WHY STUDY IN THE UK?

We are recommended
The UK is the most recommended English-speaking destination by overseas students.

Students across all levels of study are at least 90% satisfied with their experience in the UK, meaning the UK has the highest international student experience satisfaction ratings for English-speaking countries.

The UK is one of the most popular global study destinations.

For high quality education
UK higher education sector is among the best in the world and consistently performs well in world rankings. For example, in Times Higher World University rankings, UK universities have:

• 3 in the top 10
• 7 in the top 50
• 31 in the top 200
• 93 in the top 1,000

The UK is a world leader in the quality and impact of its research. The UK has a world-class reputation in terms of standards and quality.

Students at UK universities express the highest levels of satisfaction regarding their learning experience.

We are international
Nearly one in every five students at UK universities are from outside the UK – that’s over 442,200 students.

There are more than 125,500 EU students currently studying at UK universities, making up over 5% of the entire student body.

More than 29% of the UK’s university academic staff are from outside the UK - that’s around 58,000 people from over 180 countries supporting a global, outward-looking culture on campuses.

For your future
A UK higher education qualification is highly regarded by employers across the globe.

Overseas students gain a world-leading education, but they also make life-long friends and lasting personal and professional connections with people from all over the world.

A good investment
Studying in the UK is more affordable than studying in the USA or in Australia – other popular English-language choices.

Current exchange rates make the UK an even more attractive choice financially.
But what about Brexit?

- Regardless of whether the UK is in or outside the European Union (EU), UK universities are international communities, welcoming and benefiting from students from all over the world. EU and international staff and students are and will always be an integral part of university life.

- The UK’s relationship with the EU is changing as a result of the UK vote to leave, but it is not ending – staff and students from the EU will continue to be welcome.

- The UK Government started the two-year negotiation process for leaving the EU on 29 March 2017, meaning that the UK is due to leave the EU in March 2019. Until the exit negotiations have been completed, the UK will continue to be a member of the EU, meaning it will maintain the same rights and obligations as all the other member states.

- While the UK remains a member of the EU, students studying at UK universities will continue to pay the same fees as UK students and will be eligible for tuition fee loans and grants.

What about fees after Brexit?

- **Current EU students**
  EU students applying to courses starting in 2018–19, that meet the eligibility criteria under the current rules, will be eligible to pay the same fees as home fee status students.

  EU students attending universities in England and Wales who meet the criteria to receive loans and grants from the Student Loans Company will continue to do so for the duration of courses they are currently enrolled on. This has been confirmed by the [Student Loans Company](https://www.gov.uk/student-loans) for England, and by [Welsh Government](https://www.gov.wales) for Wales.

  Students from EU member states applying for undergraduate degrees at Scottish universities are eligible for free tuition. For EU students attending a university in Scotland, the [Scottish government](https://www.gov.scot) and Universities Scotland have confirmed that there has been no change in current funding arrangements.

  In Northern Ireland, the government has issued a [statement](https://www.gsi.ni.gov.uk) confirming that EU nationals currently receiving student loans from Student Finance Northern Ireland will continue to receive these loans and grants.

  This guarantee will apply for the full duration of the course, even if the course finishes after the UK has left the EU.

- **Those starting once the UK has left the EU**
  The fees for EU students starting courses at UK universities from 2019–20 (after the UK has left the EU), and the entitlement to financial support has yet to be determined.

  UK universities are, and will continue to, promote the positive impact that EU students make to UK higher education and British students. Regardless of the outcome of the Brexit negotiations, students from all corners of the world will continue to be welcome.

  Universities UK is asking the government, as a priority, to extend its guarantee to cover 2019–2020 entrants.

- **For PhD students**
  EU nationals starting courses in the current academic year 2018–19 will continue to be eligible for Research Council PhD studentships to help fund their studies for the full duration of their course. This will be the case even if the course finishes after the UK has left the European Union.
Can EU students continue to come to the UK on the Erasmus+ exchange programme?

Yes. Current Erasmus+ students, including those taking part during the 2017–18 and 2018–19 academic years at UK universities will still be eligible to participate in Erasmus+ exchanges.

The UK Government has confirmed it will underwrite grant agreements for Erasmus+ signed while the UK is still a Member State, even if payments continue beyond the point of the UK’s EU exit in March 2019. This means that UK universities are preparing for participation as usual for the 2018-19 academic year.

Universities UK is urging the UK Government to prioritise negotiating continued access to the Erasmus+ programme.

Will there still be opportunities for students from the EU to come to UK universities once the UK has left the EU?

Yes. UK universities have always and will always welcome staff and students from across the world. Leaving the EU does not change this.

Each year, hundreds of thousands of international students study in the UK. The highest representation comes from China, Malaysia and the United States, none of which have free movement to the UK. Post-Brexit, EU students will still be able to study in the UK and be a part of our culturally diverse university campuses.

The UK’s future relationship with the EU will depend on negotiations between the UK Government and the EU. However, UK universities are committed to promoting the value of EU students, student exchange programmes, collaboration in research, as well as the importance of ensuring EU students can continue to study in the UK without unnecessary burdens in the future.

Will my qualification be recognised when I go home?

Yes. The UK is part of the Bologna Process, an initiative of 48 countries, which facilitates mutual recognition of academic degrees and credits across borders. Leaving the EU won’t affect academic degree recognition.

We are also seeking to agree a continued system for the mutual recognition of certain professional qualifications which are governed by EU directives.

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