

EU Citizens Support

**citizens
advice
bureau**

The EU Settlement Scheme



Have you applied yet?

This pamphlet is also available in Polish, Romanian, Bulgarian, Slovakian, Czech, Hungarian, Russian, and Bengali, online or from your local library.

What is the EU Settlement Scheme?

When the UK government began working toward Brexit, the UK and the EU reached an agreement to protect the rights of EU citizens living in the UK during the Brexit transition period. However, after the transition period comes to an end, those rights will no longer be protected, so any EU citizens wishing to stay will need to have secured permission to remain in the UK, known as a right to reside.

The EU Settlement Scheme is the method created by the Home Office by which EU citizens can apply to remain in the UK after Brexit, by seeking either settled status (over five years resident), or pre-settled status (under five years resident).

Who needs to apply?

EU, EEA and Swiss citizens, including any children, will need to make an application if they want to remain in the UK. This includes citizens who come from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Any family members of an EU citizen, who are not themselves EU citizens, will need to apply also.

Citizens of the Republic of Ireland enjoy a right to live in the UK unaffected by Brexit, and so do not need to make an application to the scheme, unless they have family members who are from countries outside the EU, EEA and Switzerland.

EU citizens will need to apply even if married to a British citizen.

If you have a document certifying Permanent Residence you will still need to apply to convert that into settled status.

However, if you have been granted Indefinite Leave to Enter or Remain in the UK, you do not need to make an application (though it may be beneficial for you to do so).

When should I apply?

The EU Settlement Scheme is now fully operational and open for applications. You should consider applying as soon as possible, but the latest date for making an application is currently the 31st December 2020, with a further extension possible. As you will need valid ID you should plan in advance to make sure you have up-to-date documents.

Is there a fee for the application?

No. There is no fee for the application.

How do I apply?

You can apply online at www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus

The application process is quite short. You will need to prove your identity using a valid passport or national ID card, or for non-EU citizens your biometric residence card. Your identity can be verified using an app which is currently only available on Android devices, but will become accessible to Apple handsets later in the year. Alternatively, you can prove your identity by post.

Once you have completed the identity stage, the remainder of the application is completed online (paper applications can be requested in exceptional circumstances), where you will need to prove your residence in the UK and your suitability to remain.

You will need an email address and a mobile phone number to proceed with the application process, and you may need to provide further evidence of your residence in the UK, and / or evidence of your relationship with any child applicants or family members.

You can make the application yourself, but you may want to seek help and assistance with some or all stages of the application process.

Can the Citizens Advice Bureau help me?

Yes, most definitely. All our advice and support is free.



Your questions answered

How can you help?

The Citizens Advice Bureau has dedicated specialist advisers to help with the application process, as part of the new EU Citizens Support Service, funded by the Home Office.

The service is completely free and confidential, and we can help, no matter how simple or complicated the issue.

We can offer interpreters, flexible appointment times and family appointments. We can advise you whether or not an application is needed; provide access to an Android handset or internet / computer services; and we can help you through the application process, start to finish if you wish. We can assist you to gather and submit evidence; be there to support you if anything goes wrong; and even help if your application has been refused.

How can I contact you?

Appointments can be arranged in person or over the phone with your local CAB :

Perth – 01738 450581

Dundee – 01382 307494

Arbroath – 01241 870661

Forfar – 01307 467096

Montrose – 01674 673263

Or just email us at - EUCitizens@Perthcab.org.uk

There is also a national helpline that can be contacted on - 0800 916 9847

We want you to stay in the UK and we are here to help so get in touch!

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

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