

Resources for Egyptian scholars in the UK

Guides for Egyptian Students and Researchers.

Useful links

1- Student Visas to the UK

- <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>
- www.educationuk.org/english/articles/student-visas/

2- Guide for Researchers moving to the UK

- www.britishcouncil.org/new/global/euraxess/euraxess-uk-guide-for-researchers-moving-to-uk.pdf

3- First Steps - a pre-departure guide for international students coming to study in the UK 2014-15

- http://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/s/w9nv2dkjw9pudwx/E262%20First%20Steps%20A4_FINAL_v3.pdf?dl=0

4- Learn more about UK Immigration and Customs

- www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/When-you-arrive/Immigration-and-customs

5- Registering with the Police

- www.educationuk.org/english/articles/registering-with-the-police

6- Learn more about study methods and academic culture in the UK

- www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Preparing--planning/Choosing-a-course/Study-methods-in-the-UK
- www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Study-work--more/Other-useful-information/Tips-on-successful-study

7- Practical information about health, safety and well-being

during your time in the UK (in Portuguese)

- www.educationuk.org/english/sub/health-safety-and-welfare
- www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Study-work--more/Health-and-healthcare

8- Dealing with Culture Shock

www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Study-work--more/Culture-Shock

9- Preparing to return home

<http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/The-next-stage/Preparing-to-return-home>.

10- General Information

Work during Studies

Most international students coming to the UK to study for 12 months or longer are entitled to work part-time for up to 20 hours per week during term time, and full time during vacations. If you are a research student, or a postgraduate student writing your dissertation, you are not permitted to work full time during University vacations as you will be expected to continue with your research during vacation periods.

Married Students and Students with Children

International students coming to the UK to study a postgraduate course lasting 12 months or more; or a new Government Exchange student studying for 6 months or more can bring their spouse and children under the age of 18 with them as their dependants. However, if you plan to bring your spouse/family with you, please bear in mind that the cost of living will increase accordingly. You should think carefully whether bringing your family with you to the UK is the best option, or whether they should remain at home. It will not be possible for two or more people to live on a budget for only one.

In order to get visas for your dependants, you will have to show that you have sufficient funds for yourself (£820 per month approx.) and each dependant (£460 per month approx.) to live on and that you have either a) arranged suitable accommodation or b) have sufficient money to pay the rent of appropriate accommodation which you will arrange for you and your family once you get to the UK. We would not advise you to enter into a contract with a private sector landlord without first having seen the accommodation he/she is offering you.

Finding accommodation for you and your family may take some time therefore you should be prepared to have to search for suitable accommodation once you arrive in UK. It is strongly recommended that you come to the UK on your own in the first instance to find accommodation which most suits your needs then bring your family over. Some Universities have only very limited accommodation which is suitable for families and demand is very high.

As well as the cost of suitable family accommodation, you should give careful consideration to other factors such as very limited and expensive childcare facilities when deciding whether or not to bring your family to UK.

NOTE: If you have a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa, your dependant partner will be permitted to work full time whilst you study in the UK. However finding suitable employment may be difficult. Your partner may also have to consider their language skills when looking for employment. You and your family cannot rely on earnings from employment here in the UK to finance your stay in the UK. You are not entitled to claim any state benefits. (Please Check with the Home Office websites)

Schools

It is compulsory for children between the ages of 5 and 16 years to attend school. Your child will be accepted into a local state school at no charge. The best way for caring for children under the age of 5 is for you and your spouse to organise your study and free time to ensure that you personally meet the needs of your children. Childcare for children under 5 is extremely expensive and places are very limited. Expect to pay upwards of £600 per month for full time childcare for pre-school aged children.

Personal Finances

You should think about how you are going to get your money to the UK – having a member of your family transfer your funds to your UK bank account once it is opened is probably the safest method.

Remember, you will need to bring sufficient funds to pay your initial accommodation rent (e.g. temporary accommodation), buy food and general expenses until your UK bank account is set up (this may take 2 to 3 weeks). It is not advisable to bring large sums of cash. Instead bring traveller's cheques and only a small amount of cash. You should be able to use your credit/debit card from home.

Banks

Opening a bank account in the UK can be a difficult, time consuming and frustrating process due to strict UK banking regulations and stringent identity and credit checks. Students studying for less than six months may find it particularly difficult.

ATAS Certificates

An ATAS (Academic Technology Approval Scheme) certificate is required if you are studying a course in certain areas of Sciences (including medicine, veterinary medicine, agriculture, mathematics, computer sciences), Engineering and Technology. If your course requires an ATAS certificate, you must obtain one **before** you apply for your Tier 4 (General) Student visa. Full details and how to apply are on the Foreign & Commonwealth Office website: www.fco.gov.uk

Insurance

You should arrange suitable travel insurance to cover your luggage when travelling, and you should arrange insurance for your possessions (particularly expensive items such as laptops or cameras) once you arrive in Glasgow.

Medical

As a student you are entitled to register under the NHS, so will be entitled to free medical treatment in the UK. Bring a record of your medical history with you for your UK doctor.

What to Bring

The UK is much colder and wetter than Egypt; therefore you will need suitable clothing, particularly good waterproof shoes and a warm winter coat. These may be cheaper to buy here, but if you have them, bring them with you.

Do not attempt to bring any plants or foodstuffs into the UK.

NOTE : the above information are only for guides, and you need to check with your university and the local authorities.