



Scarborough College

ADVICE ON VISA APPLICATIONS



UK Visas and
Immigration



For the most up-to-date advice please visit the 'Student Visa' section of the gov.uk website.

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas>

Scarborough College is not able to act as a Visa Advisory Service.

To ensure a smooth and successful application process, we strongly urge parents planning to apply for a visa for their son / daughter to seek professional advice from an agent and/or a UK Immigration Law Specialist before submitting their application. Scarborough College makes use of the services of The Taylor Partnership on any complex matters relating to the visa application process, and can recommend their services for parents who do not have existing support in place.

<https://www.ttplaw.co.uk/>

At present there are three visa routes open to students studying at the College:

- 1 A Short-Term Study Visa – valid for a maximum of 6 months;
- 2 Tier 4 (Child) student visa – for students aged 17 and under;
- 3 Tier 4 (General) student visa – for students aged 18 or over.

The Points-Based System

Most of our non-EEA overseas pupils will come to the College through one of the Tier 4 'Points Based' routes.

In order to qualify for Tier 4, students must pass a points-based assessment and score 40 points by satisfying the following:-

Number of Points	Criteria
30	Presentation of a Certificate of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from a licensed Tier 4 sponsor.
10	Evidence to show they have the finances to study in the UK (known as maintenance) by demonstrating they can cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Course fees for up to 9 months. ■ Monthly living costs for up to 9 months. A bank statement must be provided to confirm the student (or parent/legal guardian) has held the money for a minimum of 28 days.
40	Total points required to be granted a Visa.

CAS Statements

Scarborough College will send out CAS statements to those who need to apply under the Tier 4 route. This is conditional upon the student fulfilling any terms set out in their offer letter (such as obtaining GCSE results, English preparation courses or equivalent) and having confirmed their place by returning the required acceptance fee, deposit and signed Parent School Agreement. The CAS statement should then be included with the Visa application.

Finances/Maintenance

The Financing (or maintenance) criteria can be funded either by:-

- The student (or parent or guardian) or
- A financial sponsor.

If it is through a financial sponsor, this means a student is given money to cover their course fees and living costs. If their financial sponsor is only covering some of the student's course fees or living costs, then he/she must show evidence that they have the rest of the money needed.

The student must provide a letter of confirmation from their official financial sponsor, which may be Her Majesty's Government, the student's home Government, the British Council or any international organisation, company or university. It should not be a relative (except parents) or non-international company.

The letter of confirmation must be on official letter-headed paper or stationery of the organisation of the official financial sponsor, feature the official stamp of that organisation and show the:-

- name and contact details of the official financial sponsor
- date of the letter
- full name of the student (that appears in their passport)
- length of their sponsorship
- amount of money that the official financial sponsor is giving to the student or a statement that they will cover all (or part) of the student's fees and living costs.

Evidence of Funds

For bank statements, they must:-

- Be dated no more than one month before the Visa application submission date
- Show that the entire amount required has been in the account for 28 consecutive days
- Be for a cash account

UK Immigration Health Surcharge

You may need to pay a healthcare surcharge (called the 'Immigration Health Surcharge' or IHS) as part of your immigration application. With effect from 6 April 2015, all non-EEA students applying to study in the UK for more than six months will be required to pay this Health Surcharge.

What is it for? – the purpose of the surcharge is to ensure that all non-EEA students contribute to the UK National Health Service. The surcharge is not a Visa fee. It will be collected by the Home Office and go directly into the National Health Service. This will give students access to the NHS on the same terms as a permanent UK resident.

How do I pay? – The surcharge will usually be paid online at the point of application for a Visa.

When do I pay? – If you're applying online or through the premium service centre, you'll pay the surcharge as part of your application or when you book an appointment. If you're applying by post, you must pay the healthcare surcharge online before you send your application - you'll need to include the IHS reference number on your application form. **IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ENSURE YOU HAVE PAID THE SURCHARGE BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR VISA APPLICATION. IF IT IS NOT PAID, YOUR APPLICATION MAY BE REFUSED.**

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

Fees Paid to the College

Fees already paid to the College towards tuition fees can be deducted when calculating how much money a student needs to meet the maintenance funds requirements for a Tier 4 Visa application. This means that one way you can demonstrate the necessary financial support is to pay the annual fee in full before applying for a Visa.

*However, please note that for fees paid towards accommodation fees, a maximum of £1,000 can be offset against the required funds for Tier 4 students **who live independently** (i.e. not in one of the College boarding houses).*

Applying Using Your Parents' Documents

If a parent's bank statements are used in the Visa application, submission of the following to prove the relationship between parents and the applicant is also required:-

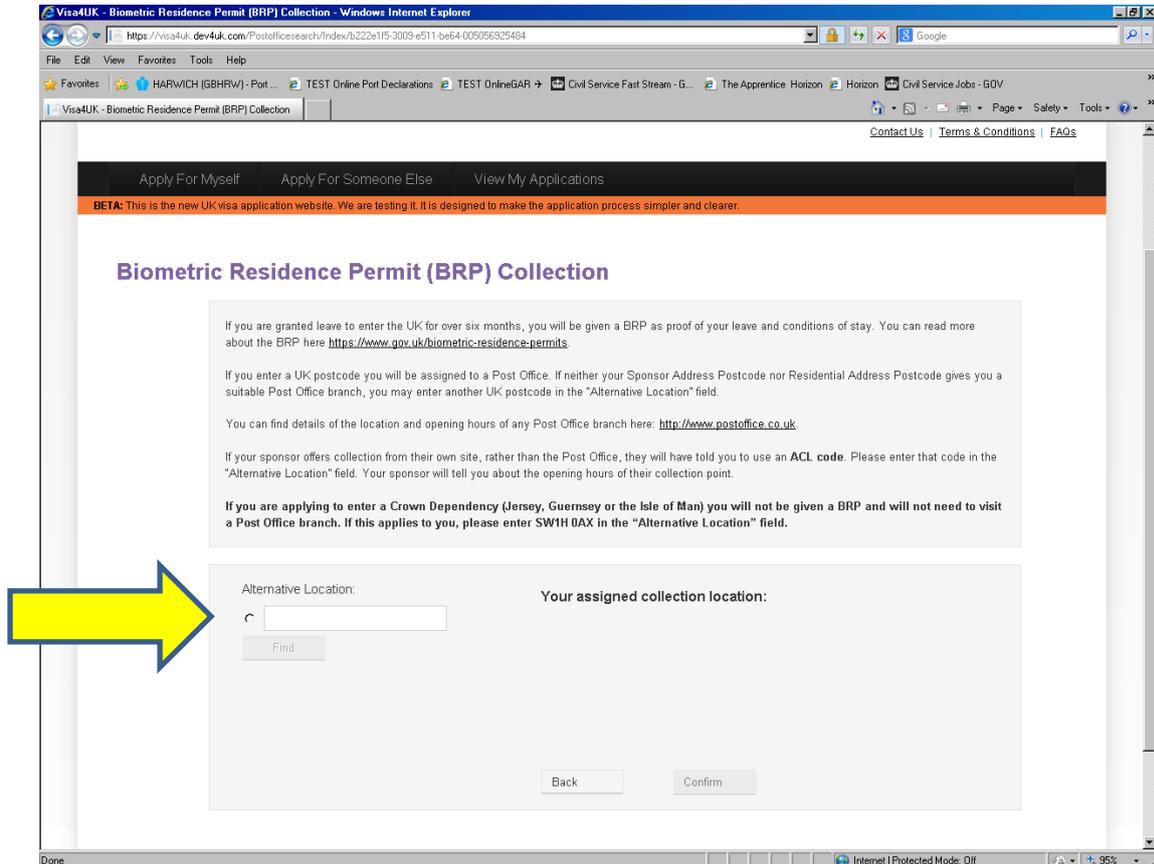
- Original legal documentations (or notarised copy) from parent/guardian who are financially supporting the applicant. The documentation should confirm the relationship between the parent/guardian and the applicant. This could include the following:-
 - ◆ Birth certificate showing the applicant and the parents' names;
 - ◆ Certificate of adoption showing applicant and the parents' names;
 - ◆ Court document showing the applicant and the legal guardian's names;
 - ◆ A letter from parent/guardian confirming the relationship between the applicant and the parent/guardian and that parent/guardian consent to using their funds to pay for the tuition and maintenance during the applicant's studies in the UK.

Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) Collection

Our Alternative Collection Location (ACL) code is: **2SC927**

Using the Code

The code **must** be entered into the Alternative Location field in the BRP Collection Page on Visa4UK, as in the screenshot:



After entering the code and pressing **Find** the following collection address should be displayed under 'Your assigned collection location':

Scarborough College
c/o Tier 4 Compliance Team
or Deputy Head (Pastoral)
Filey Road
Scarborough North Yorkshire
YO11 3BA

The Visa Checklist

Students will need to:

- Fill in the appropriate Visa application form
- Include the Immigration Health Surcharge reference number in the application
- Include the Alternative Collection Location code in the application
- Pay the Visa application fee.

Students will need to provide the following:

- Passport or travel document
- A CAS statement from a licensed sponsor
- Documents to show they meet the maintenance requirements (such as a bank statement featuring the student's name (or parent or guardian, with evidence of relationship) or a loan in their name or Government sponsorship)
- Documents listed by their sponsors in the CAS statement assigned by their Tier 4 sponsor, such as academic transcripts and IELTS certificate
- Biometric details
- Biometric Residence Permit/Identity Card (if they are applying from inside the UK)
- Signed declaration of genuine funds (since 4 July 2011).
- When entering the UK the student must declare cash of €10,000 or more (or the equivalent in another currency) cash includes:
 - Notes and coins
 - Bankers draft, cheques of any kind (including travellers cheques)

Most student Visa refusals under Tier 4 are due to errors in financial documentation, or incorrect details given on the application form.

Please check the UK Visa & Immigration Service website for the most up-to-date advice:

www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas

To apply for your Visa, please visit:

www.visa4uk.fco.gov.uk/home/welcome