

If you are coming from outside the European Union to undertake a Medical Elective, you need to come to the UK under the Short-Term Study route.

The Short-term Study route gives permission to allow students to come to the UK for a period of up to six months in order to undertake a short course of study.

Please note that if you enter the UK on a Short-term Study visa, you are **not** entitled to:

- Extend your visa in the UK, or switch to a different visa category from within the UK
- Bring dependants

For more information about the Short-term Study visa, please consult the Home Office website: <https://www.gov.uk/study-visit-visa>

How do I apply for Short-term Study permission?

The process of obtaining Short-term Study permission varies depending on your nationality. Some students (referred to as non-visa nationals) are able to travel to the UK and obtain their permission at their point of entry (at Immigration Control in the airport). Students from visa-national countries are required to apply for Entry Clearance as a Short-term Student before travelling to the UK.

To find out which category you belong to, please refer to the Immigration Rules appendix V, and scroll down to Appendix 2: Visa National List: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-v-visitor-rules>

If your country of nationality **is** on the list, you are a **visa-national**.

If your country of nationality **is not** on the list you are a **non-visa national**.

Visa-nationals

Citizens of some countries must apply for Entry Clearance (a visa) to come to the UK for any purpose and for any length of time. These citizens are known as visa-nationals.

If you fall into the visa-national category you must make an application for Entry Clearance as a Short-term Student. You can apply for entry clearance in any country outside the UK, which means that you do not need to apply in a country where you usually live.

The Short-Term Study visa application must be approved and a visa issued as a sticker in your passport before you can travel to the UK.

To apply for a Short-term Study visa, visa nationals need to apply online via the Visa4UK website: <https://www.visa4uk.fco.gov.uk/>. For guidance on completing the application form, please view our guidance notes which are available here: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/international-students/visas-and-immigration/applying-for-a-student-visa-overseas/application-forms-outside-the-uk

As well as the application, you will need some supporting documents. These include:

- An **original letter from Imperial College** stating your personal details (name and CID number) and confirming the date(s) of your Medical Elective. New students will get this letter automatically when they accept an unconditional offer of a place on the course.
- **Bank Statements** covering a period of at least 6 months which prove that you have sufficient funds to support yourself during your time in the UK (we suggest at least £1265 per month that you intend to be in the country)

We highly recommend that in addition to submitting these supporting documents with your visa application, you also **carry them with you when you travel to the UK**, so that you can present them if asked to do so by an Immigration Officer at the UK Border.

Non-visa nationals

Citizens of certain countries (non-visa nationals) are able to come to the UK as a Short-term Student without first applying for Entry Clearance (a visa issued as a sticker in your passport). Instead, these citizens can be stamped in on arrival as a Short-term Student at the UK Border.

If you fall into the non-visa national category you **must make it clear to the Immigration Officer at the UK border that you are entering the UK for the purpose of study** rather than a general visit. You will not need to fill in an application form, but will be required to show the following documentation at the border:

- An **original letter from Imperial College** stating your personal details (name and CID number) and confirming the date(s) of your Medical Elective. New students will get this letter automatically when they accept an unconditional offer of a place on the course.
- **Bank Statements** covering a period of at least 6 months which prove that you have sufficient funds to support yourself during your time in the UK (we recommend at least £1265 per month that you intend to be in the country).

Further Help?

Imperial College has a team of dedicated Immigration Advisers who can advise you further about the process if you have any problems. Please ensure you have read our guidance fully before contacting us using the details given below.

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Email: international@imperial.ac.uk, Website: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/visa



International Student Support