

Brexit Immigration Briefing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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I have already obtained an EU permanent residence document, will I still need to apply for settled status?

Yes – The process of applying via the EU Settlement Scheme applies to all EU citizens who have EU issued documents. You can change your permanent residence document to settled status by applying via EU Settlement Scheme. You will not have to pay or prove you have 5 years' continuous residence. You will need the reference number on your PR document.

Can I appeal decisions made in respect of the settlement scheme?

There is a statutory appeals process in place to appeal decisions made in relation to granting settled status. This will cease to exist in the event of a no-deal scenario.

I can no longer access the permanent residence application form. Is this still available?

Yes – the EEA PR form is available via the [Home Office webpage](#).

Are there any limitations to the time I can spend outside the UK once I have received settled status?

Once you have obtained settled status you have the right to live and remain in the UK, provided you are not away from the UK for more than 5 years. Individuals will only need to visit the UK during the 5 year threshold to retain settled status.

Are there other off-line options for applying for settled status for those that don't have access to a computer?

There are no paper forms available. Applications can be made via the online application form and by downloading the EU Exit: ID Document Check app available on android devices.

However, the Home Office have introduced [Assisted Digital support](#) to use the EU Settlement Scheme online application form if you're in the UK and do not have the appropriate access, skills or confidence to complete the form. There are a number of locations across the UK that will offer this service. There are also locations across the UK where individuals can get their ID checked and verified. Further details will be published on the University's Brexit webpage in due course.

I cannot access an android device. By the time the scheme is fully open in March 2019 will it be compatible with apple devices?

The Home Office are looking into compatibility issues with other models. The University are currently trying to purchase android devices and these will be made accessible for individuals wishing to make an application under the settlement scheme. Further details will be published on the Brexit webpages.

Can you backdate settled status?

No. Unlike the permanent residence scheme where EEA nationals who have resided in the UK for longer than five years are able to have their permanent residence backdated to the point at which

they completed five years in the UK, this is not possible with settled status. This has implications for individuals who may want to go on to apply for UK citizenship as they may be able to obtain this earlier under the permanent residence route.

What documents should I have with me when I travel to and from the UK?

It is recommended at the moment for individuals to keep a copy of the email from the Home Office confirming their settlement status. Although this won't be a formal requirement in the long term, it is advisable in the short term.

I have never worked in the UK, how can I prove my continuous residence?

Individuals must provide evidence that they have lived in the UK for 5 years in order to be granted settled status. If you do not have a National Insurance number to prove residence you will have the option to upload or send to the Home Office relevant documents to prove your residence. These could include bank statements, mortgage documents, council tax bills, P60's rental agreements, GP registrations, maternity notes, utility bills. Annex A at page 70 of the Home Office [EU Settlement Scheme Caseworker Guidance](#) provides a full list of acceptable documents the Individuals who struggle to provide evidence should seek further advice.