

Technical factsheet

Freedom of movement to study in the UK or EU after the transition period

Study in the UK for EU nationals

On 31 December 2020 the transition period between the UK and EU formally closes. If your course in England started in the 2020/21 academic year, you will be able to access student finance in the normal way and for the duration of your course, provided you meet residency requirements. EU students in the UK on an Erasmus+ placement during the 2020/21 academic year may also continue their placement as normal.

Placements secured in 2020/21 and deferred to 2021/22 will not be eligible for this support. Any courses commencing after 1 August 2021 will not be eligible for home fee status or financial support from Student Finance England. Exemptions to this rule include Irish citizens in the UK or Republic of Ireland.

Residency requirements for students from the EU, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland

If you were living in the UK prior to 31 December 2020: Students can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme in order to protect their rights to stay on to study, work and access healthcare and other benefits. Applications can be made up to 30 June 2021.

If you were living in the UK after 1 January 2021: There may be changes to residency requirements and immigration status, which are subject to negotiations between the UK and EU. Students arriving from 1 January onward will need to apply for a [student visa](#) and hold a valid passport or other travel document.

No deal

A no-deal scenario would signal the end of free movement to the UK, including for EU nationals. EU students would have equal post-study work rights to non-EU nationals, with those without settled status moving to a new allowance of two years after course

completion for students at degree-awarding institutions. These students may also have the option to switch to the new 'skilled worker route' once their post-study work visa has expired.

The Common Travel Area will be unaffected, and Irish nationals will be able to enter and study in England, Scotland and Wales with no interruption.

Study in the EU for UK nationals

On 31 December 2020, the transition period between the UK and EU formally closes.

Students undertaking their entire programme of study in the EU after 31 December 2020 will not be supported by Student Finance England. Students should check their fee status with student finance authorities in the EU member state in which they intend to study. Ask the course provider's admissions office about any funding schemes, bursaries or scholarships you can apply for.

If you were living in the EU prior to 31 December 2020: UK nationals living in EU states prior to 31 December can generally access the same support as EU students in the same state.

As above, students in the EU on an Erasmus+ placements during the 2020/21 academic year may continue their placement as normal.

If you are living in the EU after 1 January 2021: Students moving to an EU state after 1 January 2021 should check the ['living in' guides](#) for visa requirements in the country of study. Students continuing their studies in the EU after 31 December 2020 will need to check with their higher education provider whether Brexit will affect them, including whether there will be a change in tuition fees.

No deal

A no-deal scenario would signal the end of free movement between the UK and EU, including for UK nationals travelling to study. UK citizens would need to obtain permission to study in the relevant EU member state before travelling.

Erasmus+ students will have their ongoing bids underwritten by a UK government guarantee in the case of a no deal scenario. As long as your project continues to be eligible, the available funding will continue until the end of your project.

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