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>>2009/2010 International Students Visa Guidelines

cbc: is committed to maintain strict policy for the endorsement of applicants to obtain entry to the UK

HOW DO I QUALIFY TO COME TO THE UNITED KINGDOM TO STUDY?

You must show that you have been accepted on a course of study at:

- > A publicly-funded institution of further or higher education (e.g. a university);
- > A private-education institution; OR
- > An independent fee-paying school

And that you are going to follow:

- > A recognised full-time degree course;
- > A course run during the week that involves at least 15 hours of organised daytime study a week; OR
- > A full-time course of study at an independent fee-paying school.

You must also:

- > Be able to pay for your course and support and accommodate yourself and any dependants without working* or help from public funds; AND
- > Plan to leave the UK when you complete your studies.
 *Also see section on **Am I allowed to work?**

If you are a VISA NATIONAL, you will need a visa to enter the UK. If you are not a visa national, you will find it helpful to carry documents with you which show immigration officers that you meet the requirements for entering the UK as a student.

WHAT ARE PUBLIC FUNDS?

If you come to live or stay in the UK, you must be able to support and accommodate yourself without claiming certain state benefits. These are:

- > Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance
- > Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit
- > A social fund payment
- > Any disability allowance
- > Housing and homelessness assistance
- > Working Families Tax Credit
- > Child benefit

If you are already studying here, you can apply to extend your stay as a student.

If you did not enter the UK as a student, you may apply to stay on for studies as long as you are a non-visa national.

If you are a visa national, you cannot stay on as a student unless you entered the UK with a student or prospective student visa.

HOW DO I APPLY?

You will need to complete an application form. Applications (except for those for asylum and work permits or under European Community law) will not be valid unless they are made on the appropriate application form. You can get copies of this form on the website www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk or from your nearest British Embassy.

If you are not sure which application form you should complete, the Application Forms Unit will be able to help you. You can telephone them on UK **0870 241 0645**

You should send the completed form by post to the address given with your visa application form.

The application form will give details of all the documents you will need to send with your application and where you should send it.

All documents should be originals unless you have a good reason as to why you cannot produce them with your application. They do not normally accept photocopies.

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AM I ALLOWED TO WORK?

You may take part-time or holiday work but you must not:

- > Work for more than 20 hours per week during term time, unless your work placement is part of your studies and your education institution agrees;
- > Do business, be self-employed or provide services as a professional sports person or entertainer;
- > Work full time in a permanent job.

CAN I BRING MY HUSBAND/WIFE AND CHILDREN WITH ME?

Your husband/wife and any of your children under 18 can come to the UK with you during your studies as long as you can support and accommodate them without help from public funds.

*Please note the **cbc:** policy is that your spouse and any dependents must accompany you to Bristol and remain with you for the duration of your studies. If you arrive to register without them your acceptance to enrol will be withdrawn and you will be repatriated to your country of origin immediately.

IS MY HUSBAND/WIFE ALLOWED TO WORK?

Your husband/wife will only be allowed to work if you were given permission to stay in the UK for 12 months or more.

CAN I COME TO THE UK TO ARRANGE MY STUDIES?

You may come to the UK as a prospective student to arrange your studies for up to 6 months. You will need to show that:

- > You plan to enrol on a course of study within 6 months of arriving;
- > You can pay for your course and support and accommodate yourself and any dependants without working or help from public funds;
- > You plan to leave the UK when you finish your studies or when your permission to stay ends if you are not able to qualify to stay in the UK as a student.

If you are a visa national, you will need to apply for a visa as a prospective student before you travel.

CAN I GET MEDICAL TREATMENT?

If you come from a country with a health-care agreement with the UK, or are enrolled on a course for 6 months or more, you may be able to get medical treatment on the National Health Service (NHS).

Short-term students who are here for less than 6 months and visitors are not entitled to free medical treatment and you will be charged for any treatment you receive. Please ensure that you have enough health insurance to cover your stay.

You can get more information from the Department of Health:

Website www.doh.gov.uk/overseasvisitors Telephone **44 (0)20 7210 4850** e-mail dhmail@doh.gsi.gov.uk

DO I HAVE TO REGISTER WITH THE POLICE?

If you have to register with the police, it will be stamped as a requirement on your passport (after submitting an application for a visa). You must register within 7 days of arriving in the UK.

For further information:

Please see your nearest British Embassy or write to;

The Visa Correspondence Unit, Joint Entry Clearance Unit, 89 Albert Embankment, LONDON SE1 7TP UK
 General Enquiries: **44 (0)20 7238 3838** Application Forms: **44 (0)20 7238 3858**