The Student Visitor Visa

For study in the U.K., all students will need a Student Visitor Visa.

Participants will need a **Student Visitor Visa** – NOT a student visa under the new Tier 4 Points Based System. A student visitor visa will allow you to enter the U.K. for a course of up to six months, and it involves much less paperwork and cost. Tier 4 student visas are for students participating on a course of six months or longer and must be sponsored by host institutions. Since these visas are not applicable for students studying on summer courses, Pembroke College will not sponsor a Tier 4 student visa, so make sure that you are pursuing a **Student Visitor Visa**.

The Student Visitor Visa is a subcategory of a General Visitor Visa, so your paperwork should be filed as a general visitor.

Cambridge University will furnish you with an official acceptance letter to the programme which you will file with your Student Visitor Visa paperwork. UCI Summer Session will receive all official acceptance letters and distribute letters to participants.

This document contains directions how to obtain a Student Visitor Visa:

1. **Procedure for U.S. Citizens**
   1.1 Official Letter of Acceptance
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2. **Procedure for Non-U.S. Citizens**
   2.1 Eligibility (Visa Nationals)
   2.2 Applying (Visa Nationals)
   2.3 Documentation at the border (Visa Nationals)
      2.3.1 Official Letter of Acceptance
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How to obtain a Student Visitor Visa

1. U.S. Citizens

   U.S. citizens do not need to apply in advance to obtain a visa to participate on the programme. Following new legislation, you will be issued a Student Visitor Visa at the airport when you arrive.

   Students are required to bring the following types of documentation with them, in their carry-on luggage, and ready to present to immigration officials upon arrival in the U.K.:

1.1 Official Letter of Acceptance
   An official letter of acceptance to the programme will be issued by Pembroke College once the programme fees have been paid;

1.2 The last three months of official bank statements, showing adequate funds to support the student for the full duration of your stay (at least £600 per month);
   a. If your parents are funding your trip:
      A letter from the student’s parents guaranteeing financial support to him/her, as well as three months of bank statements demonstrating sufficient funds to do so;
   b. If you are receiving Financial Aid to fund your trip:
      A letter from the scholarship or loan provider confirming the amount of financial aid and its intended use, and if this amount is less than £600/month, this evidence can be combined with either point 1.2 or point a. listed directly above;

Students should refer to the U.K. Border Agency's documents to bring to the U.K. webpage for general information on supporting documents.
2. Non-U.S. citizens

If your nationality is not American, it is likely that you will need to apply in advance for a Student Visitor Visa to come to the U.K.

To determine whether or not you will need to apply ahead of time for a student visitor visa, you can check the 'Visa and Direct Airside Transit Visa Nationals' list: http://www.U.K.visas.gov.U.K./en/doineedvisa/visadatvnationals

If your country of citizenship is listed, you are considered to be a visa national and you will need to apply in advance for a Student Visitor Visa to attend the programme (directions on the next page).

If your country of citizenship is not listed, you do not need to apply in advance for a Student Visitor Visa and you should follow the directions under the header “U.S. Citizens” above.

If you are still unsure as to if you need to apply in advance for a Student Visitor Visa, you can check the U.K. Border Agency at the following web link: http://www.U.K.visas.gov.U.K./en/doineedvisa/

2.1 Eligibility (Visa Nationals)

The following information is taken from the U.K. Border Agency website.

If you want to come to the U.K. in order to do a short course of study during your visit, you can apply to do so as a student visitor. The period when you intend to be in the U.K. must not exceed six months.

You must be aged 18 or over, and you must have been accepted on a course of study provided by:

- an education provider that holds a sponsor licence under Tier 4 of the points-based system

During your visit, you must:

- support and pay for accommodation for yourself and any dependents, without help from public funds; or
- ensure that you and your dependents will be supported and accommodated by relatives or friends, and will not take employment.

You must leave the U.K. at the end of the visit you told us about, and you must be able to meet the cost of your return or onward journey.

You must not:

- take employment in the U.K. (including part-time or full-time vacation employment);
- engage in business, produce goods or provide services within the U.K. (including selling goods or services direct to members of the public);
- study at a government-funded school;
- undertake a work placement or internship (paid or unpaid) as part of your course of study;
- extend your stay in the U.K.;
- carry out the activities of a business visitor, a sports visitor or an entertainer visitor;
- receive private medical treatment; or
- be in transit to a country outside the common travel area (the U.K., Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands).
2.2 Applying for a Student Visitor Visa (Visa Nationals)


Programme participants should apply for a Student Visitor Visa – NOT a student visa under the new Tier 4 Points Based System. A Student Visitor Visa will allow you to enter the U.K. for a course of up to six months, and it involves much less paperwork and cost. Tier 4 student visas are for students participating on a course of six months or longer and must be sponsored by host institutions. Since these visas are not applicable for students studying on summer courses, Pembroke College will not sponsor a Tier 4 student visa, so make sure that you are applying as a student visitor! The student visitor visa is a subcategory of a General Visitor Visa, so your application should be filed as a general visitor. Cambridge University will furnish you with an official acceptance letter to the programme which you will file with your Student Visitor Visa paperwork.

**Use the following to fill in your Student Visitor Visa application:**

**Name of the course you will study:**
UC Irvine Travel- Study at Pembroke College, Cambridge University

**Name and full address of the institution:**
Pembroke College, Cambridge University
Trumpington Street
Cambridge, CB2 1RF. U.K.
PHONE: 01223 338143

**Email address of institution where you will study:**
Dr. Nick Godfrey: EXS@pem.cam.ac.uk

**Is your accommodation provided as part of your course? If yes please provide full details of the accommodation officer where you will be studying, if no please give details of where you intend to stay in the U.K.:**
Pembroke College Dormitories

Dr. Nick Godfrey
Pembroke College, Cambridge University
International Programmes Office
Address: Trumpington Street, Cambridge, CB2 1RF. U.K.
Phone: 011 44 1223 764558
E-mail: EXS@pem.cam.ac.uk
2.3 Documentation to show at the border (Visa Nationals)

*The following information is taken from the U.K. Border Agency website.*

Students should be prepared to show various documents at border control when you land in the U.K.

Students are required to bring the following types of documentation with them, in their carry-on luggage, and ready to present to immigration officials upon arrival in the U.K.:

2.3.1 **Official Letter of Acceptance**

An official letter of acceptance to the programme will be issued by Pembroke College once the programme fees have been paid;

2.3.2 **The last three months of official bank statements**, showing adequate funds to support the student for the full duration of your stay (at least £600 per month);

   a. If your parents are funding your trip:
      A letter from the student’s parents guaranteeing financial support to him/her, as well as three months of bank statements demonstrating sufficient funds to do so;

   b. If you are receiving Financial Aid to fund your trip:
      A letter from the scholarship or loan provider confirming the amount of financial aid and its intended use, and if this amount is less than £600/month, this evidence can be combined with either student point 2.3.2 or point a. listed directly above;

2.3.3 **Evidence of any firm travel plans you have made**;

2.3.4 **Additional documentation you may choose to bring**:

   a. it will also help if you can show that you have family or social ties and responsibilities to return to;

   b. evidence of any property you own in your home country.

Students should refer to the U.K. Border Agency’s [documents to bring to the U.K.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/documents-to-bring-to-the-uk) webpage for general information on supporting documents.