

International Student Support Service

Applying for more time in the UK as a Student dependant

Date: November 2021

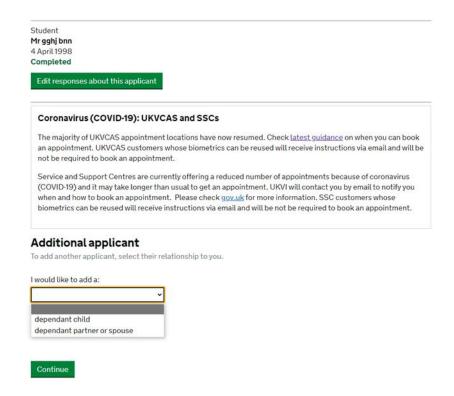
1. Introduction

This guidance note provides information about how your family members who are already in the UK can apply to extend their visas as a Student dependant. Please note, only certain family members can stay in the UK as your dependants – you must check the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) requirements to see if your family members are eligible to apply from within the UK. For more information about whether your family members can make an application in the UK as your dependants, please consult the UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) website. For information about applying as a Student dependant outside the UK, please refer to the UKVI website.

2. Making the application

2.1 Adding dependants to your Student visa application

If you are making a Student visa application in the UK, you will use the <u>Student visa online</u> <u>application</u>. If you are including dependants with your application, you will add them to the same form, after you have completed your own sections of the application.



2.2 Completing the dependant sections on the Student visa application

You will be required to provide the following information for each dependant:

- Personal information (name, date of birth, nationality)
- Contact details: the form will ask you to confirm if you wish to use the same contact

details as the student's

- Relationship details
- Passport details
- Immigration status
- Child dependants: confirming they do not live an independent life, and that both parents are lawfully present in the UK, school/college address if in education
- BRP (If applicable)
- National Insurance Number (if you have one)
- Immigration history (previous visa refusals, immigration breaches)
- Public funds
- Convictions and other penalties, criminal activities

2.3 Documents required

Document	To be provided by
Current passport	All applicants
Current BRP	All applicants who have a BRP
Police Registration Certificate	All applicants required to register with the police
Personal bank statements (see below for further guidance on bank statements which can be used by dependants)	Applicants who use their personal funds to pay for their studies and living costs
Official sponsorship letter	Applicants who have an official financial sponsor (eg, their government) who also provides funding for their family members
Proof of address (e.g. utility/council tax bill, bank statement)	Dependants over the age of 16.
Proof of relationship (birth / marriage certificate)	Dependants who have not provided this evidence before in a previous application

Differential evidence requirement:

If you are a national of a country listed under section ST22.1 of the <u>Appendix Student</u>, you will not be required to provide evidence of your qualifications or finances when you submit

your Student visa application. However, you must ensure that you meet all of the requirements when making your application as you may be requested to submit evidence at a later stage. This also applies to your dependants' financial evidence if they are applying at the same time as you.

3. Financial requirement for dependants

Students who are making their Student visa application from the UK and who have been living in the UK for 12 months or more when they apply do not need to prove that they meet the financial requirement. This also applies to their dependants.

If the above does not apply to you, your dependants must show that they have at least £680 for each month their new visa will be granted for, up to a maximum of £6,120 (9 months). For example, if you have 2 dependants and you are applying for a visa for a 12-month course, you will have to show that you have £12,240 in savings for your dependants in addition to your own living costs and course fees.

The money can be held in either the dependant's bank account or in the lead applicant's (the student's) account. If you have an official financial sponsor (e.g. your government) who pays for all of the dependants' living costs, you will need to provide a letter confirming this. Make sure the official financial sponsorship letter includes your dependants' names and covers the full duration that the visa will be extended for.

You will need to provide either of the following documents to demonstrate that your dependant meets the financial requirement:

Your dependant's personal bank statements, or the lead applicant's (the student's) personal bank statements:

- Must show that the required amount of money has been held in the bank account for at least 28 days continuously
- Must show a closing balance dated less than 31 days before the application is made
- Must show the dependant's name (or the lead applicant's name)
- If not in English, must be accompanied by a fully certified translation by a professional translator
- Check the GOV.UK website for full details on financial evidence

Official financial sponsorship letter (e.g. from your Government):

- Must confirm that the official financial sponsor will cover the living costs for all family members
- Must include the dependants' names

4. Visa Application fee for dependants

The fee for your dependants' applications (£475 per dependant for a standard application made in the UK) will be added to your application fee and you will be required to pay the total fee online once you have finished completing the Student visa application online. In addition, dependants will be required to pay the "immigration health surcharge". The fee is calculated according to the length of visa you are applying for. The fee is £470 per year for each dependant, plus £235 per part year (up to 6 months). You can use the Immigration Surcharge Tool to check how much you will have to pay.

You will be directed to the payment page for the Immigration Health Surcharge before you pay for your visa application fee. Once the payment has been made, a reference number will be generated and printed on your visa application cover sheet.

Once you have submitted the application online, you will be required to register yourself and your dependants on the <u>UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services website</u> in order to submit your documents and biometric details. You will either be asked to use an app to upload your documents, or to book an appointment at a visa application centre for you and your family members. Please check the <u>UKVCAS website</u> for further information.

5. Further information and guidance

Check the <u>UK Council for International Student Affairs' website</u> (UKCISA) for more detailed information about the eligibility criteria and requirement for dependants.

Visit the GOV.UK website for full details of requirements for Student dependants.

Students making visa applications within the UK should take advice from the International Student Support Service prior to submitting their application. The International Student Support Service offers a comprehensive service, including information sessions and an application checking service. Full details are available on the StudentHub.