

# How to Enrol – UKVI Student Visa Requirements

(Leiths Three or Two Term Diploma)

Most non-UK students coming to study in the UK for a period over 6 months will need a Student Visa. The Student Route (Student Visa) replaced the previous Tier 4 Student system. This includes EEA and Swiss students arriving in the UK from 1 January 2021. Your Student Visa will allow you to stay in the UK for the whole of your course and comes with both privileges and restrictions. [You can check if you need a visa here.](#)

## How to Enrol

**If you are considering enrolling on one of our professional courses, we would like to offer you the opportunity to book in for an informal conversation with a senior member of the Leiths team, which is the first stage of the application process.**

**To request a meeting [please fill in this form](#), and we will be in touch to confirm a time. Alternatively our Receptionist who manages the diary can be contacted Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm on 00 44 (0) 208 749 6400, by following the instructions for ‘Reception’.**

At the moment all of our meetings are taking place on Zoom or ‘Whereby’. They are offered during the week, during office hours generally between 9.00am – 3.00pm (UK time). It’s an opportunity for you to talk about your previous experience and your ambitions, and for us to guide you towards the correct course, taking into account your budget, timeframe and aspirations. With over 45 years of experience, Leiths has helped to launch thousands of successful careers in the food industry and we’d love to help you too.

It is important that you inform us in your meeting if you have any relevant medical conditions and/or specific learning difficulties that could affect your attendance or learning.

Following your meeting, our Registrar will contact you by email. If you have been offered a place on a professional course the Professional Course Enrolment Form and details will be attached. You may

be asked a number of questions to understand whether or not you may be suitable for sponsorship. If we do not think the course will be suitable for you for any reason/and or you do not satisfy the requirements for sponsorship we will let you know, and offer an alternative course where possible.

If you decide to join us, please arrange payment of the deposit and send the signed Professional Course Enrolment Form to: Registrar, Leiths School of Food & Wine, 16-20 Wendell Road, London, W12 9RT, UK or E-mail: [registrar@leiths.com](mailto:registrar@leiths.com) along with copies of:

- the photo page in your passport and the inner first pages of your passport, usually showing passport nationality and number
- your English language test certificate (if applicable)
- certificates of prior study (if applicable)
- details of prior visas (if applicable)
- a personal statement (the Registrar can advise)

Once these have been processed you will receive confirmation of acceptance via email stating that you have been allocated a place on the course subject to [Leiths Terms and Conditions](#). *Please refer to the below requirements which must be satisfied.*

We’ll send you instructions for ordering equipment, books and uniform closer to the time. You can find approx. prices on our [price list](#). For an updated version please visit [www.leiths.com](http://www.leiths.com) or ask a member of staff.

**LEITHS**  
SCHOOL OF FOOD AND WINE

Leiths School of Food and Wine, 16-20 Wendell Road, London W12 9RT  
Telephone 020 8749 6400 Email [info@leiths.com](mailto:info@leiths.com) Visit [leiths.com](http://leiths.com)

# UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) Requirements

In order to be eligible for a student visa, you must satisfy the immigration rules for [Student route points-based system](#). This requires that you score assessment 'points' against three sets of objective criteria to achieve an overall pass of 70 points:

## 50 points

### Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

- You have met the course requirements, approved qualification requirement, level of study requirement, and place of study requirement.

## 10 points

### Financial requirement

- You have met the financial requirements; you have shown that you have sufficient funds to pay outstanding course fees and can demonstrate that you have funds to cover your living costs for up to 9 months.

## 10 points

### English language proficiency

- Students who are not coming from a majority English-speaking country need to provide evidence that they are proficient in English.

# Leiths Requirements

## English Language

For UKVI purposes if a student is not from a majority English speaking country ([UKVI list](#)) then that student will need to undergo an English test, even though the student may be fluent in English.

For a student with English as a foreign language, UKVI require a score of 5, however Leiths require an English proficiency of at least 6.5 on the IELTS scale (C1 on the Common European Framework – CEF) due to the fast-paced nature of the course. See the list of secure English language testing centres linked [here](#). Please ensure you undergo an 'IELTS test for UKVI' purposes when you book the test.

## Course Fees

You will be provided with an invoice for the balance of your course fees. Leiths requires payment of the full fees before we can issue a CAS. This is to prove your commitment to UKVI. If the situation arises that you are not successful with your visa application, then Leiths will refund the full fees.

## Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS – a number)

Leiths will request a personal statement from you expressing your reasons for studying at Leiths in London.

Leiths will submit an application to UKVI for a Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS – a number) which you will require to make your application for the Student Visa. Once we have received the CAS from UKVI, which generally takes 24 hours, we will forward it to you in a letter.

**A CAS is valid for 6 months** [Full guidance can be found here](#)

**LEITHS**  
SCHOOL OF FOOD AND WINE

Leiths School of Food and Wine, 16-20 Wendell Road, London W12 9RT  
Telephone 020 8749 6400 Email [info@leiths.com](mailto:info@leiths.com) Visit [leiths.com](http://leiths.com)

 [leithscook](#)  [leithscooking](#)  [leithscooking](#)  Find us on LinkedIn

# Applying for your Student Visa

You must apply online: <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply>

When you can apply depends on whether you're applying from inside or outside the UK.

## Applying from outside the UK

The earliest you can apply for a visa is 6 months before you start your course.

You will usually get a decision on your visa within 3 weeks unless you pay for the expedited service

## Applying from inside the UK

The earliest you can apply is 3 months before your course starts.

You must apply before your current visa expires. Your new course must begin within 28 days of your current visa expiring. You will usually get a decision within 8 weeks.

**It is of the utmost importance that you ensure all requirements for your application are met correctly – in our experience visas are not granted when the procedures have not been followed correctly.**

## Financial Requirements

Proof of maintenance funds will be required by the UKVI. (In London the approximate amount may be in the region of £1,300 per month). You will need to show that you have sufficient funds in a bank account to support yourself (deposited at least 28 days prior to making your application) and those funds must continue to be available to you after your application is made. Bank statements must not be older than 31 days. It has been known for visas to be declined due to bank statements considered invalid.

International students studying for longer than 6 months will also be required to pay an [Immigration Health Surcharge](#). Payment of the health surcharge is done while completing the visa application online.

Prospective students from certain countries will also be required to undergo a [tuberculosis test at an approved centre](#).

Please look at <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/documents-you-must-provide> for further information about the visa application process.

## When you will be able to travel on your visa – how long will you be able to stay

You would generally be granted a visa from one month before the start of the course to travel to the UK. You will need to apply for and collect a biometric residence card (your visa) and register with the Overseas Visitors Records Office (OVRO). These need to be applied for within 7 days of you entering the UK. Please see the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biometric-residence-permits-applicant-and-sponsor-information>

<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/collect>

<https://www.gov.uk/register-with-the-police>

Leave to remain in the UK is usually granted for two months after the course finishes.

**LEITHS**  
SCHOOL OF FOOD AND WINE

Leiths School of Food and Wine, 16-20 Wendell Road, London W12 9RT  
Telephone 020 8749 6400 Email [info@leiths.com](mailto:info@leiths.com) Visit [leiths.com](http://leiths.com)



leithscook



leithscooking



leithscooking



Find us on LinkedIn

## Important Considerations

Please note that as Leiths is a private provider of education in the UK, students will not be able to work whilst studying in the UK. They will however be permitted to do the unpaid work placements which form part of the course.

UKVI rules state that if a student at Leiths on a Student Visa misses 10 consecutive days of the course or leaves the course before completion Leiths is required to inform the UKVI of this and your visa will be cancelled.

In the case of unforeseen illness and family emergencies, students are allowed 5 days absence per term, before they become ineligible for the exams. If a student is away from school then it is their responsibility to catch up on skills missed. This is separate from our covid19 policy.

Leiths provides a high standard of practical training and to enable them to graduate with a Leiths professional qualification. Students are required to be committed and diligent in their studies in order to achieve this level of achievement. Our professional courses have high pass rates but the intensity of the course means that excessive absence or lack of progress may result in a student failing to reach the standard required in the time given. In this situation a student would be awarded a certificate appropriate to the standard they have achieved at the end of the course.

The course is full time, Monday to Friday. Students' progress is monitored daily and they receive regular feedback from their class tutor.

## Further Reading

Leiths have produced an informative sheet on local student accommodation as well as an informative sheet on preparing for your arrival. Please contact [registrar@leiths.com](mailto:registrar@leiths.com) for copies.

## UKCISA - UK Council for International Student Affairs

We are members of UKCISA <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>

Their website gives information on lots of topics including visas and immigration, work during and after studies, home or overseas fee status regulations and sources of funding. Look at their website first for answers to your questions. If you cannot find the information you need after looking at the website, you can telephone the Student Advice Line on +44 (0)20 7788 9214 between 1pm and 4pm (UK time).

Information  
for international  
students

**UKCISA**



Accredited by the British Accreditation  
Council and  
the Independent Schools Inspectorate



**LEITHS**  
SCHOOL OF FOOD AND WINE

Leiths School of Food and Wine, 16-20 Wendell Road, London W12 9RT  
Telephone 020 8749 6400 Email [info@leiths.com](mailto:info@leiths.com) Visit [leiths.com](http://leiths.com)

leithscook leithscooking leithscooking Find us on LinkedIn