

- An official financial sponsor is Her Majesty's Government, the student's home government, the British Council or any international organisation, international company, university or United Kingdom independent school.
- Financial sponsorship is where a student is given money to cover some or all his/her course fees and/or living costs.
- A student who is being given Official Financial Sponsorship must provide a letter of confirmation from his/her Official Financial Sponsor on official letter-headed paper of the organisation of the official financial sponsor **and have the official stamp of that organisation on it**. The letter must show:
 - the student's name
 - the name and contact details of the official financial sponsor
 - the date of the letter
 - the length of the sponsorship
 - the amount of money the sponsor is giving to the student or a statement that the student's official financial sponsor will cover all of his/her fees and living costs.
- A Tier 4 sponsor (your educational institution) can include details of Official Financial Sponsorship that they are giving to the student in his/her Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies.
- If a student has official financial sponsorship which wholly covers their fees and living costs, and the financial sponsor limits the time he/she may study in the United Kingdom, the permission to stay will be limited to that length of time plus the usual post-course period allowed.
- If a student is currently financially sponsored by a government or an international scholarship agency or this financial sponsorship ended within 12 months of his/her application being made, the student will need the sponsor's permission to stay in or re-enter the United Kingdom. The student must obtain a letter from their sponsor confirming that the sponsor has no objection to the student continuing his/her studies in the United Kingdom.
- Where a student is providing evidence of Official Financial Sponsorship, in addition to evidence of his/her own personal funds, any money paid to the student by his/her Official Financial Sponsor will not be considered as available personal funds. Money cannot be counted twice as evidence of maintenance.