

Resitting exams and your Student Visa

0:05

This presentation is for students enrolled on postgraduate talk courses who are required to resit exams before they can complete their course.

0:15

If you have been given an extension to submit your dissertation, please refer to our other presentation.

0:25

Before making an application to extend your student visa, we'd encourage you to consider the following points.

0:34

If you want to apply for a graduate visa, you'll need to have a valid student visa at the point you become eligible to apply.

0:42

If your final qualification won't be awarded before your current student visa expires because of the date of the exam board, then you'll need to extend your student visa.

0:54

Some departments may offer their students the opportunity to reset examinations overseas.

1:02

This might be of interest to you if you don't want to apply for a graduate visa or stay in the UK until your course has ended.

1:11

You don't need to have a valid student visa to complete your course overseas, but you will need to leave the UK before your visa expires and sit your exams remotely.

1:24

Think carefully before applying to extend your student visa.

1:29

Do you have a job offer with an employer who could potentially sponsor your skilled worker visa?

1:34

Or are you considering a PhD and would be better off applying for a three-year graduate visa later on?

1:42

Are you eligible to extend your visa inside the UK or would it mean returning home?

1:49

If you're having trouble understanding your options, then our team of friendly advisors are here to help.

2:01

Home Office regulations regarding academic engagement dictate which students can apply to extend their visa from inside the UK and which will need to apply from overseas.

2:15

To be eligible to extend your student visa from inside the UK, there must be fewer than 60 days between the end date of your current student visa and your first exam.

2:30

Where you are required to retake more than one exam, there must be fewer than 60 days between each exam.

2:40

If there are more than 60 days between the end date of your current student visa and your first exam, then you are not eligible to extend your student visa from inside the UK and must return home to apply.

2:58

This also applies if you're required to retake more than one exam and there are more than 60 days between each exam.

3:10

If you have multiple exams scheduled for across the year then please contact us for individual advice.

3:23

If applying to extend your student visa from inside the UK, you'll need to make this application before your last exam and before the expiry date of your current visa, whichever is sooner.

3:39

You still need an academic reason to extend your student visa, so we can't assign a new CAS after you've taken the exam.

3:50

If you are overseas, you'll need to return to the UK and make your visa application before the date of your last exam.

4:01

If eligible to apply from inside the UK, then you'll need to be in the UK when you apply.

4:09

You'll need to stay here while the application is under consideration and not travel until a decision has been made.

4:18

You'll need to request a new CAS via our website, but we can't assign a new CAS before your student status has been updated and your course end date changed.

4:30

Please don't contact us for a new CAS before this has happened.

4:36

Complete the online application form to extend your student visa using the guidance on our website.

4:42

If needed, pay the visa application fee and immigration health surcharge for the period of leave you're applying for.

4:51

Submit the application and then wait for the outcome.

4:59

If applying to extend your student visa overseas, you'll need to leave the UK before the expiry date of your current visa and provide us with evidence of your departure.

5:12

You can apply for a new student visa at any point, but we advise you consider the visa processing times where you are schedule your application so there will be enough time for you to receive your new visa and return to the UK by the date you are required for your exam.

5:33

The student visa application can be made in your home country or any country where you hold a valid residence permit.

5:41

You can't, however, apply from a country where you only have immigration permission as a visitor.

5:49

You'll need to request a new CAS via our website, but we can't assign a new CAS before your student status has been updated and your course end date changed.

6:01

Please don't contact us for a new CAS before this has happened.

6:07

Complete the online application form for a new student visa using the guidance on our website.

6:13

If needed, pay the visa application fee and Immigration Health Surcharge for the period of leave you're applying for and submit the application.

6:24

If granted, ensure that you return to the UK before the latest arrival date stated on your new CAS.

6:36

If you don't want to apply to extend your student visa but can't complete your resits remotely or within the duration of your current visa, then a visit visa might be a better option.

6:51

A visit visa can be granted for up to six months.

6:54

It allows the holder to take resit exams and study on courses of fewer than six months duration.

7:03

Leave as a visitor cannot be extended and you can't switch to another visa category while inside the UK. A visit visa does not confer work rights, so you can't work while in the UK on a visit visa, nor can you switch into a work route while inside the UK.

7:24

If you use a visit visa to complete your RESIT exam, you won't be eligible to apply for a graduate visa after your award has been conferred.

7:35

This is because one of the graduate visa criteria is that you hold a valid student visa at the point of application.

7:45

You can't switch into the visitor route from inside the UK so will need to leave before your current student visa expires and then re enter as a visitor visa.

7:57

Nationals can apply online from any country in advance of travel to the UK.

8:04

Visits to the UK of fewer than six months do not incur the Immigration Health surcharge.

8:11

EU and non visa nationals can enter the UK as a visitor using just their passport without prior application.

8:24

Applying for a graduate visa?

8:27

Your qualification must be conferred, that means awarded before you're eligible to apply for a graduate visa.

8:36

If the final outcome is a lower qualification, such as a diploma or postgraduate certificate, you won't meet the successful course completion criteria to apply for a graduate visa.

8:49

You'll need to consider other visa options if you'd like to stay in the UK beyond the end date of your student visa.

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After your qualification has been conferred and this information updated to your student record, an automated report will inform the Home Office of your successful course completion.

9:11

We will contact you by e-mail to confirm this report has been made and that you are eligible to apply for a graduate visa.

9:19

You then have until the date your student visa expires to make an application for a graduate visa, assuming that you also meet the other application criteria.

9:31

You can only make this application from inside the UK, so if you are overseas when your reward is conferred, you'll need to return to the UK and apply before your visa expires.

9:44

Complete the application form online and pay the fee and immigration health surcharge.

9:51

You'll have to stay in the UK while the application is being considered and not travel until you've had a decision.

9:59

If your application is approved, your graduate visa will allow you to work in most jobs in the UK, to be self-employed or undertake voluntary work.

10:10

There's no restriction on the number of hours you can work or the number of employers you can work for.

10:17

You can't extend the graduate visa, so you'll either need to switch into another visa route or exit the UK before your leave expires.

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Further advice can be found on our website at the link shown on screen.

10:36

This includes how to request a new CAS, tell us about a visa application or if you've left the UK.

10:45

If you have a query, we'd love to hear from you via our contact form, also located on this web page.