

# Graduate Route visa

Information about the new Graduate Route visa - we will update this document as more details are confirmed.

## **When and where can I apply for the Graduate Route visa?**

The Graduate visa is now open for applications on this [Home Office webpage](#).

You can apply for the GR visa after:

### **1. You have successfully completed your course**

For taught courses (Bachelors and Masters) this will be after the Assessment Board and your final results are published, confirming you have successfully completed your course.

*and*

### **2. AECC has confirmed your successful course completion to the Home Office**

You must not make your GR visa application before AECC has confirmed this with the Home Office. It may take up to a week from successfully completing your course for this report to be submitted.

We will email you to confirm the report has been done from [admissions@aecc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@aecc.ac.uk) with a reminder of your CAS number (you will need this in your GR visa application).

You can only apply in the UK. You are not allowed to apply from your home country or in any other country other than the UK.

Your deadline for applying is the expiry date of your Tier 4 or Student visa. As long as you apply by this date, your current permission is automatically extended until the Home Office has made a decision about your Graduate Route application, even if this is after your Student visa expires while they are assessing your Graduate Route application. This allowance is called [3C leave](#).

## **How much will the Graduate Route visa cost?**

The visa application will cost £715.

You will also have to pay £624 Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) for each year of your Graduate Route visa

## **How long will my Graduate Route visa be granted for?**

If you have successfully completed an undergraduate (Bachelors) or postgraduate (Masters) degree you will be granted a 2-year Graduate Route visa.

## **Who is eligible?**

You must:

- Have successfully completed your course
- Have studied in the UK on a Tier 4 or Student visa
- Have a valid Tier 4 or Student visa when you apply
- Make your Graduate Route application from within the UK
- Have the CAS number you were given to study your AECC course
- Have completed all your course in the UK, except for permitted distance learning because of Covid-19
- If you have been sponsored by a government or scholarship agency in the last 12 months, you will need a letter of financial sponsor's consent to be eligible.
- If you have been on a course of more than 12 months, you cannot have been on any other visa category (other than Tier 4/Student visa) for the last 12 months of the course
- If you have been on a course of less than 12 months, you cannot have been on any other visa category (other than Tier 4/Student visa) for the duration of the course.

## **Do I need sponsorship from an employer under Graduate Route?**

No, this is an unsponsored route to allow you to work or look for work.

## **Are there any restrictions on the type of work I can do?**

While your Graduate Route application is being processed by the Home Office, you can continue to work under the conditions of your Student visa.

When your Graduate Route visa is granted, you can do any work, either employed or self-employed, except working as a professional sportsperson or sports coach.

## **Can I study a course while I am on the Graduate Route visa?**

This visa is granted to enable you to work in the UK. You are allowed to undertake 'supplementary study' to only on a course that could not be studied under a Student visa. If you want to do another degree course, you will need to apply for a Student visa.

## **What about my dependants?**

### **Which dependants are eligible?**

If your partner/child under 18 is already in the UK with you as a PBS dependant, they can apply to extend their visa to stay as your Graduate Route dependant.

If they are not in the UK on a PBS Dependiant visa when you make your Graduate Route application, they cannot apply for a Graduate Route Dependiant visa from outside the UK to join you here.

### **What will dependants visa expiry date be?**

Graduate Route dependants will be granted a visa with the same expiry date as your Graduate Route visa.

### **What work can dependants do?**

Dependants can work full time on the Graduate Route Dependiant visa; the only work they cannot do is working as a professional sportsperson or sports coach.

### **What study can dependants do?**

Graduate Route dependants will have no restriction on doing any study in the UK.

## **Where can I find updates and further information?**

Check the following websites:

- [UKCISA](#)
- [Home Office Graduate Route Factsheet](#)
- [Home Office Student Covid Guidance](#)