

Brexit comms to outgoing EEA students

To be sent to all outgoing EEA and Swiss students (but not Irish) in 2020/21 academic year

Subject line:

Brexit transition for EEA/Swiss students spending a period of study abroad outside of the UK

You have received this email because you are an EEA (or Swiss) national and are set to spend a period of time studying outside of the UK in the academic year 2020/21.

If you have dual nationality and one of them is 'UK citizen' or 'Irish', then no action is required and you do not need to read the rest of this email.

We would like to remind you that the Brexit transitional period will end at 11pm (GMT) on 31 December 2020. **As you have been a UK resident since the start of your course** (even if you are currently in your home country for a short visit), we trust that many of you have already secured 'Settled' or 'Pre-settled' status under the EU Settlement Scheme. If you haven't, we would advise that you apply for the EU Settlement Scheme as soon as possible, with an aim to obtain the status before 31 December 2020.

The official deadline for applying is 30 June 2021, but we recommend that you apply in 2020 so that you can continue travel in and out of the UK freely after the Brexit transition period. The application is free and the application process is fairly straight forward, and you can find step-by-step guidance and useful information on our [EEA National website](#).

If you have already applied and received 'Settled' status, there is no need to read on and we wish you the best of luck in your study abroad period.

If you have not lived in the UK continuously for 5 years, you should receive a 'Pre-settled' status. There are some important information that you need to be aware if you are eligible or have received 'Pre-settled' status.

1. Once you receive 'Pre-Settled' status, you can travel in and out of the UK freely as you do now, even after the Brexit transition period ends on 31 December 2020.
2. Your 'Pre-settled' status is valid for 5 years from the date it is granted. It will remain valid until its stated expiry date even if you decide to leave the UK after graduation. However, if you are absent from the UK for a continuous period of 2 years since receiving this status, it will be lost.
3. Once you have lived in the UK for a continuous period of 5 years, you can apply for 'Settled' status. You can apply as soon as you qualify, and you do not need to wait until the expiry date of your 'Pre-settled' status.

4. If you intend to apply for 'Settled' status after 5 years of continuous residency in the UK, you will need to meet the residency requirement at that point. This means you can be absent from the UK for a single period of up to 12 months for the purpose of taking up your study abroad year (this is one of the accepted reasons for permitted absence). Apart from that, you cannot have further absence of more than 6 months in any given 12 months period during this 5-year period.

We hope you find this information useful and if you require any personalised advice, please contact us:

<https://warwick.ac.uk/study/international/immigration/>

All the best,

Student Immigration & Compliance Team