

International Student Support

Dear all,

We have produced this newsletter to provide you with information and advice which we hope you will find helpful as an international student at NTU. Please see below for information on:

- Changes to the Tier 4 visa application process in the UK
- New immigration health surcharge fee
- Police registration
- Global Week
- Mental health and wellbeing resources for international students
- Working in the UK after your studies
- Scams targeting international students
- Your BRP

Changes to the Tier 4 visa application process in the UK:

UKVI have recently changed the visa application process in the UK. After making their visa application and paying online for the application fee and immigration health surcharge, applicants are now required to book an appointment at a UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services centre where their passport, BRP and other documents in support of their application will be scanned before being returned to the applicant. The applicant's biometric details will also be taken. Appointments are available for a fee (from £60) at Nottingham Central library, or free of charge in Birmingham and Manchester. If you think you need to make a visa application, you are advised to check our website for details of the requirements you need to meet and also contact us to discuss your situation further.

New immigration health surcharge fee:

The Immigration Health Surcharge fee (IHS) is now £300 per year and £150 per half year for Tier 4 applicants and their dependants. This applies to applications made in the UK and outside of the UK and is paid when the visa application is submitted for the duration the visa will be granted for.

This leaflet is produced by:
International Student Support Service
Nottingham Trent University
Burton Street
Nottingham NG1 4BU
Tel: 0115 848 2631
Email: int.support@ntu.ac.uk
www.ntu.ac.uk/studentsupport

NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

Police Registration:

Students from certain countries are required to obtain a Police Registration Certificate when they come to the UK for more than 6 months. Please check our website for more information about who needs to register with the Police and how you can do this:

http://www4.ntu.ac.uk/student_services/international_students/other_immigration_matters/p_olice_registration/index.html

Please make sure you keep your police registration certificate up to date – you need to report to the Police any of the following changes:

- new UK address
- new passport
- new visa
- changes to your marital status

Global Week 2019:

<u>Global Week</u> will take place from **25 February to 1 March 2019**. Global Week is a vibrant, inspiring festival showcasing our multinational community on campus every year. Through art, dancing, sport and food, it connects and celebrates the different cultural heritages of our students and provides opportunities for students and staff to extend their international outlook. If you would like to get involved by running an event or having a stall for example, or you have any questions about Global Week contact the <u>NTU Global team</u>. You can also search #NTUGlobalWeek on Twitter and Instagram to see photos and posts from previous years.

Day and weekend trips with the Student's Union:

If you are keen to explore the UK, need a break from your studies and want to meet other NTU students, why not go on a trip with the Student's Union? Destinations include Oxford, York, Cambridge, Liverpool, as well as attractions such as Harry Potter Studio and Drayton Manor Park. For more details and to make a booking, visit www.trentstudents.org/trips.

Mental health and wellbeing resources for international students:

University can be a stressful time for any student, and as an international student, you may also struggle with added stress due to being far away from immediate family and long-term friends and having to adjust to a new culture. It is therefore important that you know how to look after your mental health and wellbeing. We have many resources on our health and wellbeing page to help you to build awareness about your wellbeing and the skills you need to keep your mental health in good shape:

<u>Wellbeing Resource page:</u> covers topics such as relationship advice, self-esteem building, dealing with stress, drug and alcohol support, sleep, mental health issues and many more. <u>Wellbeing podcasts</u> by the mental health foundation on mindfulness, relaxation and meditation techniques.

<u>Silver cloud</u> offers support to students to challenge negative thinking patterns and to help you build up supportive strategies to manage stress, anxiety and low mood.

<u>Wellbeing advice form</u>: if you need further support with personal, emotional or mental health difficulties or issues which are impacting on your studies and university experience, please use this form to access support.

Working in the UK after your studies:

If you are thinking of working in the UK after your studies, make sure you check the <u>Employability website</u>. From job hunting websites to information about visas and dedicated events, you will find a wide range of resources to help you look for work and understand the visa options and requirements.

Scams targeting international students:

Some criminals specifically target international students, telephoning them and pretending to be from a legitimate organisation (such as the UK Home Office). They demand money (calling it a "fine" for a non-existent immigration problem), and claim that if you do not pay them quickly, you may be deported or your visa may be cancelled.

Please note that UK Visas and Immigration do not contact students via telephone asking for payments. If UK Visas and Immigration do need to speak with a student, they will either write directly to the student themselves or to their Tier 4 Sponsor.

If you do receive a call like this, please hang up and report it to the University and the police.

- **Do not** give out any personal information, or confirm that any personal information they have is correct.
- Do not pay them any money.

Useful information:

- Find information on frauds, tricks and scams from UK Visas and Immigration
- UKCISA the UK Council for International Student Affairs
- ActionFraud the UK's national fraud and cyber crime reporting centre

Your BRP:

Just like your passport, your BRP card is a very important document and you need to make sure you keep it safe. If you lose it, you will be required to apply for a replacement, which is expensive and time consuming. It is advisable that you do not carry your BRP around with you unless you need it, for example if you are travelling outside the country or showing it to an employer. We would like to remind students that **you do not need to routinely carry ID with you in the UK.** You will need to carry your BRP with you if you are travelling outside of the UK as you will need to show it at the UK border control when you return to the UK. If you lose your BRP, please refer to <u>our guidance</u> for advice on how to replace it. Please also remember you will be required to bring your new BRP to the Student Services Centre (Newton Building, City Campus) so your student record can be updated.

If you have any further queries about the above issues, please do not hesitate to contact us: International Student Support Service

Student Services Centre, Newton building (level 0)

Enquiry desk: 1-4pm, Monday to Friday

E-mail: int.support@ntu.ac.uk / Phone: 0115 848 2631