

EU Referendum FAQs

What will be the impact of the referendum result and the triggering of article 50 on UK Universities

The full impact is unknown however, what we do know is that changes are not going to be immediate and there is likely to be a long period of discussion and transition – at least two years – as the UK agrees its future relationship with the EU. Visit [Planforbritain](#) or GOV.UK to read: [The United Kingdom's exit from and new partnership with the European Union White Paper](#).

We also know that there will **no immediate changes** to:

- The immigration status of current non-UK EU students and staff.
- The fees charged to non-UK EU students or their access to UK government funded loans or grants.
- The sector's participation in EU programmes such as Erasmus

What will change when the UK formally leaves the EU?

The Government has repeatedly stated that it is seeking to guarantee the legal status of EU citizens living in the UK after Brexit, please view the Government statement [here](#). However, the future status of EU citizens remains the subject of negotiations between the UK Government and EU leaders.

How will Brexit affect members of staff from the EU?

The government has confirmed that there will be no immediate changes to UK visa policies for staff currently working in, or considering coming to the UK from the EU.

Until the UK has formally left the EU, previously agreed EU treaties will continue to apply, including the right of EU citizens to live, work and study in other member states.

In terms of recruiting EU staff in the longer term, any changes will depend on the kind of relationship the UK negotiates with the EU. We are committed to highlighting the value of all EU staff, including researchers and academics and the UK government is being urged to guarantee that those currently working at universities can continue to do so in the longer term. We will keep our staff updated as more information becomes available.

See the government's update on [safeguarding-the-position-of-eu-citizens-in-the-uk-and-uk-nationals-in-the-eu](#)

How can I find more information about applying for Permanent Residency and British Citizenship?

If you wish to apply for the permanent right to stay in the UK, or residency, you must make a personal application. Further information can be found on the following links:

[EEA and Swiss nationals in the UK flowchart](#)

[UK Visas & Immigration Homepage](#)

[Apply for a UK residence card](#)

[Prove your right to live in the UK as an EU citizen](#)

[Apply to settle in the UK](#)

If you'd like independent advice on your immigration status, GOV.UK has information on how to [find an immigration adviser](#) in your local vicinity and these are regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC).

Further Support

We appreciate that these are uncertain times for our non-UK EU colleagues. We've a 24-hour Employee Support Helpline offering free, practical, confidential advice in a variety of areas. This service is also available to family members living with our employees.

We are also offering an interest-free, tax exempt loan to cover the cost of applying for residency or citizenship for our non-UK EU employees and/or family members.

Further information

- Read the government's statement on [higher education and research following the EU referendum](#)
- Take a look at these [Brexit FAQs for universities and students](#) from Universities UK
- See the government's update on [the status of EU Citizens in the UK: what you need to know](#)

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