

# N.U.in Northern Ireland Visa Guide 2025

Queen's University Belfast, Belfast



QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST

*This visa guide was developed in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast and Northeastern University.*

## Visa Nationals

This information is for visa national students who must obtain a visa prior to coming to the United Kingdom (UK) to study at Queen's University Belfast. You can check [here](#) if you are a visa national and require a visa to travel to the UK. Students are responsible for obtaining a valid visa prior to the program start date. If they cannot obtain a valid visa in time, then please refer to the N.U.in Program Withdrawal Policy and contact the N.U.in office to discuss next steps.

### Do I need a visa for N.U.in at Queen's University Belfast?

In order to study on a program (such as The N.U.in Program at Queen's University Belfast) for up to six months in the UK if you are a visa national, you **must** apply for a Standard Visitor visa **before** entering the UK. You can make your application from your country of nationality.

### How can I check if I need a visa?

All students should check to see if they need to obtain a UK visa prior to traveling to the UK. You can check on the [UK government website](#) if you require a visa to enter the UK as a study abroad student for up to six months. This tool also provides an overview of the applicable visa process and details about supporting documentation requirements.

### Where do I apply for a Standard Visitor visa and what is the cost?

You can apply for a Standard Visitor visa on the [UK government website](#). It costs £115 and your visa must be granted before you travel to the UK.

### How long does applying for a Standard Visitor visa take?

The Visitor visa application process takes approximately 4 weeks, so make sure you leave plenty of time to complete the application.

### Can I work or extend my visa in the UK?

Students on a Standard Visitor Visa will not be allowed to work. They cannot claim benefit or have recourse to public funds and cannot extend their stay beyond six months from within the UK. Students must leave the UK upon completion of their course and apply for a new visa from their country of nationality for any further studies.

# Entry to the UK

If you plan to enter the UK as a Standard Visitor Visa student, then you may need to declare that study is the main purpose of your visit to the Immigration Officer at the UK border. Please make sure to keep your original passport and copies of all other necessary documents before you travel to the UK. You may be asked to produce the supporting documents again to the Immigration Officer at the port of entry. ***Only present the documents from the list below (2 to 6) if requested by the Immigration Officer at the port of entry in the UK.***

## Standard Visitor 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 and if requested by an Immigration Officer. *Please note that the below list is not exhaustive. All students should confirm supporting documentation requirements directly with the UK consular authority responsible for their country of residence.*

- 1 | A valid passport**  
Your passport must have at least one blank page (front and back) and be valid for the full duration of your stay in the UK.
- 2 | Proof that you are seeking entry as a standard visitor for study purposes for a limited period not exceeding six months**
- 3 | Proof of acceptance to a course of study and accommodation details**  
Queen's University Belfast will provide you with an admissions letter. Proof of enrollment, as well as a letter verifying that your tuition and housing are pre-paid and guaranteed, can be provided by Northeastern.
- 4 | Proof that you are currently registered in the N.U.in Program**
- 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 Immigration Officer may require you to show a return ticket, so please be sure to carry proof of your round-trip itinerary.

## **5 | Proof of adequate financial means to support yourself for your stay**

Please note, the Queen's University Belfast letter may not fulfill the financial requirement. It is recommended that you have available copies of your bank statements or your parent's bank statement of at least last two months from your date of arrival in the UK. The bank statement must show adequate funds are available to support you for the semester in the UK. If you are providing your parent's bank statement, you must include a **letter from your parent** confirming that they will take care of any expenses incurred during your time of studies in the UK.

## **6 | Written consent to travel from a parent or legal guardian in your home country (if you are under 18 at the time of your arrival in the UK)**

**Please note that 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 an Immigration Officer.**

# **Application Steps and Timeline for 'Visa Nationals'**

## **1 | Complete online application**

**(1 hour)**

1. Follow the [steps for the online application](#) In order to complete your application, you will first need to create an account.
  - a. Select **visit or transit visa** as type of visa.
2. Pay any applicable [visa application fees](#).
3. Print a copy of the entire application form and submit the form online once finalized.

## **2 | Book and attend biometric appointment (if applicable)**

**(1 day–4 weeks following successful application submission)**

Once you have submitted your application form online, you will be prompted to book an appointment at the nearest visa application center (VAC) to have your biometric data (fingerprints and photograph) taken and to submit your biometric data and application documents. Please check that the VAC is currently open before making your appointment.

- Appointment availability varies by location and is currently more limited; plan for having to wait between 1-4 weeks depending on your location.
- Students who have to attend a VAC must bring their original passport, appointment confirmation, document checklist and usually all their supporting documentation with them to the VAC (unless you are able to upload your supporting documents online prior to your appointment). Students will submit their applications and biometric data to the VAC on the same day.
- Prepare all of your application materials prior to your biometrics appointment to ensure that you will be able to submit your application on the same day.

### 3 Processing time

**(2–8 weeks)**

*Priority service may be available in your country. Certain countries may have longer processing times.*

Please follow the online guidance provided when submitting your application.

**Remember:** During this time, you *will not* have access to your passport for personal international travel.

## Genuine Visitor Requirements

All visitors to the UK must satisfy the genuine visitor requirements. This means that:

- You will leave the UK at the end of your visit;
- You must not intend to live in the UK for extended periods through frequent or successive visits. You must also not intend to make the UK your main home. The [visitor guidance](#) lists factors such as the number of visits that you have made over the last twelve months, including the length of stay on each occasion in assessing whether or not your visits to the UK are frequent and successive;
- You must be genuinely seeking to enter the UK for a purpose and activity permitted as a visitor;
- You must not undertake any of the [prohibited activities](#) for a visitor.
- You must have enough money to support yourself whilst you are in the UK. This includes the cost of your return or onward journey and any permitted activities that you have planned. You will not be able to work or access public funds in order to support yourself. In assessing this requirement, the [visitor guidance](#) states that your income and savings will be looked at minus any financial commitments that you have. The remaining sum must be sufficient to meet the likely costs that you will incur in the UK and also your reasonable expenditure. Please see [prohibited activities](#) for further details. You can rely on another person to help you demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your travel, maintenance and accommodation whilst in the UK. You must have a genuine professional or personal relationship with this person however, and they cannot be in breach of any immigration laws at the time the decision on your application is made or by the time you wish to enter the UK as a visitor. This person must also be able to support you for the duration of your visit;
- Any funds that you wish to rely upon must be held in a financial institution permitted under [FIN 2.1 in Appendix Finance](#)

## Important Reminders

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 UK. The information above is intended as informational guidance only and does not constitute legal advice.***

Northeastern University and Queen's University of Belfast have no influence on the outcome of immigration applications, including the decisions and policies of UKVI, no ability to inquire about an individual immigration application, or to expedite the process for an individual student. In addition, N.U.in employees are unable to provide legal advice to students or families concerning country-specific immigration requirements and/or application processes.

Students are responsible for completing all required applications for immigration permissions or registrations correctly and in a timely manner, and for obtaining any required permissions prior to the program start date. If the student cannot obtain valid permission 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 the next steps.