

Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)

This guide is produced to help support RCS applicants/ students coming to the UK as a Standard Visitor for up to 6 months for attending auditions, your graduation ceremony or for short-term study, such as attending resit exams or attend your viva.

The rules, guidance and ultimate decision maker on your ETA application is the United Kingdom Visa and Immigration service and is part of the Home Office Department. Guidance and rules for visas can and does change throughout the year so please make sure that you make sure that you read and meet the full eligibility criteria and information on the gov.uk website [here](#).

An Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) is advanced permission to travel to the UK. This can be applied for by nationals of certain countries.

Whether you can apply for an ETA will depend on your nationality. Please click on the appropriate section below for details.

Applications are submitted through the Gov.uk website [here](#).

The ETA is applied for before you travel to the UK.

Who requires an ETA before travelling to the UK

The ETA is required if you will be seeking permission to enter the UK as a Standard Visitor to stay in the UK for up to 6 months.

Whether you need ETA will depend on your nationality and when you will travel into the UK.

Currently if you are a national from the following countries you are required to :

Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman
Qatar	Saudi Arabia	United Arab Emirates

The following list of nationalities, for travel to the UK on or after 8 January 2025 require an ETA before travel:

Antigua and Barbuda	Argentina	Australia	Barbados	Belize
Botswana	Brazil	Brunei	Canada	Chile
Colombia	Costa Rica	Grenada	Guatemala	Guyana
Hong Kong SAR (including BNO)	Israel	Japan	Kiribati	Macao SAR
Malaysia	Maldives	Marshall Islands	Mauritius	Mexico
Federated States of Micronesia	Nauru	New Zealand	Nicaragua	Palau
Panama	Papua New Guinea	Paraguay	Peru	St Kitts and Nevis
St Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines	Samoa	Seychelles	Singapore
Solomon Islands	South Korea	Taiwan*	The Bahamas	Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago	Tuvalu	United States	Uruguay	

*If you hold a passport issued by Taiwan that includes the identification card number issued by the competent authority in Taiwan.

For travel to the UK on or after 2 April 2025

The following list of nationalities, for travel to the UK on or after 2 April 2025 require an ETA before travel:

Andorra	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia
Cyprus	Czechia	Denmark	Estonia	Finland
France	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Iceland
Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Luxembourg
Malta	Monaco	Netherlands	Norway	Poland
Portugal	Romania	San Marino	Slovakia	Slovenia
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Vatican City	

These lists are in the [UK Immigration Rules Appendix ETA National List](#).

If you're a national of another country, check the [Immigration Rules Appendix ETA National List](#).

Who does not need to get ETA

You do not need an ETA if any of the following apply:

- you have a visa
- you have permission to live, work or study in the UK (this includes holding Settled or Pre-Settled Status on the EU Settlement Scheme)
- you are a British or Irish citizen
- you are travelling with a British overseas territories citizen passport
- if you are a dual citizen with British or Irish citizenship

[Check if you need a UK visa](#)

What can you do with an ETA

The Electronic Travel Authorisation gives permission for you to travel to the UK for up to 6 months for the purpose of tourism, visiting family and friends, business or short-term study.

All visitors must meet [Standard Visitor Visa](#) requirements on arriving in the UK and throughout the duration of your visit.

Documents required and before you apply

Documents required

The following documents are required when you apply for Electronic Travel Authorisation:

- **Your valid and current passport** - not a photocopy
- **An email address you have access**
- **Way to pay** - such as a credit card, debit card, Apple Pay or Google Pay
- **Mobile device or phone** to take pictures of your passport and the face of the person applying
- **An ATAS certificate** - students studying on certain science or engineering based courses at Masters level and above will need an Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate. You can find out more about applying for ATAS and which courses require it, on our [ATAS pages](#). Further guidance can be found on the [ATAS website](#)

Fees and costs

The fee for an ETA application is £10. You cannot get a refund after you apply.

How to apply:

There are two ways to apply. You can apply for an ETA using the UK ETA app on a mobile phone or online.

If you need help with the app, you can read the [guide on using the UK ETA app](#).

If you cannot use the mobile app, you can [apply online](#).

[Apply for an ETA](#)

After you apply

The [GOV.UK ETA page](#) advises you will usually get a decision within 3 working days. This may be quicker or take longer.

After you apply, you will receive an email confirming you got an ETA.

You should keep:

- The email copy of your approved ETA
- Your boarding passes and/or flight itinerary - to show when you entered the UK