



Frequently Asked Questions

I have a UK or Irish passport, do I need a Student visa?

No, if you hold a valid current UK or Irish passport then you do not require a student visa to study at Bader College, even if you have dual nationality. You **must** upload these passport details to the eRez portal. **Please note you must ensure your passport is valid before leaving your home country, you will not be able to travel to the UK with any other passport.**

What should I do if my passport has expired or is expiring?

You should check you have a current valid passport as soon as you can, and if necessary, apply for a replacement at the earliest opportunity. You must ensure your passport is valid for the whole of your stay and for at least three months after your expected departure date from the UK. **This also applies to UK and Irish passport holders.**

I have a new passport since my CAS was issued, do I need a new CAS?

No, but your passport and CAS details **must match** for your visa application. You should contact bc.welcome@queensu.ca with your new passport number, start and expiry date and we will update your existing CAS by adding a sponsor note on the Home Office database. You **must** also update your information on the eRez portal.

What is a CAS?

CAS stands for Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies. This is an electronic letter issued by Bader College to support your application for a student visa. The letter includes information such as your personal details, program of study, and a unique CAS number.

When will you issue my CAS?

We will issue your CAS no more than 3 months prior to your course start date. You must have officially accepted your offer and satisfied your offer conditions by the deadlines in your offer letter. In addition you must provide us with any additional documents we may request including a copy of your passport and evidence of an English language in the form of an IELTS or Pearson test for UKVI certificate (if applicable). We may also conduct additional checks, to satisfy ourselves that you meet the requirements for a student route visa.

I haven't received my CAS yet – who should I contact?

A CAS will only be issued once you have met all academic, non-academic and financial conditions of your offer and you have accepted that offer. Firstly, please check that you have read our checklists and 'how to guides'. Have you returned all of your documents and met all of the conditions attached to your offer?



If you have any queries with your CAS, contact bc.welcome@queensu.ca.

Am I allowed to use my CAS more than once?

No, each visa application has a unique CAS number, therefore you cannot use a CAS number twice. After the CAS numbers are issued, they are valid for six months. If your visa application is refused, you will receive a letter from the UK Home Office explaining next steps.

When should I make my student visa application?

The earliest time you can make your student visa application is three (3) months before the start date of your program of study as stated in your CAS. If you submit your visa application earlier than this time, it will be refused by the UK Home Office. Do not leave your application too late, you could miss your start date. Please ensure you prepare all the necessary documents so that you can make your visa application as soon as you are able. Please refer to the Student Visa Application Guide on our [Student Visas Page](#).

Where can I apply for my visa?

You **must** apply for your visa in your country of residence or your country of nationality. If there is not a Visa Application Centre which offers the visa type you require in your country of residence or nationality, you will be asked to confirm you can attend an appointment at a Visa Application Centre in an alternative location.

Can I attend a biometric appointment in a different country if I'm travelling?

Unfortunately, for student visas, you **must** attend an appointment at a Visa Application Centre in the country you live in. If you travel to another country, for example on holiday, before making your student visa application, you must return to your home country or your country of normal residence to make your visa application. **There are no exceptions.**

What is the Immigration Health Surcharge?

The Immigration Health Surcharge must be paid by non-EEA nationals (EU member states, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) who apply to come, or extend their stay in the UK, for more than 6 months. Those who pay the Health Surcharge will be able to access the National Health Service (NHS), the same as a permanent UK resident.

It is paid at the same time you make your visa application.

What documents do I need to provide with my visa application?

All documents you need to have to apply for your visa are shown here <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/documents-you-must-provide>

Can I track my application?

You can track your application here <https://visa.vfsglobal.com/gbr/en/can/track-application>



How long does it take until my visa is ready?

After you submit your application at the visa application centre, you should receive the decision on your visa application within three weeks. Please note, this is subject to change by the visa application centre.

What can I do if I'm unable to get a biometric appointment at the Visa Application Centre?

VFS Global guidance advises all students to book the earliest biometric appointment that you can secure, and then regularly check for cancellations. All biometric appointment notices provide information on how to reschedule an appointment. Once you have booked an appointment, you may also be able to attend a 'walk-in' service. You must take your appointment notice with you to all appointments.

Should I pay extra for a priority service to receive my Student visa faster?

Some visa application centres do offer a priority service, or a super priority service, although this route incurs a significant extra cost, and the times are not guaranteed. Unfortunately, if your visa is delayed, you won't be eligible for a refund. You can see more information about priority services on [the UK government's website](#).

Is there any way you can help me speed up the visa process?

UK Visa Application Centres make all the decisions regarding your application. As such, Bader College does not have the authority to interfere with this process.

Can I enter the UK and then receive my student visa later?

No, unfortunately due to Home Office regulations you are not able to travel to the UK until you've received your student visa. Please contact us if there are any delays so that we can support you as much as possible. We allow students to arrive up to the end of Week 2.

First year students cannot begin your studies if you have entered the UK as Standard Visitor. There are no exceptions.

What is a BRP?

BRP stands for the Biometric Residence Permit. Your BRP will include information such as your name, photo ID, fingerprints, your immigration status, date and place of birth.

How can I collect my BRP from Bader College?

You should collect your BRP once you are in the UK. As part of your visa application you should select "collect from an alternative location" and use the ACL Code given in the visa



application guide. If your BRP is delivered to the Post Office, note that you **must** have your passport or travel document with your vignette sticker with you to collect your BRP.

Additional FAQs from Admissions:

Do I need a passport to travel to or enter the UK?

Yes. A valid passport is required to travel to and enter the UK. We strongly encourage that your passport be valid for a minimum of three months from the end of your studies.

Do first year Bader College Students need a UK Visa?

If you are not traveling on a valid UK or Irish passport, then you will require a student visa to study at Bader College.

Do I need an English proficiency test for my Student Visa Application?

If you are not a national of a majority English-speaking country, UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) will require evidence of your English language level.

Students on passports from countries including, but not limited to China, EU, EEA, Swiss citizens, Japan, or South Korea, must demonstrate knowledge of English. This includes Canadian Permanent Residents from these countries.

Students who are required to demonstrate Knowledge of English for UKVI must submit the IELTS for UKVI or Pearson PTE for UKVI academic tests in support of their Student Visa Application. These are specific versions of the IELTS and Pearson English language tests for UK Visas and the regular IELTS Academic and Pearson Academic tests will not suffice.