



You should read this information guide to help you decide which documents will be useful in supporting the statements that you have made on your visa application form (VAF).

It is not a list of documents that you must submit. We do not expect you to provide all of the documents listed below, it is for you to decide which documents are most relevant to your application.

The submission of all or any of these documents does not guarantee that your application will be successful.

Guide to supporting documents

Visiting the United Kingdom (UK)

Information about you

These documents are important because they provide information about your personal circumstances in the country in which you are applying.

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| A current and valid travel document or passport | You will not be issued a visa if you do not have one of these |
| One passport sized colour photograph | This must comply with the requirements in our photo guidance |
| Evidence of your permission to be in the country where you are applying, if you are not a national of that country | This must show your current immigration status. It could be a residence permit, 'green card' or valid visa. |
| Previous passports | These are to show your previous travel history |
| Evidence of your marital status | This could include a marriage certificate, a civil partnership certificate, a divorce certificate or a death certificate |
| Evidence of your current employment or studies | This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ a letter from your employer on company headed paper – this should list your salary and the length of your employment, confirm that you have been given time off work, and state whether this time off is paid or unpaid➤ a letter from your education provider on headed paper – this should confirm your enrolment and leave of absence➤ business registration documents confirming the business owner's name and the date when the business started trading |

Information about your finances and employment

You can submit any of the following financial documents to provide us with evidence of how your trip is to be funded. You should include evidence of your total monthly income from all sources, for example employment, friends, family, savings or property.

- If you are providing documents from a joint account you should explain who the other account holders are, and why you have permission to spend money from the account
- If your spouse or partner is employed you should also provide their employment and financial details
- If you are not funding your visit yourself, the person who will fund it should supply the evidence.

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| Bank statements or bank books | These should show what has been paid in and out of an account for up to the previous six months, and should name the account holder. |
| Bank letter or balance certificate | This should show the account balance, the account holder's name and the date when the account was opened. |
| Payslips | These should cover up to the previous six months. If your salary is paid directly into your bank account, you should provide the statements showing these payments |
| Tax returns (business or personal) | You should include recent documents from your government tax office, confirming your income and the amount of tax that you have paid |
| Business bank account statements | If you include these you will need to explain why you are allowed to spend the money from a business account if you are on a private visit |
| Evidence of income from property or land | This could include property deeds, mortgage statements, tenancy agreements, accountant's letters, land registration documents or crop receipts. If the property or land is registered in several names, you will need to explain how much you own. If the money earned from the land is shared, you should say how it is divided |

Accommodation and travel details

You can submit any of the following documents to provide us with evidence of your accommodation and that you intend to leave the UK at the end of your visit. We advise that you do not make any payments for accommodation, travel and so on until you have received your visa.

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| Details of accommodation and return travel bookings | <p>This could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ hotel booking confirmation (usually email) ➤ travel booking confirmation (can be email or copy of tickets) ➤ travel agent confirmation of both ➤ accommodation details with a supporting letter from the occupant confirming that you are able to stay there |
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Information about your visit to the UK

Depending on the reason for your visit, you may need to provide some of the following documents to help to show us what you plan to do while you are in the UK.

You can check on our [supported countries page](#) if you can make an online application. If you make an [online application](#) you must also print it off and submit with your supporting documents

General Visitor/ Tourist

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| Completed visa application form | ➤ If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1A . |
| A planned itinerary, if you have one | <p>This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ bookings or tickets for any excursions, trips and outings ➤ email conversations about any excursions, trips and outings ➤ travel agent bookings |
| Supporting letter(s) from your friend or sponsor in the UK | <p>This could include a variety of any of the financial documents outlined above in the finances section.</p> <p>You should also supply evidence of their immigration status in the UK, this could be copies of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ bio-data pages from their passports ➤ valid visa or immigration stamp from their passport ➤ Home Office letter confirming permission to stay in the UK |

Family Visitor

If you want to come to the UK as a Family Visitor you should check our [guidance - Visiting family](#) to make sure that you qualify.

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1B |
| A planned itinerary, if you have one | This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ bookings or tickets for any excursions, trips and outings➤ email conversations about any excursions, trips and outings➤ travel agent bookings |
| Evidence and supporting letter from your family member in the UK that you intend to visit | <p>This could include a variety of any of the financial documents outlined above in the finances section.</p> <p>You should also supply evidence of their immigration status in the UK, this could be copies of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ bio-data pages from their passports➤ valid visa or immigration stamp from their passport➤ Home Office letter confirming permission to stay in the UK |

Business Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1C |
| Evidence of who invited you to the UK | A letter of invitation from the business on their official headed paper confirming who you will be visiting, staying with or supported by during your visit. |
| Evidence of any previous dealings with the UK company that you are visiting | This could include any evidence of <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ business meetings➤ email conversations➤ company activities/ invoices |

Student Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1D |
| Evidence that you have been unconditionally accepted or enrolled on a course of study in the UK | This should be a letter of acceptance from the UK educational institution on their official headed paper providing the following details <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ name of the course➤ duration of the course➤ cost of the course (including accommodation if appropriate) |
| Evidence of any previous study or qualifications gained | This could include <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ a certificate of award➤ academic reference or transcript |
| Evidence of any English language ability or qualifications | This could include <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ test result certificate (IELTS, TOEFL, PTE Academic)➤ certificate of award (for degrees taught in English) |
| Evidence of your financial sponsor's occupation, income and any savings or assets they have, as well as any funds they have set aside specifically to pay for your studies | <p>This could include a variety of any of the financial documents outlined above in the finances section.</p> <p>You should also supply evidence of their immigration status in the UK, this could be copies of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ bio-data pages from their passports➤ valid visa or immigration stamp from their passport➤ Home Office letter confirming permission to stay in the UK |

Academic Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1E |
| Evidence that you have been invited to the UK by the academic institution you will attend | This could include your formal letter of invitation and should confirm the information that you have provided to us. |
| Evidence that you have been working as an academic in an institution of higher education or in the field of your academic expertise immediately prior to your visa application. | This could include evidence of <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ business meetings➤ email conversations➤ company activities➤ employment contract |
| Details of any grants or bursaries relevant to your application | This could include documents from the donor on their official headed paper providing details of the bursary or grant that you have been awarded |

Marriage Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1F |
| Evidence to show that arrangements have been made for the marriage or civil partnership to take place during your visit or if not, that you have given the appropriate notification | This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ proof that you have given notification of marriage to the registry office in the UK where your partner lives➤ details of the marriage or civil partnership and evidence of money paid towards costs related to it |
| Evidence to show that you are free to marry or enter into a civil partnership | This could include a: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ decree nisi➤ decree absolute➤ death certificate of a previous partner |

Medical Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | ➤ If your country does not support online applications you must complete and submit a VAF1G |
| Evidence that the hospital or clinic has agreed to treat you | This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ appointment letter from the hospital detailing the cost and duration of treatment➤ letter from your consultant |
| Evidence to show how the treatment is being paid for | This could include a variety of any of the financial documents outlined above in the finances section |

Visitor in Transit and Direct Airside Transit

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications and <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ you are a Visitor in Transit you must complete and submit a VAF1H➤ you are applying for a Direct Airside Transit visa you must complete and submit a VAF6 |
| Evidence that the earliest onward passage from the UK has been booked/confirmed, and that it is either within 24 hours of arrival in the UK for Direct Airside Transit or 48 hours of arrival in the UK for Visitor in Transit | This could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ travel booking confirmation (can be email or copy of tickets)➤ travel agent confirmation |

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| Evidence that you are assured entry into the onward country that you are travelling to | It could be <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a residence permit ➤ 'green card' ➤ valid visa |
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Sports Visitor and Entertainer Visitor

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| Completed visa application form | If your country does not support online applications and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ you are a Sports visitor you must complete and submit a VAF1J ➤ you are an Entertainer visitor you must complete and submit a VAF1K |
| Evidence of your invitation to attend the event | This should be an invitation letter from the organisers of the event on their official headed paper. |
| Supporting letters from any sponsor's | This could be provided by an official sporting or entertainment organisation, confirming who you will be visiting, staying with or supported by during your visit. |

Information about children who are travelling with you

If you are travelling with a child, you may be asked to present the parents' or legal guardian's written consent. If you are the child's parent, you may be asked to provide evidence of the other parent's consent if they are not travelling with you.

This should be:

- a signed and dated letter from the child's parent or guardian
- an official letter from an authority confirming guardianship