

Classification of Students for fees purposes

Notes

In order to be classed as a 'home' student for the purposes of fees a candidate must be:

- Settled in the UK on 1st of September in the year of starting the course
- and** ordinarily resident in the UK for three years prior to the 1st September of the year of starting the course
- and** not resident in the UK purely for the purpose of education

A Definition of 'Settled'

"Settled in the UK" means free from any restriction on the period that an individual may remain. You must meet **all** of the following criteria:

- (i) You must be a British Citizen **or** have Right of Abode **or** Indefinite Leave to Enter/Remain in the UK. Those with limited period to remain in the UK (such as work permit, student visa or exceptional leave to remain) cannot be considered as settled and will be classified as international students. The main purpose for your residence in the UK and islands must **not** have been to receive full-time education during any part of the three year period.

European Union (EU) Member States

EU Member States are Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark (*not* Greenland or the Faroe Islands), Estonia, Finland (*including* Aland Islands), France (*including* the French International Depts of Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guyana, Reunion and Saint-Pierre et Miquelon but *not* French Polynesia, Mayotte and other French International Territories), Germany (*including* the port of Heligoland), Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (*not* including Antilles), Poland, Portugal (*including* Madeira and the Azores, but *not* Macao), Republic of Ireland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain (*including* the Balearic Islands, the Canaries, Ceuta and Melilla), Sweden, UK (*including* Gibraltar, but *not* the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, the Sovereign Bases on Cyprus, or any UK dependent territory such as the Falklands).

Other territories which are not part of the EU are Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, and The Vatican.

European Economic Area Member (EEA) States

EEA Member states are all the countries in the EU plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (*including* Svalbard).

Switzerland

A bilateral treaty was ratified between the EU and Switzerland on 1st June 2002. Whilst this does not mean that Switzerland has joined the EU or EEA, it gives Swiss nationals similar freedom of movement rights to non-EU EEA nationals

EEA and Swiss Migrant Worker Status

A Migrant Worker is any person (or son or daughter of such a person) who is a national of a member state of the European Economic Area who has taken up an activity as an employed person in the United Kingdom. These students will be considered as "home" students for higher education fees purposes.

'Home' Students

1. A 'home' student is any person who:

- (a) is a national of a Member State of the European Union; or
- (b) is the son or daughter of such a national.

And who also satisfies the following conditions:

- (a) s/he has been ordinarily resident in the European Union or the EEA throughout the three years immediately prior to the start of the course (by 1st September of the year of entry); and
- (b) s/he has not been resident therein, during any part of that three-year period, wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

2. Any person who is a national of one of the countries of the European Economic Area Agreement (*Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway*) or Switzerland and is a migrant worker in the UK, or is the child of such a person.
3. Any person who:
 - (a) is recognised by the UK Government as a **refugee** under the United Nations (Geneva) Convention, 1951; or
 - (b) has been granted **asylum** in the UK; or
 - (c) has been informed in writing that **exceptional leave to remain** in the United Kingdom has been granted in relation to a refused asylum application;

And who has been settled in the United Kingdom and Islands throughout the period since recognition as a refugee, or granting of asylum or granting of exceptional leave to enter or remain. Refugees may be exempted from the three years of residency.

4. Any person who is the spouse, son or daughter of a person of the kind described above.
5. Any person who is settled [*as recognised by the Immigration Act (1971)*] in the United Kingdom for three years immediately prior to the start of the course.

Changes in Fee Status during a course of study

Fee status is determined on the relevant date closest to the beginning of the first term of a student's course. This is the 1st September annually. If you join a course at St George's as an international student you will remain in this fee classification until the end of the course. Students will not be re-assessed even if three years' ordinary residence is accumulated or settled status is granted during the course. The only exceptions are if:

- (a) You or one of your parents is recognised as a refugee or is granted exceptional leave to remain or Humanitarian Protection as a result of a failed asylum application;
- (b) You are a national of a state that is accepted as a full member of the EU or EEA during your course and you have been settled in that country for three years immediately prior to the 1st September in the year of entry to the course (and not solely for the purpose of full-time education);
- (c) You or one of your parents becomes an UK/EU National (this does not include those granted Indefinite Leave to Remain) and you have been resident in the EU for three years prior to the 1st September in the year of entry to the course (and not solely for the purpose of full-time education).

The period during which you have been registered to study at St George's cannot be counted towards the three year period of residency in the UK or EU prior to the start of the course of study.

These notes are not exhaustive and do not form any sort of contract. St George's, with reference to guidelines from the Department of Education and Employment, will decide your fee classification and we reserve the right to apply these guidelines at our discretion. However in order to be fair to all applicants, St George's will apply these guidelines stringently.

Please note that decisions made on fee status are independent of assessments made for Student Support eligibility and the eligibility requirements are not exactly the same. It is possible for a student to be assessed as a 'home' fee payer by the institution but refused student support from the LEA and vice versa.

If you wish to seek further independent advice about your fee status you should contact UKCISA: UK Council for International Student Affairs /www.ukcisa.org.uk