COMING FOR 6 MONTHS OR MORE
Students coming for more than 6 months will be required to apply for a visa. If you are arriving in Glasgow by early August you will need to apply before leaving the UK. Please have at least 3 months before your proposed date of arrival to ensure that you have enough time to complete your visa application.

IMMIGRATION
Your offer letter will not currently need you to apply for a visa to enter the UK. Students from outside the EEA can only apply for a visa up to 6 months prior to your programme start date. If you are planning on arriving after mid-August, then you will need to apply for your visa in time.

7. AFTER ARRIVAL - COLLECT BIOMETRIC RESIDENCE PERMIT
When your leave is granted you will be issued with a vignette that will be a physical stamp in your passport. In order to collect your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) you will need to present your passport and the vignette. The BRP will include all of your visa details and will be your official proof of legal presence in the UK.

5. SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS
You will have to submit your original documents to the Admissions Office in order for your visa application to be processed. These documents will be returned to you.

1. OBTAIN NECESSARY DOCUMENTS
• Valid passport & photograph
• Evidence to show you have enough money to complete your studies
• Unconditional Short-term Study Visa letter

2. CHECK WITH THE GSA
• Your visa letter will be a document with a unique number issued through GSA Admissions. It will be a letter confirming your unconditional offer of a place. It will also be stamped in your passport.

6. TRAVELLING VIA THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
As the UK and Republic of Ireland (ROI) are part of a common travel area you will not receive the correct stamp in your passport if you enter the UK via ROI. As the UK and ROI are part of a common travel area you will not receive the correct stamp in your passport if you enter the UK via ROI.

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3. APPLY FOR SHORT-TERM STUDY VISAS
You will need to check if it is conditional or unconditional. If you have been offered a conditional offer and you are from outside the EEA, you will need to apply for a temporary study visa in order to study at the GSA. If you are from within the EEA you will need to apply for a student visa.

2. CONSIDER YOUR TRAVEL DATE
If the UK leaves the EU, you will need to check if you need to renew your visa. If your visa is still valid you can continue to work and study. If your visa is no longer valid, you will need to obtain a new visa.

4. APPLY FOR STUDENT VISA (ENGLISH STUDENTS)
You will need to check if your visa is a Short-term Study Visa or a Student Visa. This will depend on the length of your programme at the GSA. If you are considering staying in the UK for more than 6 months you will need to apply for a Student Visa.

1. OBTAIN NECESSARY DOCUMENTS
• Original Certificates for qualifications used to gain admission
• Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) - this will be a document with a unique number issued through GSA Admissions. It will be a letter confirming your unconditional offer of a place. It will also be stamped in your passport.

5. SEND ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS
• Original financial documents as recommended by UKVI.
• Original Certificates for qualifications used to gain admission
• Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) - this will be a document with a unique number issued through GSA Admissions. It will be a letter confirming your unconditional offer of a place. It will also be stamped in your passport.

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HEALTH
Full Degree Programmes (over 6 months)
All non-EEA migrants coming to the UK for more than 6 months are now required by law to have health insurance which must cover the same terms as a permanent UK resident. The surcharge for students is £300 per year, and is payable in full at the time of your visa application.

Visiting Students (less than 6 months)
Erasmus/EEA & Swiss students should obtain a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), which allows use of the NHS. Other visiting students should obtain private health insurance. All visiting students should also register with a GP.

Student Support Services

Advice on registering with a doctor and accessing the NHS from Sudanese masters student Omaima Abdulla. Advice on opening a UK bank account on the National Union of Students (NUS) website: tinyurl.com/NUSbank Advice on budgeting and working part-time in the UK from Chinese student Zexuan Qiao.

Student Support Services offer help and a reference from your bank at home. GSA, your passport, proof of your address in the UK, a letter from your financial sponsor and a reference from your bank at home. GSA Student Support Services offer help and support to international students opening a bank account:

Internal Design student Omaima Abdulla, originally from Sudan, talks through her experience opening a UK bank account.

LEGAL INFORMATION

• Scotland is largely smoke free – you may not smoke in any public building or other places where people work.
• It is illegal to carry a weapon in the UK. Driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or while using a hand-held phone is illegal.
• You must first obtain a TV licence, available online at www.tvlicensing.co.uk. This includes watching television via the internet/tablet/mobile.

NATIONAL INSURANCE

In order to work in the UK you will need a National Insurance Number. If you are a permanent resident in the UK you will not pay National Insurance Contributions if your gross weekly income is less than £115 (from 6 April 2019) and you do not pay above the national insurance upper earnings limit. If you earn over £88 a week you will need to show evidence of £1,015 per month for immigration purposes. You must pay the National Insurance contributions according to your weekly income. The amount you pay varies according to your income.

VITAL INFORMATION

Details on programme fees, scholarships, living costs and budgeting are available online.

Paying Tuition Fees

Insurance

2.5% discount is available on full international tuition fees if you are full-time or at an enrolment after 1 October 2018. Scottish students are entitled to a 5% discount if they are full-time and study abroad and exchange places studying in a masters programme. Please make sure the finance officer at enrolment knows you are eligible for this discount, or you will be sent the full bill.

This discount is also given to International MIG, GSA graduates enrolling on the Diploma programme and masters graduates enrolling via a PhD.

Scholarships and support

If you are receiving a scholarship from a non-GSA source or are being sponsored by a company, you will need to bring a letter evidencing this with you to enrolment.

Erasmus and other Exchange students

You should continue to pay tuition fees as normal to your home institution. A fee may be payable in some departments to cover the purchasing of consumables you will use. Sometimes, field trips may be organised for your programme, for which students will need to pay.

If you are receiving a scholarship from a non-GSA source or are being sponsored by a company, you will need to bring a letter evidencing this with you to enrolment.

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Discounts

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On external websites. Information correct at time of printing (May 2019). to alteration. The School cannot guarantee the accuracy of information contained to alteration. The School cannot guarantee the accuracy of information contained to alteration. The School cannot guarantee the accuracy of information contained to alteration. The School cannot guarantee the accuracy of information contained.