

Brexit Support FAQs

I am an EU national. What will I need to do?

You will need to apply for 'settled status' if you have been resident in the UK for 5 years or more, or 'pre-settled status' if you have been in the UK for less than 5 years.

The scheme is now fully open and [further information about the scheme](#) is available on the government website.

Why do I need to apply for settled status?

You will need to apply for settled status if you wish to stay in the UK beyond 31 December 2020 to either live, work or study. Having settled status will mean that you continue to be eligible for:

- Public services, such as healthcare and schools
- Public funds and pensions
- British citizenship (if you meet the requirements and you wish to apply for it in the future).

For more information on [how to apply for settled status](#), please see the government website.

What are the criteria for applying for settled status?

To apply for settled status, you will need to demonstrate that you are:

- An EU national
- Have been resident in the UK for at least 5 years
- Have no significant criminal convictions.

If you have been in the UK for less than 5 years you will be able to apply for 'pre-settled status' which will allow you to continue to live and work in the UK. Once you have been in the UK for 5 years, you will then be able to apply for settled status.

For more information about the criteria and the [documents that you need to provide](#), please see the government website.

When do I need to apply for settled status?

The Scheme is now fully open and the latest information we have from the government is that you will have until 31 June 2021 to submit an application. However, in the event that there is 'no-deal' this deadline may change. The University of Liverpool is continuing to monitor developments and will communicate any updates as and when further information becomes available.

Can my dependants apply for settled status at the same time as me?

Yes, you can apply for your dependants at the same time as yourself, however you should apply first because then you will receive an application number which your dependants can use to link to your application.

How much will the application cost?

The application fee has been removed. If you have already paid the fee then the Home Office will have reimbursed you on the card that was used to pay the fee.

I am having difficulty submitting my application; where can I go to get help?

The Home Office have published [leaflets, posters and briefing packs](#) to help explain more about the EU Settlement Scheme, how to apply and the definitions of the key terms.

An EU Settlement Scheme Resolution Centre has been established to help anyone who is having difficulties completing the application form, or has queries about how to submit their application. The Government have been very clear that their overall aim is to grant rather than refuse and they want to help make the process as easy as possible by providing support for people to complete their applications smoothly.

You can telephone them on 0300 123 7379 or by asking a question using their [online submission form](#).

English is not my first language - are the materials available in other languages?

The Home Office have now translated their materials into other languages, including German, French, Spanish, Polish and Romanian.

I am a EU / Switzerland / Iceland / Lichtenstein / Norway national and hold a British passport - do I need to apply for settled status?

If you are a EU / Switzerland / Iceland / Lichtenstein / Norway national and also hold a British passport, you will not have to apply for settled status. Otherwise, yes, you will need to apply and you will be able to submit an application now that the scheme is fully open.

I have a Permanent Residence document which allows me to stay in the UK on a permanent basis - do I still need to apply for settled status?

Yes, you will still need to apply for settled status in order to continue to have the same rights and receive access to the same services that you do currently.

I have a Registration Document - will I need to apply for pre-settled status?

Yes, you will still need to apply for pre-settled status in order to continue to have the same rights and receive access to the same services that you do currently.

I'm an Irish national, do I need to apply for settled status?

As an Irish national you do not need to apply for settled status. However, you will need to apply for it if you either wish to become a British citizen, or you wish to bring non-EEA dependant family members to the UK with you in the future.

I commute to the EU regularly for personal reasons - am I eligible to apply for settled status?

It will depend on the circumstances of your commuting arrangements as to whether you are eligible to apply for settled status. You will need to be able to demonstrate that you are in the UK for at least six months out of every 12 month period during the five years that you are claiming for.

For example, if your main residence is in the UK and you commute to an EU country at weekends, then you will be able to demonstrate that you meet the 'residence' criteria if you can show that you have not been out of the country for more than six months in any given 12 month period. However, if your main residence is in an EU country and you commute to the UK for one or two days per week, your main residence is considered to be the EU country that you live in and not the UK. Therefore, it is unlikely that you would be eligible to apply for settled status.

The government has confirmed that the [rights of frontier workers](#) will be protected after the UK leaves the EU, providing they can show that the arrangement started whilst the UK was still in the EU. Further information about what frontier workers will need to do will be published by the government in due course.

I am away from the UK for business / personal reasons - can I still apply for settled status?

Yes, overseas applicants are able to apply for settled status.

I am planning to apply for UK citizenship in the future. How will Brexit affect me?

If you are an EU national you are not required to obtain UK citizenship in order to stay and work in the UK. You will be able to retain all of your existing rights once you have applied under the EU Settlement Scheme.

However, if you do choose to apply for UK citizenship, you will need to demonstrate that you meet the criteria that are in place at the time of submitting your application. You should also be aware that some countries do not allow you to hold more than one nationality and so it is important to check whether you will be required to relinquish your current nationality after you have obtained UK citizenship.

Important note for German nationals

Please be aware that German nationals applying for UK citizenship after the UK has left the EU will be required to [relinquish their German nationality](#). However, if you obtained UK citizenship before the UK leaves the EU then you will be able to retain your German citizenship.