

Tier 4 Visas

Conditions of Sponsorship



Our handy guide for International students

Most international students who come to study in the UK are issued with a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa. Although the UK has very strict immigration rules, the majority of our international students do not experience any problems with their visas. However, immigration problems can be stressful, expensive, and difficult to resolve, so we have produced this leaflet with all of the information you need to ensure that your stay in the UK remains trouble free.

Sponsorship of your Visa

Middlesex University has agreed to sponsor your Tier 4 visa for the duration of your studies. This means that your visa is issued under the University's 'sponsor license'. It also means that the University is responsible for guaranteeing your student status with the Home Office.

As your Tier 4 sponsor, Middlesex University must inform the Home Office if:

- You do not enrol (you have to do this every year)
- You stop attending your classes
- You interrupt from your studies
- You withdraw (or are withdrawn) from your studies
- You change your course
- You complete your course earlier than expected

Sponsorship of your visa is conditional upon continued enrolment at Middlesex University. Your visa will be cancelled if you are not enrolled as an active student. It is therefore very important that you consider the visa implications before making any decision to leave the course. If you are thinking of withdrawing from/interrupting your studies, you should discuss this with your Student Achievement Officer.



Conditions of Tier 4 Sponsorship

By enrolling onto your course at Middlesex University, you agree to the following conditions of Tier 4 sponsorship. Sponsorship of your visa will be terminated if you do not follow these rules.

You must:

1. Ensure that your visa shows the Middlesex University sponsor number – B3HTJ3ME8. If your visa has a different sponsor number on it, please let us know immediately. Visas sponsored by other institutions are not valid for study at Middlesex.
2. Attend all of your classes. If you need to take time off (for example, if you are ill or need to return home), you must inform your tutors and ask for their permission to be absent.
3. Submit all of your coursework on time.
4. Pay your tuition fees on time. If you don't pay all of your fees by the deadline, you will be withdrawn from your studies. If this happens, the University will inform the Home Office and your visa will be cancelled.
5. Keep your personal details on myUniHub up-to-date so that the University can contact you. This includes your postal address, email address, and telephone number.
6. Adhere to the work restrictions on your visa. Most students are permitted to work up to 20 hours per week during term-time and full-time during the University holidays.

If you decide to work, you must not:

- fill a full-time permanent vacancy
- be self-employed
- work as a doctor in training
- work as a professional sportsperson, coach or entertainer

The University recommends that you do not work more than 16 hours per week during term-time, so that you can concentrate on your studies.

7. Ensure that your visa and passport remain valid for the duration of your studies. If your visa or passport is due to end, you must renew it before it expires. The University will withdraw you from your studies if you do not have a valid visa
8. Provide the University with a copy of your passport and visa. If you renew your passport/visa, you must send us a copy of the new documents.
9. Attend the UniHelp census. All students who hold a Tier 4 visa must attend this check, which happens twice per year. You will receive an email with details of when to attend approximately 1-2 weeks in advance. You will be withdrawn if you do not attend.
10. Inform the University immediately of any change to your immigration status. For example, you may be granted another kind of visa or passport.

What if I have an immigration problem?

Very occasionally things do go wrong. If this happens, the University has staff available to help you and you should let us know immediately. Most problems can be resolved if you tell us about them soon enough.

If you have any immigration-related problems, you should always seek assistance from the University's International Student Advisors as early as possible. You can book appointments with an International Student Advisor via UniHelp.

Where can I find more information?

You will find most of the information you need on the International Student Support page of UniHub:

<http://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/international/visa/index.aspx>

UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) is a charity which offers free, independent advice on a range of matters to international students:

<http://www.ukcisa.org.uk>

Detailed information on the UK immigration rules and regulations can be found on the UK government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/visas-immigration>

