Who can apply?

If you are the dependant of a Tier 4 (General) Student who is applying to extend their visa, you may also apply for an extension. You should be granted a visa which expires at the same time as the Tier 4 (General) Student. It may be possible to switch from another immigration category to Tier 4 Dependant; however this is not possible if you have visitor leave or short-term student leave.

When to apply

The Home Office advises dependants to apply at the same time the Tier 4 student is extending or switching their visa. Dependants’ details can be added to the Tier 4 student application. If it is not possible for the dependant to apply at the same time as the Tier 4 student, you can apply to extend or switch at a later date. You must apply before the expiry of your current visa.

How much does it cost?

The application fee is £457 for the standard service, which takes approximately 8 weeks. There are also priority and premium services available. You must also pay the Immigration Health Surcharge of £150 per year of leave granted.

Supporting documents (all documents must be originals unless stated otherwise)

- 2 x passport photographs with your name written on the back
- Passport
- Police registration certificate (if required for your nationality)
- Biometric residence permit (if you have one for your current leave)
- Financial evidence – you must demonstrate that you have £680 for each month of leave granted to the main applicant (up to a maximum of 9 months).
  
  For example:
  
  Main applicant’s course dates on CAS for course extension: 15/01/2017 – 30/04/2017
  
  Main applicant would need to show 4 months of maintenance at £1015 per month, but would be granted a visa until 30/08/2017 (additional 4 months due to overall course duration being more than 12 months). This is total of £4060
  
  This means that the dependant would need to show a total of 8 months of maintenance at £680 per month. This is a total of £5440
  
- You can use a bank statement or letter from the bank to fulfil this requirement. The money can be in your name or the name of the main applicant. The statement/letter must show that you (or the main applicant) have held the required money for a consecutive 28 day period (finishing on the date of the closing balance) ending no more than 31 days before your application. If the main applicant has an official financial sponsor and they are also covering your living costs then you can submit a letter from them confirming this in order to fulfil the financial requirements.
- Official certified translations (if any of your documents are not in English)
- Evidence that you are living at the same address as the main applicant
• Evidence of relationship to main applicant
  o If you are the husband/wife or civil partner of the Tier 4 (General) Student you should provide your marriage certificate (or civil partnership certificate). If you are recently married it is advisable to submit additional evidence of your relationship prior to marriage (e.g. joint bank statements, council tax bills, utility bills, medical registration, tenancy agreement).
  o If you are the unmarried partner of the Tier 4 (General) Student you should provide evidence that you have been living together in a relationship similar to marriage for at least two years (e.g. joint bank statements, council tax bills, utility bills, medical registration, tenancy agreement). Your documents should cover the whole of this two year period.
  o If you are the child of the Tier 4 (General) Student you should provide your birth certificate showing the names of your parents. If your other parent is not applying at the same time, you should provide evidence of their UK immigration permission (a visitor visa is not sufficient).

Children born in the UK

• It is not necessary to apply for Leave to Remain for children born in the UK. However, if the child leaves the UK they would require immigration permission in order to re-enter.
• Children born in the UK are able to use the NHS free of charge until they are 3 months old. Once they have reached 3 months old they are liable to be charged for NHS treatment unless they have paid the immigration health surcharge (which is only payable as part of an immigration application).
• When applying for leave to remain for children born in the UK, please note that both parents should be in the UK and evidence of their immigration permission should be provided.

For further details please refer to the PBS (Dependant) – Policy Guidance