

Student Support: applying in Scotland

1 July 2010

What is Student Support

Student Support is the name given to financial support provided by the Government to some students in the UK.

Student Support is not public funds as defined in paragraph 6 of the [Immigration Rules](#).

If you meet all the requirements of one of the categories described in this Information Sheet, it is likely that you are eligible for some form of Student Support from the [Scottish Government](#).

Student Support is only available if you are studying on a designated course, namely:

- undergraduate degree
- Higher National Diploma (HND)
- Higher National Certificate (HNC)
- Certificate in Higher Education
- Diploma in Higher Education
- Diploma or Advanced Diploma
- teacher training course.

All of the above are higher education courses. If you are studying on a further education course, check with your institution whether any funding is available, for example, [Education Maintenance Allowance](#) or the [Adult Learning Grant](#), if you are studying in England.

You may not be eligible if you have previously received Student Support (or a mandatory award) to study a higher education course. The amount of Student Support you will receive, if you are eligible, depends on your and your family's income.

Student Support is composed of:

- the payment of your tuition fees, if you study in Scotland
- a loan for tuition fees if you study outside Scotland
- a loan for living costs
- certain supplementary grants for specific categories, for example disabled students
- a non-repayable Young Students' Bursary (if you study in Scotland and start the course before you turn 25), a non-repayable Students' Outside Scotland Bursary or the Additional Loan for students from households with a low income

If you are entitled to Student Support from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS), and you are studying in Scotland, your fees are paid for you. From 1 April 2008, you will not have to repay those fees,

as a result of the Graduate Endowment Abolition (Scotland) Act. This applies to you even if you have already started your studies.

If you are studying on a part-time course, you might be eligible for a non-repayable fee grant of £500 for study-related costs.

If you are entitled to Student Support, and you are studying in England, Northern Ireland or Wales, you can apply for a loan to pay your tuition fees. The maximum amount you have to pay for your fees (in 2009-10) is £3,225 per year.

Who is eligible for Student Support?

If you meet all the requirements of one or more of the following categories, you may be eligible for Student Support. This is only a brief summary of persons who are eligible for Student Support. If you are unsure about whether you are entitled to Student Support, or if you need further information, check your situation with an adviser at your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#).

Category 1: Settled status and living in the UK and Islands

In order to be eligible for Student Support under this category, you must meet all of the following criteria:

1. you must be **settled** in the UK on the **relevant date** AND
2. on the relevant date you must be **ordinarily resident** in Scotland AND
3. you must also have been ordinarily resident in the **UK and Islands** for the full three-year period before the relevant date (for example, if your course begins in October 2010, you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands from 1 August 2007 to 31 July 2010) AND
4. the main purpose for your residence in the UK and Islands must not have been to receive **full-time education** during any part of the three-year period.

It is not necessary to have been settled in the UK for three years. For example, you may have been ordinarily resident for three years but have been given indefinite leave to remain shortly before the relevant date.

If you are granted settled status after the relevant date, or if you can show three years' ordinary residence in the UK and Islands only after that date, you will not become eligible for Student Support. This is because you must meet all requirements of this category on the relevant date. If you think you are going to be able to meet all the requirements after the relevant date you have not yet started, you might want to consider deferring your place until a later date.

Students from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man

If you are in receipt of an award from your Island authority, you are treated differently as there is an agreement between the Island authorities and UK higher education institutions. If you are self-financing, seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#).

Category 2: EU (including UK) and EU overseas territories nationals, and family, living in the EEA, Switzerland and EU overseas territories

If you satisfy the conditions under this category, you are eligible only for help with your tuition fees. If you satisfy the conditions under [Category 3](#) or [Category 4](#) or [Category 5](#), you will be eligible for full Student Support which also includes loans for living costs and certain supplementary grants, so you should check the conditions for these other categories first.

To be eligible for help with paying your tuition fees under this category (Category 2):

1. you must be a national of one of the **European Union** (EU) member states (including the UK), or a national of one of the **EU overseas territories** OR you must be the relevant **family member** of such

a person AND

2. you must have been **ordinarily resident** in the area comprising the **European Economic Area** (EEA), Switzerland and the EU overseas territories for three years before the **relevant date** AND
3. the main purpose for your residence in the EEA, Switzerland and the EU overseas territories must not have been to receive **full-time education** during any part of the three year period AND
4. if you are a UK national, you must have utilised a right of residence.

For the purposes of the residence conditions, any country that joins the EU is considered always to have been part of the EEA.

Note that you do not have to be an EU or EU overseas territories national, or the family member of such a person at the start of your course. If you become, or a relevant family member becomes, an EU national or an EU overseas territories national after your course has started, seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our **Students' Advice Line** about whether you or your family member will become eligible for Student Support. See also **How to apply for Student Support**.

If you do not qualify for Student Support only because the main purpose for your residence in the EEA, Switzerland and EU overseas territories was full-time education, and you have been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for three years before the relevant date, you might be eligible for Student Support if you meet the conditions in **Category 3**, **Category 4** or **Category 5** instead.

Category 3: Non-UK European Union nationals and children living in the UK and Islands

To be eligible for Student Support under this category, you must be:

1. a **European Union** (EU) national, but not a UK national, or the child of a non-UK EU national AND
2. **ordinarily resident** in Scotland on the **relevant date** AND
3. ordinarily resident in the **UK and Islands** for the three-year period before the relevant date AND
4. if during any part of the three year period, the main purpose for your residence was to receive **full-time education**, you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK or elsewhere in the **EEA** and/or Switzerland immediately prior to the 3-year period of ordinary residence in the UK and Islands. It does not matter if you were in the EEA and/or Switzerland mainly in order to receive full-time education during this earlier period.

A student who can be eligible under this category is, for example, a Latvian national who has spent four years in full-time education in the UK before starting a degree course. Although such a student's main reason for being in the UK might have been to receive full-time education, this student was ordinarily resident in the EEA (the student was in the UK) immediately before the three-year period of ordinary residence in the UK preceding the relevant date.

If you become an EU national, or the child of an EU national, after the start of your course, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our **Students' Advice Line** about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also **How to apply for Student Support**.

Category 4: European Union nationals and family with the right of permanent residence in the UK

You are eligible for Student Support under this category if:

1. you have **the right of permanent residence** in the UK AND
2. you are **ordinarily resident** in Scotland on the **relevant date** AND
3. you were ordinarily resident in the **UK and Islands** for three years before the relevant date AND
4. if your three-year residence in the UK and Islands was at any time mainly for the purpose of receiving **full-time education**, you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK or elsewhere in the **EEA** and/or Switzerland immediately prior to the three-year period of ordinary residence in the UK and

Islands. It does not matter if you were in the EEA and/or Switzerland mainly in order to receive full-time education during this earlier period.

If you acquire the right of permanent residence after the start of your course, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 5: Non-UK European Economic Area and Swiss workers and family

You are eligible for Student Support if you meet the following criteria:

1. you must be an **EEA** national (but not a UK national) or a Swiss national, and resident in the UK as a **worker** OR you must be the spouse or civil partner or child or other **relevant family member** of such a worker AND
2. you must be **ordinarily resident** in Scotland on the **relevant date** unless you are an EEA or Swiss **frontier worker** or relevant family member of a frontier worker AND
3. you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK or elsewhere in the **EEA** and/or Switzerland for three years before the relevant date

If you are the child of an EEA worker who is no longer working or living in the UK, you can still be eligible for Student Support if you came to the UK to accompany your EEA worker parent.

If you or your relevant family member becomes an EEA or Swiss worker part-way through your course, seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 6: Settled status and exercised a right of residence in the European Economic Area and Switzerland

To qualify for Student Support under this category, as a UK national or a person with the right of permanent residence in the UK, you must:

1. be **settled** in the UK AND
2. have left the UK and exercised a right of residence after having been settled in the UK (this means that, before leaving the UK, you must be either a UK national or a person with the **right of permanent residence**, and you have been a worker or self-employed person, or a student or self-sufficient person somewhere in the **European Economic Area** or Switzerland, other than the UK) AND
3. if you are a UK national, you were **ordinarily resident** in Scotland immediately before exercising your right of residence elsewhere in the EEA and/or Switzerland, and you were not there mainly in order to receive **full-time education** AND
4. you have been ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area and/or Switzerland for the three-year period before the **relevant date** AND
5. if, during that three-year period, you were ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area or Switzerland mainly in order to receive **full-time education**, you must have been ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area and/or Switzerland immediately before that three-year period (this does include time spent there in full-time education).

This is the category that entitles you to full Student Support if you are a British citizen or the family member of a British citizen if you have been living outside the UK but elsewhere in the EEA and/or Switzerland.

The Scottish Executive has stated that it does not expect family members of UK nationals to have settled status in the UK, and would consider that family members who were born outside the UK as eligible for Student Support under this category. This means that you can qualify for Student Support under this

category if:

1. you are the **family member** of a UK national who has exercised a right of residence after having been settled in the UK AND
2. you have been ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area and/or Switzerland for the three-year period before the **relevant date** AND
3. if, during that three-year period, you were ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area or Switzerland mainly in order to receive **full-time education**, you must have been ordinarily resident in the European Economic Area and/or Switzerland immediately before that three-year period (this does include time spent there in full-time education).

Category 7: Child of a Swiss national living in the European Economic Area and Switzerland

You are eligible for Student Support if you meet all the following criteria:

1. you must be the child of a Swiss national, and note that there is no requirement that your Swiss parent is, or has been, economically active in the UK AND
2. you must be **ordinarily resident** in Scotland on the **relevant date** AND
3. you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK or elsewhere in the **European Economic Area** (EEA) and/or Switzerland for the three-year period before the relevant date AND
4. if the main purpose for your residence in the EEA and/or Switzerland was wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving **full-time education**, you must have been ordinarily resident in the EEA and/or Switzerland immediately before that three-year period. It does not matter if your main reason for being there before that three-year period was in order to receive full-time education.

A child can be an adopted child or any child for whom the Swiss national parent has parental responsibility or care.

If you become the child of a Swiss national after the start of your course, for example, if you have a non-Swiss parent who marries or enters into a civil partnership with a Swiss national or if your parent is granted Swiss nationality, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our **Students' Advice Line** about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also **How to apply for Student Support**.

Category 8: Child of Turkish worker living in the EEA, Switzerland, Turkey

You are eligible for Student Support if you meet all the following criteria:

1. you must be the child of a Turkish national who is **ordinarily resident** in Scotland and who is, or has been lawfully employed in the UK AND
2. you must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the first day of the first academic year of your course AND
3. you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK or elsewhere in the **European Economic Area** (EEA) and/or Switzerland and/or Turkey for the three-year period before the first day of the first academic year of the course.

A child can be an adopted child, a step-child or any child for whom the Turkish worker parent has parental responsibility or care.

This category of student did not become eligible for Student Support until amendments to the regulations came into force on 1 December 2007.

If you become the child of a Turkish worker after the start of your course, for example, if you have a parent who marries or enters into a civil partnership with a Turkish worker, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our **Students' Advice Line** about whether you will become

eligible for Student Support. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 9: Refugees and family

To be entitled to Student Support under this category, you must either have been recognised as a **refugee** by the UK Government and have remained **ordinarily resident** in the **UK and Islands** since then, or you must be the spouse or civil partner or child of such a person. You must also be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the **relevant date**.

A child can be an adopted child or any child for whom the refugee parent (or that person's spouse or civil partner) has parental responsibility or care.

See [Definitions of terms](#) for when someone **when someone with Refugee Status becomes a British Citizen**.

If you are granted refugee status, or if your spouse or civil partner or parent is granted refugee status, after the start of your course, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 10: People who are refused refugee status, but who are allowed to remain in the UK and family

You are entitled to Student Support under this category if you have applied for asylum in the UK and the Home Office has decided that you do not qualify for refugee status but that you should be allowed to stay in the UK. Usually, you will have been granted Humanitarian Protection (HP) or Discretionary Leave (DL) or, in some cases, Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain. If you were given permission to remain in the UK before 1 April 2003, you might have been granted Exceptional Leave to Enter or Remain (ELE/R). You must have remained **ordinarily resident** in the **UK and Islands** since being granted that permission to stay in the UK and you must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the **relevant date**. You are also entitled to Student Support if you are the spouse, civil partner or child of such a person and you are ordinarily resident in Scotland on the **relevant date**.

A child can be an adopted child or any child for whom the parent who applied for asylum and was allowed to remain in the UK (or that person's spouse or civil partner) has parental responsibility or care.

If you are granted permission to stay in the UK, or if your spouse or civil partner or parent is granted permission to stay in the UK, after the start of the course, seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for Student Support. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 11: Children of asylum seekers and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children

From 1 December 2007, you are entitled to help with paying your tuition fees if you meet the requirements of this provision. You are not entitled to a student loan or other forms of Student Support.

You must meet all the following requirements. You must:

1. be the child of an asylum seeker, or a person who came to the UK as a child on your own and applied for asylum AND
2. be living in Scotland on the **relevant date** AND
3. have been living in Scotland for the three-year period immediately before the relevant date AND
4. have been under 18 years old on the date when you or your parent applied for asylum, and that application must have been made before 1 December 2006 AND
5. you want an allowance for a course in Scotland.

A child can be an adopted child or any child for whom the parent who applied for asylum (or that

person's spouse or civil partner) has parental responsibility or care.

If you claim, or if your parent claims asylum after the start of the course, seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for help in paying your tuition fees. See also [How to apply for Student Support](#).

Category 12: Iraqi nationals granted indefinite leave to enter the UK under the Locally Engaged Staff Assistance Scheme (Direct Entry), and family

You are eligible for Student Support if you meet all the following criteria:

1. you must be an Iraqi national who has been granted indefinite leave to enter the United Kingdom, under the Locally Engaged Staff Assistance Scheme (Direct Entry) operated by the Home Department, or the spouse, civil partner or child of such a person; AND
2. you must have been ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom and Islands at all times since you were first granted such indefinite leave to enter the United Kingdom; AND
3. you must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the [relevant date](#)

A child can be an adopted child, a step-child or any child for whom the Iraqi national parent has parental responsibility or care.

This category of student did not become eligible for Student Support until amendments to the regulations came into force on 30 September 2009.

If you become such a person after the start of your course, for example, if you have a parent who marries or enters into a civil partnership with such a person, you should seek advice from your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#) about whether you will become eligible for Student Support.

How to apply for Student Support

If you think you meet all of the requirements of one of the categories described in this Information Sheet, and you have not yet started your studies or you have not moved for your studies, you should apply to the [Student Awards Agency for Scotland](#) (SAAS). You can download an application form from the website, or ask SAAS to send you one, or you might be able to apply online. Your institution might also have forms and guidance. The deadline for your application depends on when your course starts. SAAS booklet [SAS4](#) lists all the final closing dates for 2007-08 on page 4, as well as full details of the Student Support for which you can apply.

What can you do if you think you have been incorrectly refused Student Support?

You should follow the complaints and appeals procedure described in paragraph E4 of the SAAS booklet [SAS4](#). If you are still not satisfied, you can appeal against the decision but first you should speak to an adviser at your institution, your Students' Union or our [Students' Advice Line](#).

Additional sources of support

If you are in financial hardship and you are eligible for Student Support, you might be able to apply for additional help through your institution's Discretionary Funds (previously called the Hardship Fund) if you are studying in Scotland. Similar funds are available from institutions in England (Access to Learning Fund), Northern Ireland (Support Fund) and Wales (Financial Contingency Fund). The Student Support package also includes extra grants for students with particular needs, for example, disabled students and students who have dependants. Seek advice from your institution or your Students' Union. Check with [SAAS](#) in case additional funding is available for your particular course.

Courses funded by the National Health Service (NHS)

If you are considering applying for an NHS-funded course (for example, Nursing or Midwifery), please note that admission to the programme may depend very much on whether you will be granted an NHS Bursary. The requirements are similar to those described in the categories in this Information Sheet, but please check your eligibility carefully before you apply for an Access to Nursing course or an NHS-funded degree course.

There are only very limited opportunities for self-funded applicants to study Nursing and Midwifery in UK Higher Education. Apart from these, it is very unlikely that any institution will be able to consider applicants who are not eligible for an NHS bursary. If you do wish to follow such a course as a full fee-paying student, check with the institution in advance if they accept fee-paying students onto the course.

Unlike Student Support arrangements for most other courses, you apply for an NHS bursary to the country in the UK where you are studying, even if it is different from the country in the UK where you normally live. If you normally live in Scotland and you are studying there, information is available from the [Student Awards Agency for Scotland](#). You can find information about applying for an NHS bursary in England on the website of the [Student Grants Unit of the NHS](#). If you are studying in Wales, see the website of the [NHS Wales Student Awards Unit](#), and if you are studying in Northern Ireland, you should apply to the [North Eastern Education and Library Board](#). Nursing and midwifery admissions information is available from the [UCAS](#) website.

Definitions of terms

European Economic Area (EEA)

The European Economic Area is a larger area than the European Union (EU). It is made up of all the countries in the [EU](#) plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

For categories where the residence area is the EEA and Switzerland, the residence area is made up of all 30 countries in the EEA including the whole of the island of Cyprus (that is, including northern Cyprus), and Switzerland.

European Union (EU)

You are an EU national if you are a national or citizen of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Republic of Cyprus (you must have evidence, eg a passport or other travel document, that shows you are recognised as a Cypriot citizen by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus), Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden or the UK.

European overseas territories

The European overseas territories are: Aruba, Faroe Islands, French Polynesia, French Southern and Antarctic Territories, Greenland, Mayotte, Netherlands Antilles (Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten), St Pierre et Miquelon, the Territory of New Caledonia and Dependencies, Wallis and Futuna.

Family members

EU and EU overseas territories nationals under [Category 2](#)

Family members of an [EU](#) national who can be entitled to help with tuition fees under this category are:

- spouse or civil partner
- direct descendants of the EU national, and of the EU national's spouse or civil partner, for example children or grandchildren; a direct descendant must also be under 21 years old or (if 21 or over) dependent on the EU national or dependent on the EU national's spouse or civil partner

- if the EU national is self-sufficient and not a UK national, the direct ascendants of the EU national, or of the EU national's spouse or civil partner, for example parents or grandparents; a direct ascendant must also be dependent on the EU national or dependent on the EU national's spouse or civil partner.

Family members of an **EU overseas territories national** who can be entitled to help with tuition fees under this category are:

- spouse or civil partner
- direct descendants of the EU overseas territories national, and of the EU overseas territories national's spouse or civil partner, for example children or grandchildren; a direct descendant must also be under 21 years old or (if 21 or over) dependent on the EU overseas territories national or dependent on the EU overseas territories national's spouse or civil partner
- direct ascendants of the EU overseas territories national, or of the EU overseas territories national's spouse or civil partner, for example parents or grandparents; a direct ascendant must also be dependent on the EU overseas territories national or dependent on the EU overseas territories national's spouse or civil partner.

European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss workers under Category 5

Family members of an EEA or Swiss worker who can be entitled to Student Support under this category are:

- spouse or civil partner
- child, which is not defined in terms of either age or dependency and a child can be an adopted child or any child for whom the EEA/Swiss worker or the civil partner or spouse of the worker has parental responsibility or care
- if the worker is an EEA national (not a Swiss national), direct ascendants of the EEA worker or of the spouse or civil partner or the EEA worker, for example parents and grandparents, who must be dependent on the EEA worker or dependent on the spouse or civil partner of the EEA worker.

Settled people who exercise a right of residence, under Category 6

Family members of a UK national who exercises a right of residence in the EEA and/or Switzerland who can be entitled to Student Support are:

- spouse or civil partner
- direct descendants of the UK national, and of the UK national's spouse or civil partner, for example children or grandchildren; a direct descendant must also be under 21 years old or (if 21 or over) dependent on the UK national or dependent on the UK national's spouse or civil partner. If the UK national exercised a right of residence as a student, only dependent children count as family members
- direct ascendants of the UK national or of the UK national's spouse or civil partner, for example parents and grandparents, who must be dependent on the UK national or dependent on the UK national's spouse or civil partner.

Full-time education

Where a category includes a condition that the main purpose of your residence (in the **UK and Islands**, or in the **European Economic Area** and Switzerland) must not have been to receive full-time education, a useful question to ask is: if you had not been in full-time education, where would you have been ordinarily resident? . If the answer is outside the relevant residence area, this would indicate that the main purpose for your residence was full-time education. If the answer is that you would have been

resident in the relevant residence area even if you had not been in full-time education, this would indicate that full-time education was not the main purpose for your residence in the relevant area.

Ordinary residence

You are ordinarily resident in the relevant residence area (which is either the **UK and Islands** or the **European Economic Area** and Switzerland, depending on the category and its qualifying conditions) if you have habitually, normally and lawfully resided in that area from choice. Temporary absences from the residence area should be ignored and therefore would not stop you being ordinarily resident.

If you can demonstrate that you have not been ordinarily resident in the relevant residence area only because you, or your relevant family member, were temporarily working outside the relevant residence area, you will be treated as though you have been ordinarily resident there.

Refugee Status

Anyone granted Refugee Status by the UK government should, in UKCISA's understanding, still be considered to come within the definition of 'refugee' for the purposes of the relevant regulations even if they have now become a British citizen. If a decision maker considers otherwise, please ask them to check the case, heard in the Supreme Court, of 'ZN (Afghanistan) & Others v Entry Clearance Officer (Karachi) [2010] UKSC 21', particularly paragraphs 36 and 37.

This decision concerned an immigration decision rather than eligibility for 'home' fees or Student Support. The regulations for assessing fee status and Student Support eligibility define "refugee" as meaning:

"a person who is recognised by Her Majesty's government as a refugee within the meaning of the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees [...]".

In the Supreme Court decision at paragraph 37 Lord Clarke said: "The fact that British citizenship has been granted [...] does not change the fact that [...] a person [was or has been] granted asylum".

Therefore, it would seem unreasonable for a decision maker to conclude that the granting of British citizenship to someone with Refugee Status would mean that the UK government no longer considered that person to have a well-founded fear of persecution in their former home country.

Relevant date

If your academic year starts between 1 August and 31 December inclusive, the relevant date is 1 August. If your academic year starts between 1 January and before 31 March inclusive, the relevant date is 1 January.

If your academic year starts between 1 April and before 30 June inclusive, the relevant date is 1 April. If your academic year starts between 1 July and 31 July inclusive, the relevant date is 1 July.

Right of permanent residence

Under European Community law, an **EU** national who remains lawfully resident in the UK for a continuous period of five years acquires the right of permanent residence. The same applies to a family member who is in the UK with that EU national. You might have a document from the Home Office that confirms your right of permanent residence, but this is not essential if you can prove in some other way that you have the right of permanent residence.

Settled

Settled means being **ordinarily resident** in the United Kingdom (ie England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) without any immigration restriction on the length of your stay in the UK. The Student Support regulations refer to immigration law for the definition of settled. To be settled you must have the Right of Abode or Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain in the UK or be a national of the Republic of

Ireland, or have the **right of permanent residence** in the UK under European Community law. If your passport describes you as a British citizen, then you have the Right of Abode. Certain categories exempt from time limits on their stay in the UK, however, do not come within the definition of settled. For example, diplomats and members of their households do not have specified time limits on their permission to stay in the UK but they are not settled under the relevant immigration law.

If you are settled through having acquired the **right of permanent residence** under European Community law, you are not entitled to Student Support under **Category 1** but you might qualify under **Category 2, Category 3, Category 4 or Category 5**.

UK and Islands

The area of residence described as UK and Islands consists of:

- England
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Channel Islands
- Isle of Man

Worker

Worker includes a European Economic Area (EEA) or Swiss national who is:

- employed
- self-employed
- a frontier worker who is employed or self-employed. A frontier worker is an **EEA** or Swiss national who works in the UK but who resides in Switzerland or the territory of an EEA State other than the United Kingdom and returns to their residence in Switzerland or an EEA state, at least once a week.

What kind of work?

- The work must be in the UK
- The work can be full-time or part-time
- If you give up work to start a course, you should still be treated as a migrant worker if your course of study is related to your job or area of work
- If you have become involuntarily unemployed (for example, if your post was made redundant, or if your contract ended and was not renewed), you do not have to show that your course of study is related to your previous job. If you lost your job through misconduct, you would not be considered involuntarily unemployed
- It can be work that you are doing while you are on the course, unless it is ancillary to the course. Ancillary means the work is part of the course or work you were offered only because you have been accepted on a particular course.

Useful contacts

Direct Gov

The Directgov website has UK Government information about financial help that is available to students in further and higher education, including application forms and contact details for Local Education Authorities, the EU Customer Services Team and the Student Loans Company, at:

www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/index.htm

Scottish Executive

The Scottish Executive produces the Student Support regulations for Scotland. The funding section of its website is at: www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/Funding-Support-Grants.

Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS)

SAAS deals with most Student Support applications and it has information and application forms on its website, at: www.saas.gov.uk.

You can contact the Student Awards Agency for Scotland at:

The Student Awards Agency for Scotland, Gyleview House, 3 Redheughs Rigg, Edinburgh EH12 9HH.

Tel: 0845 111 1711.

Email: saas.geu@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

UK Council for International Student Affairs

We can offer written and telephone advice for students. Our contact details are on our website at: www.ukcisa.org.uk. If you have read this Information Sheet and other resources mentioned in it, but you would still like to talk to us about your eligibility for Student Support, you can call our Advice Line on (+44) (0) 20 7107 9922 Mon to Fri 1300 to 1600 hours (UK time) or you can write to us at: UK Council for International Student Affairs, 9-17 St Albans Place, London N1 0NX, UK.

Telephone numbers

If you are calling from outside the UK, do not dial the (0) in the telephone numbers above. For example, if you want to call UKCISA from outside the UK, dial +44 20 7107 9922. If you are in the UK, do not dial +44, but do start the number with 0. For example, if you call UKCISA from within the UK, dial 020 7107 9922.

Textphone numbers are only for those who use a textphone (minicom) because of difficulties with speech or hearing.

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