

Scope

- 9.1 The Immigration Compliance Regulation applies to all students enrolled at York St John University who require a visa to enter, remain, and study in the UK.

Definitions

- 9.2 *Visa*: authorisation for a person to enter, remain, and study in the UK for a specified amount of time.
- 9.3 *Sponsorship*: Student visa sponsorship
- 9.4 *UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) rules and regulations*: Instructions and guidelines, as amended by the UKVI from time to time. They govern entry, stay, and work in the UK for non-British/Irish citizens, focusing on visas and immigration, sponsorship, and compliance
- 9.5 *Authorising Officer*: nominated senior officer of the University with responsibility for actions taken in relation to the University's sponsor's licence.

Immigration compliance

- 9.6 All international students enrolled on a programme of study on York St John University campuses must have valid permission to live and study in the UK throughout the duration of their studies. Action may be taken under this regulation if they fail to retain such permission.
- 9.7 Students who are sponsored by the University on a Student Visa must be aware of, and adhere to, the requirements of their visa, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) rules and regulations and UK immigration law at all times during their studies.
- 9.8 The University has a series of procedures in place to ensure compliance with UK immigration rules, and which must be followed. These include:
- 9.8.1 Admissions procedures that ensure applicants meet the academic, English Language, financial and credibility requirements to study in the UK.
 - 9.8.2 CAS issuance procedures that ensure academic, financial and English Language requirements are met and that set out when visas will and will not be issued.
 - 9.8.3 Procedures related to the monitoring of student engagement.
 - 9.8.4 Visa and compliance processes and procedures that document the following:
 - a) Procedures that document what happens if an applicant's visa is refused.
 - b) Enrolment procedures that ensure all pre-enrolment and right-to-study checks have been completed prior to enrolment and that enrolment occurs prior to the last date of enrolment.
 - c) Procedures that document how course change requests (including the adding or removal of placement years or years in industry) and early course completions are processed
 - d) Procedures for authorising absences.
 - e) Procedures that document when a CAS for an in-country visa extension will be issued.
 - f) Procedures that document actions to be taken where breaches to visa conditions are suspected or proven.
 - g) Withdrawal of sponsorship procedures that document when sponsorship may be withdrawn.
 - h) Retention procedures detailing what information is kept and for how long.

- 9.9 Further information can be found on our [visa web page](#). Students shall not engage in conduct either on or off university premises which constitutes a breach of their visa conditions and obligations, UKVI rules and regulations or UK immigration law, or which undermines the University's credibility as a sponsor with a track record of compliance under the Student route. Further information about a student's obligations under the Student route can be found on our [Student visa conditions](#) web page.
- 9.10 If a student fails to adhere to the conditions and obligations of their visa, UKVI rules and regulations or UK immigration law, or if a student engages in conduct which undermines the University's credibility as a sponsor with a track record of compliance under the Student route, the University's sponsorship of the student may be withdrawn. Where sponsorship is withdrawn by the University, the student's enrolment on their programme of study will be withdrawn as they will be unable to fulfil their responsibilities as set out in the [Programme Engagement Regulation](#).
- 9.11 Concerns relating to a student's non-compliance of their visa conditions and obligations, UKVI rules and regulations or UK immigration law will generally be dealt with in accordance with the Support to Study Policy or the Visa Compliance Review for Visa Breaches policy set out in the [Code of Practice for Assessment](#).
- 9.12 Notwithstanding these procedures, the University reserves the right to also report to the [UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\)](#), any student who is suspected or proven to have breached their visa conditions and obligations, UKVI rules and regulations or UK immigration law at any time during their studies.
- 9.13 A student will have the right to appeal against the decision of the Support to Study Panel, the Visa Compliance Review for Visa Breaches Panel, the School Assessment Board, or the *Authorising Officer*. Full information about the appeal procedure is available on our [Appeals](#) webpage.
- 9.14 If a student wishes to remove their placement year any time after obtaining their CAS, they may not be entitled to a refund of the tuition fees paid in line with our [Student Financial Regulations](#).

Associated links: <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/international/visa-and-immigration/student-visa-conditions/>
<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/policies-and-documents/regulations/>
<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/policies-and-documents/code-of-practice-for-assessment/>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration>
<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/students/concerns-and-complaints/appeal-an-assessment-decision/>
<https://www.yorks.ac.uk/policies-and-documents/finance/#students>

Version control statement

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2	Changes to committee names	06/11/2019	Academic Board
2.1	Minor amendment. Numbering updated.	24/06/2020	Academic Board
3	Removal of references to Tier 4, replaced with Student Visa scheme.	23/06/2021	Academic Board
5	Updated to include procedures in place to ensure compliance with UK immigration rules Reference to Progress and Award Examination Board updated for relevant replacement committee name.	26/06/2024	Academic Board
6	Details expanded in relation to visa and compliance processes and procedures.	24/06/2026	Academic Board