



FINANCIAL GUIDANCE FOR TIER 4 (GENERAL) APPLICANTS

When applying for a TIER 4 visa, you must ensure that you can evidence to UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) that you have enough money to pay your tuition fees and living costs while studying in the UK. UKVI will assess financial credibility based on the documentary evidence provided meeting specific criteria. They may also ask questions about the source of finance to decide if you have a realistic source of income for your full course.

To qualify for a TIER 4 visa, you must submit evidence of your money as part of your application. This money must meet certain criteria to be considered.

Total funds required (Course fees, and living costs)

You are required to show you have access to sufficient funds for living costs and tuition fees. To study at British School of Marketing International, you must have funds amounting to the course fees for the next academic year, or for the entire course if it is less than a year long. You also need £1,265 for each month of the course up to a maximum of nine months.

Eligibility of funds

Eligible Financial Institutions

You will not be awarded any points for your financial evidence where the specified documents show that the funds are held in a financial institution listed in Appendix P as institutions with which UK Visas and Immigration is unable to make satisfactory verification checks. You can check if your financial institution is listed as one that UKVI, you can verify through the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-p-lists-of-financial-institutions>

Joint accounts

If you intend to use a joint account as evidence of available funds, you must be named on the account as one of the account holders. If you are not, you UKVI will not accept that you have access to the funds and will refuse your application.

Parent or legal guardian accounts

If you intend to use funds held in account by a parent or legal guardian, the following documents must be provided:

- a letter from your parent(s) or legal guardian, confirming: the relationship between you, and that they give their consent to you using their funds to study in the UK, and;
- your birth certificate showing names of his parent(s), or;
- certificate of adoption showing the names of both parent(s) or legal guardian, or;
- a Court document naming his legal guardian;

Non – eligible funds

Maintenance must be in the form of cash funds. Other accounts or financial instruments such as shares, bonds, credit cards, pension funds etc, regardless of notice period are not acceptable. Overdraft facilities will not be considered towards funds that are available or under an applicant's own control.





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Documents that may be used as evidence of money

The applicant is required to provide particular types of document as evidence, check the list below to see if the evidence you have is acceptable and what details the evidence needs to show.

Personal bank or building society statement

The statements must clearly show:

- Your name or your parent(s) or legal guardian's name
- the account number
- the date of each statement
- the financial institution's name
- the financial institution's logo
- any transactions during the specified period
- that the funds in the account have been at the required level throughout the specified period
- printed on the bank's or building society's letterhead

Electronic Bank Statements

- Accompanied by a letter from bank on company headed paper confirming authenticity of the electronic statement, or;
- an electronic bank statement bearing the official stamp of the bank or building society in question on every page

The statements must not be mini statements from automatic teller machines (ATMs)

Certificate of Deposit

- the certificate of deposit must have been issued within 31 days of the date of application
- at least 28 days must have elapsed between the date of the deposit and the date of issue of the certificate

A building society pass book

Must clearly show:

- the name of the applicant or the applicant's parent(s) or legal guardian's name
- the account number
- the building society's name and logo
- any transactions during the specified period
- that there have been enough funds in the applicant's account throughout the specified period





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A letter from your bank or building society

Or a letter from a financial institution regulated for the purpose of personal savings accounts by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) or, for overseas accounts, the official regulatory body for the country in which the institution operates and the funds are located:

- The letter must be dated no earlier than 31 days before the date of the application;
- The letter must be on the financial institution's letterhead or official stationery;

The letter must clearly show:

- Your name or your parent(s) or legal guardian's name
- the account number
- the date of the letter
- the financial institution's name and logo
- the funds held in the applicant's account, and
- confirmation that there have been enough funds in the applicant's account throughout the 28 day period;

An original loan letter from a financial institution

Provided by the national government, state or regional government, or by a government sponsored student loan company or part of an academic or educational loans scheme regulated for the purpose of student loans by either the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) or, in the case of non-UK accounts, the official regulatory body for the country the institution where the money is held, Your loan letter must clearly show:

- your full name
- the date of the letter
- the financial institution's name and logo
- the money available as a loan
- for applications for entry clearance, that the loan funds are or will be available to the applicant before he travels to the UK, unless the loan is an academic or student loan from the applicant's country's national government and will be released to you upon arrival in the UK
- there are no conditions placed upon the release of the loan funds to the applicant, other than making a successful application for a Tier 4 visa
- the loan is provided by the national government, the state or regional government or a government sponsored student loan company or is part of an academic or educational loans scheme.

The letter must be dated no more than 6 months before the date of the application.





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Confirmation from an official financial sponsor

This should be your government, the British Council or any international organisation, international company, University or Independent school. You must provide a letter of confirmation from his official financial sponsor, on official letter-headed paper bearing the official stamp of that organisation, which clearly shows:

- Your name
- the name and contact details of the official financial sponsor
- the date of the letter
- the length of the official financial sponsorship
- the amount the sponsor is giving, or statement that the official financial sponsor pay all fees and living costs.

Time period and exchange rate

Time period

You must have all of the funds you intend to count towards their maintenance requirements in the nominated eligible account for a consecutive 28-day period by the time they make their Tier 4 application.

The amount that will be used to calculate your maintenance sum will be the lowest balance during that consecutive 28-day period.

The end date of the 28-day period will be taken as the date of the closing balance on the most recent of the specified documents (where specified documents from two or more accounts are submitted, this will be the end date for the account that most favours you). Your document must be dated no earlier than 31 days before the date of visa application.

Exchange rate

Where the funds are in one or more foreign currencies, you must have the specified level of funds when converted to pound sterling (£) using the spot exchange rate which appears on www.oanda.com on the date of the visa application.

When planning to save your money in your account, you should ensure that you have at least £250 more than the exact sum required at the start of saving your money for the 28-day period. This will mean that if the exchange rate changes between when you start saving and when you make your visa application, you will have some protection against unfavourable exchange rate changes.

Immigration Health Surcharge

The immigration health surcharge is a financial contribution to the UK's National Health Service. You will have to pay this as part of your visa application, when your course is more than six months. The charge is £300 per year for a student, so if you will be given a visa for 3 years your charge will be £900.

Further information is available on the Home Office website:



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<https://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application>

Financial credibility

In addition to checking the documents you provide and awarding 10 points for maintenance, UKVI may also make an assessment of the source of money that you will use throughout your course.

They will do this through asking you questions at interview, and through looking at whether you have provided additional evidence to evidence your source of finance.

Even if you have been awarded the 10 points for showing the right bank statements or financial documents, UKVI can still refuse your visa application if you cannot show that your source of finance is credible and realistic,

Before you apply, think about:

- If your course is more than 1 year, how will you pay your course fees and living costs for the rest of your course after your first year – remember, the evidence you have provided as standard will only show the first years funding and UKVI will want to know how you will pay after this has run out
- If you say your family is going to pay for your studies, is this realistic; does the annual family income have enough to spare to pay for your living costs and tuition each year? If not, then the UKVI may refuse your visa application
- How have you acquired the money that is in your account as evidence of your maintenance? UKVI need to know that it is money that is available to you and not just resting in your account for the purposes of visa application
- Can you provide proof of your additional income? If you only provide the bank statement evidence for the first year fees and costs, your visa application may be refused because you cannot provide evidence to justify what you say about your finances at interview. If, for example, your father's salary is a realistic source of finance for you, you should provide evidence of his income with your visa application (include a covering letter explaining the additional information you have included)

You should have a clear and credible explanation of how you have come to hold the funds you have used as evidence, and what source of further finance is available to you in order to that you are planning to come to the UK to study and not for other purposes such as employment. If you can evidence this, it will help you make a successful Tier 4 visa application.

