

If you **do not** require a Tier 4 General Student visa because you hold a UK or EEA passport, or because you have another type of visa that permits you to study in the UK, please send us a copy of the photo page of your passport and your visa (if applicable). Tier 4 visa applicants – we cannot proceed with your application until we have received this form, even if you have not studied in the UK before. If you do not complete this form fully and accurately it may affect your ability to study with us.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Student Name: First Name(s)		Family Name (as stated on your passport)		Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)		
College(s) and Course(s) applied for:				UAL Student ID (if known):		
1. Have you ever studied in the UK before?		Please circle :		YES	NO	
2. Have you ever been issued with a visa to study in the UK which you did not use?		Please circle :		YES	NO	
3. Have you ever been refused a visa to enter the UK or entry at the border? *		Please circle :		YES	NO	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have answered YES to any of these questions, please include full details below. Please include details of ALL courses studied in the UK, including any courses you did not complete, and any course you are currently studying. If you have answered NO to all three questions, please just sign and date the form. 						
Dates of Study		Dates of Visa		Name of UK Educational Institution and full title of course studied	Level of Study	Type of Visa
Start Date (dd/mm/yy)	End Date (dd/mm/yy)	Start Date (dd/mm/yy)	End Date (dd/mm/yy)			
		If your visa was curtailed (cancelled) please tell us the revised end date, if known.		Please include English language courses		
						<i>Please continue on a separate page if required</i>
* Please give details here if you answered YES to question 3.						

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

If you need a Tier 4 General Student visa to study at University of the Arts London, we will ask you to complete a UK Immigration History Form. The information you give us will help us to decide if you can obtain a Tier 4 General Student visa for the course you want to study.

Please complete the UK Immigration History Form as fully as you can and return it to us as soon as possible.

What courses should I include?

- All courses you have studied in the UK, including English language and short courses, whether you completed them or not.
- Details of any courses for which you were issued a study visa which you did not use
- Any course you are currently studying.

What courses should I NOT include?

- Any courses you have studied outside the UK
- The course you are now applying to study at the University

Why do we need this information?

If you have studied in the UK before, and need a Tier 4 General Student visa for the course you want to study at the University, you must have enough time to study your course under the time limits for study in the UK set by the Home Office. Also the course you want to study with us must show you are making academic progression from your previous course in the UK.

What are the Home Office time limits for study in the UK?

There are two separate sets of time limits: one for courses below National Qualifications Framework (NQF) level 6 and another one for courses at level NQF6 and above.

What are the NQF levels?

NQF Level	Examples of Typical Qualifications
3	Access, Diplomas, Foundation Diplomas (not UAL), A-levels, IB
4	Foundation Diplomas (UAL), Cert HE
5	Foundation Degrees, Dip HE
6	Bachelor degrees, Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas
7	Masters Degrees (including MPhil), PG Certs, PG Dips
8	PhD

I want to study a new course at a level below NQF6 – what is the time limit?

The total number of years you can study courses at levels below NQF6 (including English language courses) is **two**.

Previous study which counts towards your 2 year study time limit:

- Study periods on courses below NQF6 when you were on a Tier 4 Child visa or Tier 4 General Student visa when you were 18 years old. The period is counted from your 18th birthday onwards, not from the start date of the visa. The whole period of the visa is counted, whether you were in the UK or not. Periods of time for which a visa was granted which you did not use may also be counted.

Previous study which **does not** count towards your 2 year study time limit:

- Courses you studied on a pre-Tier 4 Student visa* or any type of non-study visa
- Courses you studied on a Tier 4 Child visa or Tier 4 General Student visa when you were a child (under 18 years old). The period is counted up to your 18th birthday, not to the end date of the visa.
- Any study on courses at level NQF6 or above

* Pre-Tier 4 Student visas were student visas issued before 31st March 2009

I want to study a new course at level NQF6 or NQF7

The total number of years you can study courses at levels NQF6 and NQF7 is **five**. **

Previous study which counts towards your 5 year study time limit:

- Courses you studied which were at NQF6 or NQF7 on a Tier 4 General Student visa or pre-Tier 4 Student visa* The whole period of the visa is counted, whether you were in the UK. Periods of time for which a visa was granted which you did not use may also be counted.

Previous study which **does not** count towards your 5 year study time limit:

- Courses you studied on a Tier 4 Child visa or any type of non-study visa.
- Any study on courses below level NQF6

**There is a special exception to the 5 year rule for students who study an undergraduate degree that is four or five years in length (not including periods of repeat study or approved leaves of absence). The overall time limit for these students can be raised to six years if they wish to study a Master's degree at a Higher Education Institution.

I want to study a new course at NQF8

If you have already spent five years in the UK studying at levels NQF 6 and NQF7, you can still undertake a PhD, which is at NQF 8. If you have already undertaken PhD level study in the UK you can only do further PhD level study if the total time spent studying on a Tier 4 General Student visa or pre-Tier 4 Student visa* will not exceed 8 years.

How is the time calculated?

When calculating the amount of time spent on previous study, we must count:

- The full period of the visa including extra leave before the course started or after it finished, whether or not you were in the UK during those extra leave periods
- Any periods of time spent in the UK between courses whilst waiting for a new visa to be issued
- If your visa is curtailed (cancelled) we will use the new end date (following the curtailment) in the calculation. If you do not know this date we may need your permission to ask the Home Office.

When calculating the amount of time spent which will be spent on the new course, we must count:

- The full period of the visa you will be granted including extra leave before the course starts or after it finishes, whether or not intend to be in the UK during those extra leave periods

Calculations are in months, rounded up or down to the nearest month.

What does “making academic progression” mean?

The Home Office consider you are making academic progression if:

- The NQF level of your new course is higher than the level of your previous course
- The NQF level of your new course is the same as the level of your previous course, but the new course complements the previous course and will allow you to develop a deeper specialisation in a particular field.

Who decides whether a course is academic progression from previous study or not?

The first decision will be taken by the University. We can only sponsor you for a Tier 4 General Student visa if we strongly believe your new course represents academic progression from your previous course. If we decide that your new course does not represent academic progression, we will not progress your application. This decision is at the discretion of the University and will be final.

The final decision will be taken by the Home Office. Even if the University considers your new course represents academic progression, if the Home Office disagree, they will refuse your Tier 4 General Student visa application. The University will not be able to challenge the Home Office's decision.

The Home Office can also take action against the University if we assess your new course as academic progression but the Home Office are concerned about our assessment, or if they consider that there is no progression. This action includes revoking our Tier 4 Sponsor Licence. This is why the University will not be able to sponsor you if we believe the Home Office will not agree that your new course represents academic progression from your previous course and why this decision will be final.