

For the attention of all agents working with UK Universities:

As United Kingdom Visas and Immigration (UKVI) have announced that [visa vignette stickers will be decommissioned from 15 July 2025 onwards](#), it is now extremely important that all successful Student visa holders create their UKVI account and access their eVisa before they travel to the UK. Students may be denied boarding and be unable to travel if they do not create their UKVI account and access their eVisa ahead of their flight to the UK.

To support you in providing communications to students, we have prepared the following instructions for students to follow before they travel to the UK. We would be grateful if you could share the information below with all students so that we can work together to ensure that students have a stress-free journey to the UK, avoiding travel delays and enrolment issues.

If any students experience issues at the airport when travelling to the UK or if they are being denied boarding due to having no visa vignette sticker in their passport, students should direct the airline staff to view the [UK Government's Charging Procedures: A Guide for Carriers](#), particularly **Section 10: Support for Carriers**, which explains what airlines should do if they are unsure about whether or not someone has the right permission to travel to the UK.

Airlines have 24/7 access to the **Carrier Support Hub** if they have queries or concerns about a passenger's permission to travel to the UK.

Part 1: Set up your UKVI account and link your passport

1. Go to www.gov.uk/get-access-evisa, scroll down and click the green “start now” button.

You cannot get access to an eVisa if you:

- have a visa for less than 6 months, such as a visitor visa
- have an EU Settlement Scheme family permit
- have an electronic travel authorisation (ETA)
- are exempt from immigration control, including if you're a diplomat or have 'right of abode'

Start now >

2. Give your name, date of birth, etc, and ask it to send your verification code

to your **email address**.

3. Use your **passport** to create the account. You will also need a visa application reference number (this will start with **GWF** or **UAN**).
4. Download the “UK Immigration: ID Check” app. If your phone cannot download this app, you may need to use a different phone (Android 8.0 or above & NFC function, or an iPhone 7, 7 Plus or newer). You can use a phone that is owned by a friend or family member.

UK Immigration: ID Check

UK Visas and Immigration

3.2★
1,846 reviews



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5. Scan your passport using the app, follow the instructions and complete the ID verification process. If your passport has the biometric chip symbol, you can scan the biometric chip.

If your passport does not have a biometric chip, you may have to scan it several times before the app will let you skip the process.



6. You may be given access to your eVisa quickly, or it could take several days. You will get an email once your eVisa access is granted. [Check your eVisa is linked to your current passport by using the Update Your Details page](#) on the UK Government website.

7. Once your access is granted, you can generate a share code and use your eVisa to travel to the UK. Read Part 2 for full guidance on how to generate a share code.

Part 2: Create a Share Code

Before you can make a share code, you must have set up your UKVI account and the Home Office must have given you access to your eVisa.

1. Go to <https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status> and click the green “start now” link.

View or prove your immigration status

You'll need:

- details of the identity document you use to sign in to your UKVI account (your passport, national identity card, or biometric residence card or permit)
- your date of birth
- access to the mobile number or email address you use to sign in to your UKVI account - you'll be sent a code for signing in

Start now >

2. On the next screen, click “Passport”, then continue.
3. When asked which share code you need, do not choose the “Work” or “Rent” options; you need to choose “**Other**”.
4. Your new share code should then be created. Your share code should start with the letter “**S**” and should consist of a string of 9 letters and numbers.
5. Log on to your **CAS Shield** account. Scroll down to the “Travel Docs” section. Go to “Digital Immigration Status”. Type and save your new share code there.
6. You may also need to show your share code at the airport. If airline staff say you cannot board the plane even though you have received a Student visa, you can politely direct them to read the [UK Government's Charging Procedures: A Guide for Carriers](#), particularly **Section 10: Support for Carriers**, which explains what airlines should do if they are unsure about whether or not

someone has the right permission to travel to the UK. Airlines have 24/7 access to the **Carrier Support Hub** if they have queries or concerns about a passenger's permission to travel to the UK.

7. Once you arrive in the UK, attend an enrolment event and sit with one of the visa check team so they can check your passport and your eVisa at the same time.