

If you want to start a course at Imperial but still have some time left on a student visa from your previous course at another University/School, you will need to take some action.

**You will not be permitted to complete registration or to start your studies at Imperial if you hold a Tier 4 visa linked to another institution.**

## Students who applied for a Tier 4 Student Visa on or after 5 October 2009

If you made your last application for a Tier 4 visa to study elsewhere on or after 5 October 2009, you must apply for a new Tier 4 visa before commencing your course at Imperial.

We will only allow you to start your new course before the new Tier 4 visa is granted\*\* if you provide proof that you made an application (i.e. a Home Office acknowledgement letter). Remember that this letter can take several weeks to arrive when applying by post at a busy time of the year.

If you submit your application to the International Student Support Team to be sent to the Home Office we will allow you to register on the day that it is posted from our office.

\*\* please note; you do so at your own risk as permission could be refused.

## Students who applied after 31 March 2009 but before 5 October 2009

If you applied for your previous visa after 31 March 2009 but before 5 October 2009 and wish to change institution, you must apply to the Home Office for permission, even if you have time left on your current visa. In order to do so you will need to fill out a [Permission to Change Educational Sponsor](#) application form. The fee for this application is £179.

Please note that this will not result in a change to your visa end date. You will simply receive a letter from the Home Office granting permission to switch sponsor which you should upload to your student e-service.

## Students who applied before 31 March 2009 ("old rules")

If you have an "old rules" visa which you applied for before 31 March 2009, then you are still outside the Points Based System (PBS). Please contact the International Student Support Team for further advice.



International Student Support