wish to study.

A list of Scottish colleges is available in the link below:

<http://www.sfc.ac.uk/funding/colleges-we-fund.aspx>

4. Apply. Complete and submit the appropriate application by the relevant application deadline.

Things to consider:

- Are there spaces on the course you want to join? You should use the UCAS search tool to [search](#) for courses with places for the year you'd like to start your studies.
- Do you meet the entry requirements for the course you want to transfer to? Even if you've already completed some study at another university or college, there may also be some specific subject knowledge requirements you'll need to meet so it's important to check the course entry requirements on the course details page.
- You'll need to provide details of all the modules you've already studied including European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) credits, and any marks you received – ask your department office or course tutor to explain how to obtain your transcript.

You may also be required to attend an interview or produce some additional work as part of the application process.

Information on student support for UK nationals returning from the EU/EEA or Switzerland to study in Scotland in academic year 2019-20

If you have to return to the UK after the exit date, you may be eligible for student financial support to complete your studies in Scotland.

If you are a UK national and you resided in Scotland prior to your studies at an EU institution, you can find out more information about eligibility at: https://www.saas.gov.uk/full_time/ug/eu/eligibility.htm

If you are a UK national and you resided in England, Wales or Northern Ireland should contact the relevant student funding body in the UK country where you resided prior to your study at an EU institution.

- England: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- Wales: <https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/>
- Northern Ireland: <https://www.studentfinancenir.co.uk/>

Where can I go for further information?

Here are a few things you can do to find out more about Brexit.

- Take a look at what universities are saying about Brexit – you can find links to their websites using the UCAS [search tool](#).
- Visit the FCO website and view the 'Living in' country guides - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/overseas-living-in-guides>
- Find out what action National Union of Students (NUS) Scotland is taking in relation to Brexit - <https://www.nusconnect.org.uk/nus-scotland/policy/brexit>
- Continue to check back on this website for up to date information on student support.