eVisa FAQs

What is an eVisa?

An eVisa is an electronic record of a person's immigration status. It is a secure, convenient and easy way of proving a person's immigration status online.

Who requires an eVisa?

Any person that would have otherwise held a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) to evidence their immigration status in the UK will need access to their eVisa. As a student, you will need your eVisa to prove your right to study in the UK.

How will I know that my application was successful and I have an eVisa?

You will receive a letter or an email notifying you that your visa application was successful. The letter will also instruct you to create your UKVI account. Non-EU nationals may also receive a sticker (Entry Clearance Vignette) in their Passport.

Note: Your ECV does not cover the full duration of your visa. It is for a short period allowing you to travel to the UK. You must not attempt to travel before the 'valid from' date. Your travel must be within the validity of your ECV. i.e between the 'valid from' and 'valid until' date on your ECV.

I have just received a successful decision on my visa. How do I access my eVisa?

Irrespective of whether you have received an Entry Clearance Vignette (ECV) or not, you will need to create your UKVI account through the website: Get access to your online immigration status (eVisa) - GOV.UK

Ensure that you have the following information/documents at hand before attempting to create your account:

•   Your date of birth

•   Your GWF (Global Web Reference) reference number. This number is mentioned in the subject line of your visa decision letter.

•   Your passport

•   Access to your email address and phone number

•   Access to a smartphone

Once you have created your UKVI account, you can login and access your eVisa.

What details does an eVisa contain?

eVisas contain important immigration about your immigration status. It shows your name, your immigration category (status), permission dates (valid from and until), conditions of

your visa (what you can and cannot do in the UK) and the name of the sponsor institution.

I notice an error with the information on my eVisa. What do I do?

If you notice an error on your eVisa, you should report it using the link Report an error with your eVisa - GOV.UK. Please note that it could take up to 2 weeks for an error to be rectified.

I hold a valid BRP. Do I qualify for exemptions from eVisas and UKVI accounts?

As the UKVI have confirmed their transition to a digital system, BRPs will not be considered a valid document for your permission to stay. You are required to access your eVisa via the Governments website and link your passport to your eVisa.

Can someone else manage the set up of my eVisa?

You must have your **own** UKVI account. If you are a child under 18yrs of age and cannot create and manage your own account, in these instances your parent or your legal guardian can do so on your behalf. Once you turn 18, the account can be transferred by updating the contact details (phone number and email address) on the account. Visit Online immigration status (eVisa) - GOV.UK for more information creating a UKVI account for a child.

What do I need to do if I already have an eVisa?

If you have an eVisa, you must ensure that all your details are accurate and up to date including your name, phone number, email address, contact address. Your eVisa must always be linked to your current (valid) passport and your eVisa must also hold up to date information about your contact details

I have more than one nationality. What do I do?

Your eVisa is linked to your passport. If you hold more than one nationality, ensure you use your passport linked to your UKVI account for travel or add details of your other passports to your UKVI account.

I have access to my eVisa, how do I prove my right to study, live, work in the UK?

To prove your immigration status, you are required to generate a share code using the government's website View and prove your immigration status: get a share code - GOV.UK. As a student needing to confirm your visa to the sponsor institution, you must select 'other' as the reason for generating the Share code. Share codes are valid for 90 days. The party needing to verify your status will then use the Share code on the Governments website Check someone's immigration status: use their share code - GOV.UK to confirm your right to study, live or work in the UK.

How do I prove my immigration status while travelling?

If you hold an eVisa, you must ensure that their eVisa is linked to the passport details that you intend to travel with. You can do so by using the 'update my details' service on your UKVI account. It is recommended that you generate your share code prior to travel and carry it with you. This will help you in situations where you might not have internet connectivity, or the airline is unable to use the UKVI system. From 1st January 2025, most airline, Ferry and Rail providers should have automatic access to passengers eVisa status

through the integrated Advance Passenger Information system (iAPI). However, during the transition stage, it is recommended that you carry the documents/information below (and present to the Immigration officer if required) while you travel.

- current BRP
- Visa decision letter (you should have received it when your visa was first granted)
- A copy of your current immigration status (viewing screen from your UKVI account)
- Share code from the view and prove service (get this before you travel due to 90 days validity)

Important links

• Create a UKVI account to get access to your e-Visa: Get access to your online immigration status (eVisa) - GOV.UK

• Create your UKVI account (video guide): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IqAbBCfBYI

• Update your UK Visas and Immigration account details: Update your UK Visas and Immigration account details: Overview - GOV.UK

• Reporting errors: Report an error with your eVisa - GOV.UK

• View and prove your immigration status: get a share code - GOV.UK

• Home Office on travel with your eVisa: https://youtu.be/xdZLXvfau2A?feature=shared