

# **Pre-Arrival Guide**

# **Standard Visitor Visa and Recreational Study**

#### What is a Standard Visitor Visa?

You can visit the UK as a Standard Visitor for tourism, business, recreational courses, and other allowed activities.

#### How long can I remain in the UK on a Standard Visitor Visa?

You can normally stay in the UK for up to 6 months on a Standard Visitor Visa.

#### Can I extend or be allowed to work on a Standard Visitor Visa?

Standard Visitors are not allowed to work for a UK company or as a self-employed person, and their visas cannot be extended.

## What are the requirements for Standard Visitor Visa?

You must be able to demonstrate that:

- you have documents for permitted activities (e.g. recreational study, acceptance letter)
- you have a passport that is valid for the duration of your stay in the UK
- you will depart the United Kingdom at the end of your visit
- you are financially capable of supporting yourself during your stay in the UK
- you have the ability to pay for your return journey

For further information & to apply for a standard visitor visa, visit <a href="www.gov.uk/standard-visitor">www.gov.uk/standard-visitor</a>

#### **Additional Recreational Study in the UK**

Distance learning students can visit the UK on a Standard Visitor Visa and attend additional recreational study in the UK, such as study skills building and meetings, for a maximum of non-consecutive 30 days (1 day per week class) (30 days can be split across the 6 months standard visitor visa). Additional recreational study in the UK does not lead to formal qualification. Additional recreational study is provided with the additional cost of £200 per day (minimum of 15 days of classes in 15 weeks: £3000). Visit website <a href="www.severnbusinesscollege.com">www.severnbusinesscollege.com</a> for more information about distance learning courses and recreational study in the UK.

#### Is Severn Business College an Accredited Institution?

Severn Business College is an ASIC accredited institution.

#### **Costs of Living in London**

Depending on your lifestyle, the cost of living in London for a single student for six months is around £6000. It is entirely up to you how much you spend on food, drinks, and socialising, but budgeting is essential for getting the most out of your time and money. Going out is often more expensive the closer you get to the Central London. A night out, or simply going to the movies, may grow quite expensive, so you can choose to have the rare elegant evening in Central London, or to socialise more frequently but in less expensive regions. Checking out local listings and discount code websites may help you locate cheap, and sometimes even free, evenings out.

#### **UK Weather**

The one thing you can predict about the UK weather is that it is unpredictable. Even in the summer it often rains so make sure you always carry an umbrella. The coldest months are December, January and February, when the average temperature is usually between 3 and 6°C (37-42°F) The warmest months are July and August, when the average temperature is usually between 16 and 21°C (60-70°F). However, there is rain throughout the year, and the weather in England can change very rapidly so make sure to pack a range of clothes.

## **Accommodation Support**

We do not have any student residence halls, however we do offer a database of neighboring bed and breakfast hotels, rental agents, and landlords. We will support and guide students interested in obtaining accommodation.

# **Airport Pickup Facility**

The college provides airport pickup services for college students who are visiting the United Kingdom for the first time. Students must notify the college of their arrival date and time at least two weeks in advance. There is a £50 (non-refundable) handling fee as well as an approximately £150 airport pickup fee for this service.

#### **Enrolment**

Enrolment is the administrative procedure that you will go through when you first arrive at the college, and it consists of presenting documentation, paying any outstanding fees, and receiving your timetable. You will also provide us with your contact information, such as your address, email address, and phone number.

## Induction

The college regards first day of class as an extremely important part of the start of your course. The induction programme is designed to ensure that you have every opportunity to: 1) meet with new fellow students; 2) meet staff members; 3) familiarise yourself with the college; 4) familiarise yourself with your classroom; 5) understand your timetable; 6) understand health & safety; 7) understand student handbook; and 8) understand your course program.

#### In an Emergency Situation

In the event of an emergency, dial 999. You will be asked which type(s) of emergency services you require (police, ambulance, fire brigade or coastguard). Please keep in mind that the police in the United Kingdom are often courteous and helpful.