



International Student Support

Applying for a visitor visa for your graduation

Depending on when you complete your course at NTU, you may not have enough time on your Tier 4 visa to attend your graduation ceremony. It is not possible to apply for a Tier 4 visa extension solely for the purpose of attending your graduation ceremony. Students who do not have enough time on their Tier 4 visa but want to attend their graduation ceremony are advised to return to their home country before their Tier 4 visa expires and to come back to the UK with a Standard Visitor visa.

How do I apply for a Standard Visitor Visa?

The process of obtaining a Standard Visitor visa varies depending on your nationality. Some students (referred to as non-visa nationals) are able to enter the UK as a Standard Visitor without applying for Entry Clearance (a visa) before their arrival. Others (visa nationals) are required to apply for Entry Clearance as a Standard Visitor before travelling to the UK.

To check if you need to get a visa before arriving in the UK, please visit this website: www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

How long can I come back for?

Standard visitors are allowed to stay in the UK for a maximum of 6 months.

Are there any restrictions I should be aware of?

If you enter the UK as a Standard Visitor, you are **not** entitled to:

- Work (paid, unpaid, voluntary or as part of a work placement or internship)
- Extend your visa in the UK, or switch to a different visa category from within the UK
- Bring dependants (if you want to bring family members with you, they will need to apply for their own Standard Visitor visa)

Applying for Entry Clearance (Visa Nationals)

Visa nationals are required to apply for a standard visitor visa prior to their arrival in the UK.

The visa nationals list is available by visiting www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-v-visitor-rules. To find out more about the visa application process in your country, including how to apply and the location of visa application centres, please visit this website: <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/overview>

The following is an outline of the documents that Standard visitors are required to provide in support of their application. A full and comprehensive list of supporting documents can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/visitor-visa-guide-to-supporting-documents

Documents you will need to provide:

- Complete the online application form for Standard Visitors available from www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa/apply
- Passport
- Correct fee (currently £97 in local currency)
- Bank statements or payslips to show that you have enough funds to pay for the trip and to support yourself without working or getting any help from public funds.
- If you are studying or working in your home country, evidence of your current employment or studies.
- Evidence that you intend to leave the UK at the end of your visit (for example, a letter from your employer confirming you have a job to return to).
- Invitation letter from the University to confirm you are coming back to the UK to attend your graduation ceremony

You can request this letter once you have confirmed your attendance at the graduation ceremony by sending an e-mail to NTU.graduations@ntu.ac.uk. Make sure you include your name, student ID number, home address, date of birth and the address to which the letter should be sent. Alternatively, your School Office can provide you with a letter confirming your course details and graduation ceremony dates.

Applying at the port of entry (non-visa nationals only)

Non-visa nationals can make their application on arrival in the UK. They will need to submit the above documentation (except the application form and visa fee) to the Immigration Officer at their port of entry (airport, ferry port...) and be prepared to answer any questions about their visit.