



As an international student many of you will hold a Tier 4 General visa which is granted to cover the full length of your course. If you are studying at Bachelor degree level or above your visa will usually be granted with an additional 4 months after your official course end date.

I have completed my course but my visa expires before my graduation. What are my options?

If you have completed your course and your visa expires before your graduation, you have the option to apply for a Standard Visitor visa. This visa permits entry to the UK for up to 6 months for tourism and leisure purposes (but cannot be used to enter the UK for the purpose of studying at LSBU). Please note that holders of a Standard Visitor visa are not entitled to medical treatment from the NHS or access to state-funded schooling.

To apply for this visa you need to:

- apply from outside of the UK
- be able to support yourself for the duration of your trip
- be able to pay for your return trip.

I want to apply for a Standard Visitor visa. What documents will I need to prepare?

The application for a Standard Visitor visa can vary in different countries so it is also a good idea to contact the British embassy or high commission in your home country for advice on how to apply. You can find relevant contact details [here](#).

The requirements of the Standard Visitor visa, together with how to apply for it can be found here: www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa

Please read the [guide to supporting documents](#) for detailed information:

VFS Global also provides some country specific information. Select the relevant country from the left-hand side: www.vfsglobal.com.

As a guide you will need to provide:

- A current passport or other valid travel identification.
- Previous passports (if you have them) to demonstrate your travel history.
- [Completed online application form](#)
- [Application fee](#)
- Evidence that you can support yourself financially during your trip e.g. bank statements, payslips for the last 6 months. If someone else is paying for your trip then they should provide the same information about their finances.

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Immigration and International Student Advice

Admissions & Recruitment Centre (ARC), Southwark Campus

T: +44 (0)20 7815 7037 / 6156

E: international.advice@lsbu.ac.uk

W: www.lsbu.ac.uk/international/visas-and-immigration/advice-team



- Details of your travel plans. This should include details of your accommodation in the UK and your flight details showing the date you intend to leave the UK at the end of your trip. If you are intending to stay with family or friends during your visit it is advisable to include a supporting letter from them confirming that you are able to stay there.
- Confirmation that you have registered for your graduation ceremony. [See our website for more information about this.](#)

I want to invite my family and friends from abroad to attend my graduation. What visa should they apply for?

Your family and friends can also apply for a Standard Visitor visa. You can read more information in our How to Guide '[Inviting friends and family to visit](#)'

I have not completed my course yet and my visa will expire. What are my options?

If you have not yet completed your course and your visa will expire before you finish your studies:

- Please read our guidance on My LSBU on 'Extending your visa' as a Tier 4 student.
- Understand the requirements of the Tier 4 General visa by reading the current policy guidance:
www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/overview
www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-application-for-uk-visa-as-tier-4-student
- Complete the CAS request form and return it to us with all the specified documents:

Questions?

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact the [Immigration and International Student Advice team](#) who can advise you further.

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