

Voter Registration for International Students

Some international students can vote in the General Election too!

Students from Commonwealth countries and the Republic of Ireland are eligible to vote in the UK election on 12 December 2019.

As individuals who have the rights to study, work and vote in the UK, it is important for international students to raise their voice and shape the debate in this election.

Who can vote?

Some international students have the right to vote in elections in the UK. These rights will vary depending on where they are from. Students from the Commonwealth countries and the Republic of Ireland can vote in the upcoming general election. The general election will be held on Thursday 12 December 2019.

Commonwealth Countries

Students from Commonwealth countries are eligible to vote in all UK elections provided they are resident in the UK and have leave to remain. This means they must have an address they have been living at and permission to be in the UK such as a student visa. The commonwealth countries are listed below and include some of the top countries for international students to the UK so there may be many students at your institution who are eligible.

Overseas Territories

Students from the British Overseas Territories listed below are also eligible to vote.

European Students

Students from Britain, as well as citizens of the Republic of Ireland, Malta and Cyprus are able to vote provided they are residents of the UK.

What can you do?

International students often do not know they may be eligible to vote. Encourage them to register for a postal vote if they cannot go to the local polling station on 12 December.

Nationalities Entitled to Vote in Elections in the UK

Commonwealth Countries

Commonwealth citizens who have leave to enter or remain in the UK, or do not require such leave, are eligible to register to vote in the UK.

Antigua and Barbuda	Ghana	Nauru	Solomon Islands
Australia	Grenada	New Zealand	South Africa
The Bahamas	Guyana	Nigeria	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	India	Pakistan	Swaziland
Barbados	Jamaica	Papua New Guinea	Tonga
Belize	Kenya	Rwanda	Trinidad and Tobago
Botswana	Kiribati	St Kitts and Nevis	Tuvalu
Brunei	Lesotho	St Lucia	Uganda
Darussalam	Malawi	St Vincent and the Grenadines	United Kingdom
Cameroon	Malaysia	Samoa	United Republic of Tanzania
Canada	Maldives	Seychelles	Vanuatu
Cyprus	Malta	Sierra Leone	Zambia
Dominica	Mauritius	Singapore	Zimbabwe
Fiji Islands	Mozambique		
The Gambia	Namibia		

British Overseas Territories

Citizens of British Overseas Territories are eligible to register when resident in the UK.

Anguilla	Falkland Islands	South Georgia and South
Bermuda	Gibraltar	Sandwich Islands
British Antarctic Territory	Montserrat	Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus
British Indian Ocean Territory British Virgin Islands	Pitcairn Islands	Turks and Caicos Islands
Cayman Islands	Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha	

British Crown Dependencies

Citizens of the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are eligible to register when resident in the UK.

European countries

Citizens of the Republic of Ireland, Cyprus and Malta are eligible to register to vote in respect of all elections in the UK.

Former residents of Hong Kong

Only former residents of Hong Kong who hold a British Dependent Territories, a British Nationals (Overseas) or British Overseas passport meet the nationality criteria for all elections in the UK.

More Information:

- The Electoral Commission:

www.aboutmyvote.co.uk

- Who can vote?

http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/who_can_register_to_vote.aspx