

Quick Guide to UK visas for Visitors

Purpose of visit	Visa type	Maximum length	Who is this type of visa for	Rules and restrictions	Document needed from University	Department to contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend meetings, conference, interview or training (not to conduct/present training) Can attend meetings to share knowledge or experience but NOT be conducting research Accompany students on study abroad 	Standard Visitor (Business Visitor)	6 months	For ANY person. Also includes one-off events e.g. University Open Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot receive payment from UK source except for reasonable expense/subsistence Cannot extend for more time 	Invitation letter	International CampusLife / Legal Services
An established academic coming to undertake research	Standard Visitor (Academic Visitor)	6 or 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be an established academic employed in a research or teaching role at an academic establishment Excludes students, Research Assistants/Officers, those employed by private research companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot receive payment from UK source except for reasonable expense/subsistence 	Invitation letter	Human Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give guest lectures Examine students or be part of selection panel as a highly qualified academic 	Standard Visitor (Permitted Paid Engagement)	1 month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert in their profession who are invited to deliver lectures or be part of a viva Cannot extend for more time or switch visa category in UK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can receive payment Cannot extend for more time 	Invitation letter	Human Resources
To undertake work experience, training or collaborative research at Swansea University	Tier 5 (Government Authorised Exchange)	1-2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes Erasmus work placement students with funding from home university Highly limited certificates per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for T5 overseas before coming to the UK Must be paid national minimum wage (unless exempt) 	Certificate of sponsorship (CoS)	Human Resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student exchange Fee-paying visiting undergraduate students 	Short-term Student (STS) visa or Tier 4 visa	Up to one academic year	For students coming for exchange courses, there must be agreement in place with University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must show own funds when applying for visa Cannot work or extend for more time with STS visa Restricted work on T4 	Short-term student visa letter OR Confirmation of Acceptance of Study (CAS) for Tier 4 visa	International Development Office (IDO)
Visiting (postgraduate) research students	Short-term Student (STS) visa or Tier 4 visa	6 months or longer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For students who are enrolled on a full-time course overseas and are coming to learn about research which is part of their course overseas If less than 1 calendar month, no fees at College discretion If longer than 1 month, fees charged at pro rata rate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must show own funds when applying for visa Cannot work or extend for more time with STS visa Restricted work on T4 	Short-term student visa letter OR Confirmation of Acceptance of Study (CAS) for Tier 4 visa	Admissions Office