

STUDENT VISA CHECK SHEET

Welcome

Here at Point Blank, our students come from a diverse range of countries from all over the world. Our International Students bring with them an invaluable range of skills, cultures and musical influences, and in return, we deliver award winning courses to help you reach your career goals and experience a multitude of exciting opportunities within London and the UK. We are delighted to welcome you to Point Blank!

It is the School's responsibility to review all your documents before issuing you with a CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies) so you can successfully apply for your visa. The School will not issue a CAS unless we are satisfied you meet all the requirements of a Student Visa.

PLEASE NOTE: From 1st January 2021, EU / EEA and Swiss students will be deemed international students and will require a visa.

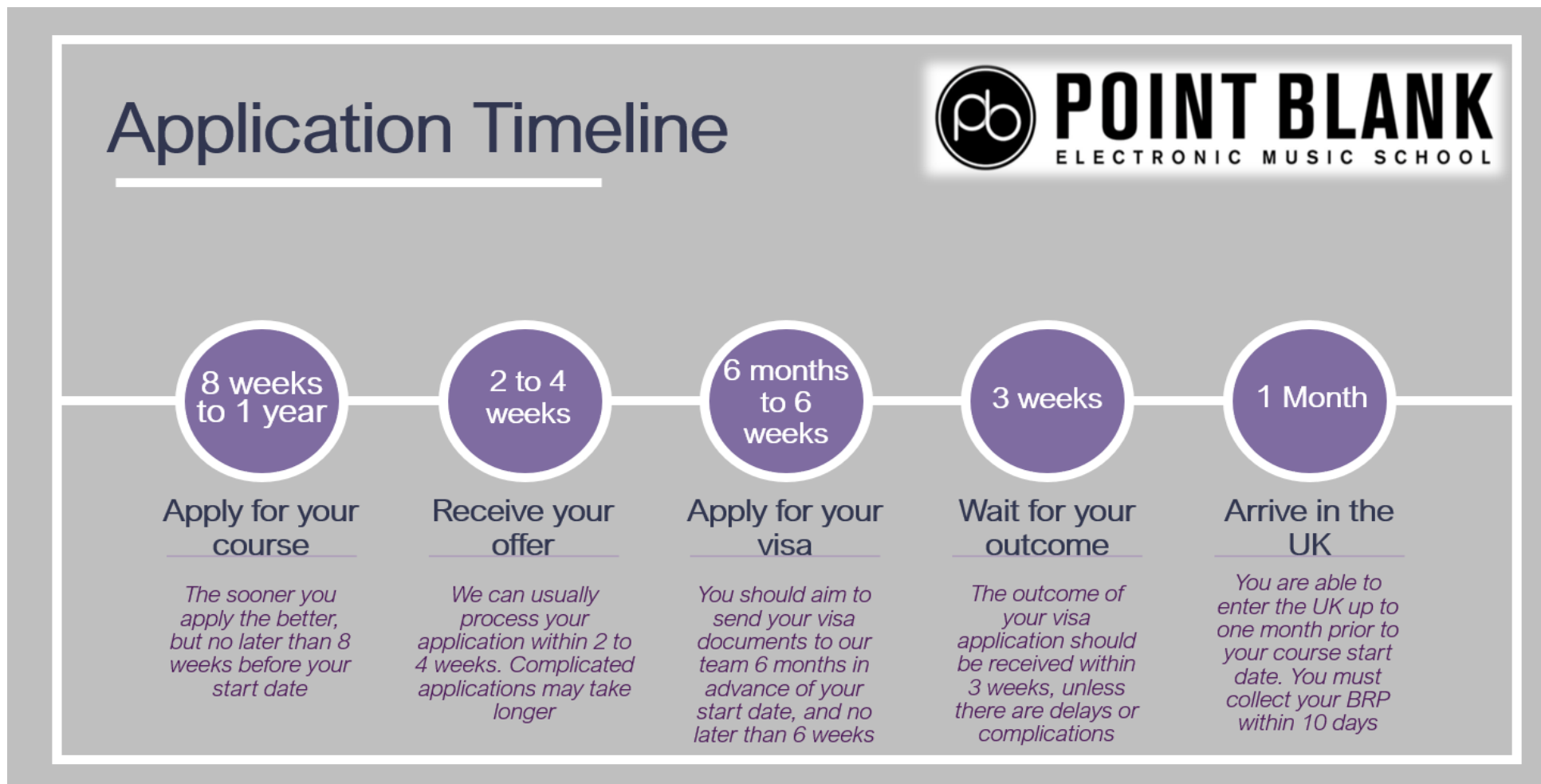
During your application, our experienced team of Admissions Officers are here to help with each step of the way. If you need to contact our team, they can be reached by emailing [Admissions](#) or calling +44 207 7294884.



Timeline

Below is a handy timeline of stages to help you plan your admission and visa process.

It is always best to plan well in advance as these times are only approximate timings. Remember not to book any non-refundable travel or accommodation until your visa application has been finalised.



Step 1 – Apply for your course

To study one of our degree courses, you must apply for your course online.

You are able to apply through the [Point Blank](#) website or through [UCAS](#). Details of our HE Admissions Process and Entry Requirements are on each course page.

We recommend applicants apply for their course no later than 8 weeks before their desired course start date.

If you are unable to complete the application process within this timeframe, we may need to defer you to a later start date. This change will be made free of charge.

Our Team will help you each way of the process, requesting your academic documents and arranging any required admissions tests or interviews.

If you want to nominate an agent or school / family representative to speak on your behalf, please remember to add their name to your application form. It may come in handy during the application process. We are unable to speak with any unnamed parties.

You may need to show that you meet the English Language requirements of a CEFR Level B2 in reading, writing, speaking and listening. If so, you will be required to take an IELTS Academic Test, obtaining an overall score of 6.0 and at least 5.5 in each category. Please be aware that this qualification has a validity of 2 years and must be valid at the time of your application.

Once you have received your unconditional offer, we can help you acquire your visa.

Please apply as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Step 2 – Start preparing your financial evidence

You will need evidence of funding for your tuition fees and your living expenses. There are strict requirements for the amounts and forms of evidence accepted by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). It's essential to get it right or your application will be rejected.

Start planning your financial evidence early – ideally a few weeks before you plan to make your visa application. If you or your parents will pay for your living costs, you will need bank statements or bank letters showing you have held the required funds in your account for at least 28 days. The statement/letter must be no more than 31 days old before you submit your visa application.

Before we issue your CAS you must:

- Demonstrate living expenses of £1,334 per month for the first nine months of your course (£12,006) – or for the full course duration if it's shorter than nine months. Due to fluctuations in exchange rates, we would recommend aiming for £12,500.
- Pay your first year of fees.

Any tuition fees paid to Point Blank will be noted in your CAS.

Parents' or legal guardians' bank accounts can be used as evidence to show sufficient maintenance funds. Bank account evidence of any other family member or friend will not be accepted by the Home Office. If using parents' or legal guardians' financial evidence, two further documents will need to be provided:

- 1) Evidence of the relationship between the student and parents/legal guardians, such as a birth or adoption certificate
- 2) A financial sponsor letter signed by your parent(s)/legal guardian(s)



Take time to prepare your financial evidence so that your visa application is successful.

Please read our [Guide to Financial Evidence](#).

Step 3 – Prepare your other supporting documents

Make sure you have your original academic certificates and transcripts, and English language test certificate if needed. We will also need a copy of your Passport and any Residence Permits you hold.

Please note that during your Student Visa application, you will be able to see an official list of documents you need to submit with your Visa application. Do not upload additional documents unless requested by the Home Office.

Students from some countries will need to take a tuberculosis test. [Check on the UK government website](#) to see if this applies to you. **If this applies to you, do NOT forget to submit your TB test certificate with your Visa application even if it does not appear on your list of documents to submit with your Visa application.**

Some students may need extra documents, including:

- official translations of any evidence not originally provided in English
- a letter of parental consent if you are under 18
- evidence about any changes to your name

Step 4 – Send your evidence to Point Blank for review

To apply for a Student Visa, you will need a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from the university where you will study.

This is an essential part of your visa application: it shows that we are accepting you as a student and expect you to attend our course. We can only issue a CAS to students who have firmly accepted our offer and met all their offer conditions.

The Visa Team will review your documents to ensure they meet the visa regulations stated in the Home Office [Student Visa Guidance](#)

We may ask you to make some changes to your documents or source additional documents. Please be assured this is to ensure you have a positive outcome for your visa application – we are there to help!

Once your documents have been reviewed and approved, we will draft your CAS.

Step 5 – Apply for your Student Visa

We will send you a copy of your draft CAS for review. This is your opportunity to point out any changes you would like to request, such as highlighting any inaccuracies. This is an important stage of the process, as only minimal changes can be made to the CAS once it has been confirmed.

We will then send you a final version of your CAS document which will enable you to start your Student Visa application online: <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply-online>

Please copy and paste all information as stated in your CAS!

You will be asked where you would like to collect your BRP from as part of the application. If you know where you will be staying, please enter your UK address. If you have not yet planned your accommodation, you will need to insert our postcode: N1 5DL.

Point Blank is not currently a location that provides BRP collection from campus. Collection will be from your assigned Post Office.

Step 6 – Pay for your IHS and book appointment

It currently costs £490 to apply for a Student Visa from outside the UK (additional fees are payable for expedited services)

You will be required to pay the IHS (International Health Surcharge) in addition to your fee. This entitles you to medical, dental and emergency care at the same rate UK nationals pay. To work out how much you will need to pay, please use the [IHS Calculator](#)

When you submit your online application, you'll make an appointment with a visa application centre to provide the evidence required, unless you are eligible to use the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to scan your identity document. In this case you will receive a digital Visa.



Arrive at the scheduled time and remember to bring your passport and all your original supporting documents. These will be assessed with your visa application and returned to you with your visa decision.

The application centre staff will also take your biometric information: fingerprints and face photos.

You may also be selected for a 'credibility interview'. This is a five-minute interview via video link with UKVI staff in the UK. The purpose is to check that you are coming to the UK as a genuine student, so you will be asked questions about your course, your reasons for studying in the UK and reasons for choosing Point Blank Music School. Credibility interviews are increasingly uncommon but are more likely to take place in certain countries.

Step 7 – Receive your entry vignette

When your visa application has been processed, your passport will be sent back to you with a vignette (sticker) added to a blank page. It will also come with a decision letter confirming that your application has been successful, the duration of your visa, and your BRP collection location.

The vignette allows you to enter the UK within a fixed period, usually lasting for 90 days.

Please send an electronic version of your vignette to the Visa Team.

IMPORTANT

If your visa has been refused, the reasons will be stated in the decision letter. Please contact the Visa Team immediately and include a copy of the decision letter. We can advise you on whether you should appeal this decision or make a new application, which will require a new CAS from us.

Please note: Point Blank reserves the right to refuse a second CAS, should the refusal letter imply any future visa application is likely to be unsuccessful.



Step 8 – Collect your BRP and present your documents for Registration

After the travelling to the UK, you must collect your biometric residence permit (BRP) within ten days of arrival. Remember to take your passport with the entry vignette and your visa decision letter to the Post Office when collecting it.

During Registration period, we will ask you to present your visa documents: passport, BRP, Visa decision letter and flight ticket/boarding pass if you have used the e-gates to enter the UK.

Things to note

Exemptions to providing financial evidence

- Certain countries are exempt from the requirement to show financial evidence with their visa application. The current list can be accessed here: [Differentiation Countries](#), ST22.1.
- If your country is listed as an exempt country, we will still ask to see your financial documents as the Home Office can ask to see these at any point during the application process.

For example:

Case 1 – You are a student from the USA, you are on the differentiation list – you do not need to present financial documents to the Home Office unless requested.

Case 2 – You are a student from India, you are not on the differentiation list – you will need to present financial documents to the Home Office.



Immigration History and Academic Progression

- We may need to request confirmation of your Immigration History from the Home Office Premium Service. When you submit your application, you consent to us accessing this information.
- In certain cases, if this is not your first Student Visa, we may need you to show your Academic Progression.
- There are study time limits for certain students, usually up to a maximum of five years UK study. This does mean that we will be unable to sponsor some students who have studied in the UK previously.
- If you have an adverse immigration history, we may need to find an alternative to a campus-based course.

We are here to help you throughout the application process and our aim is to help you have a successful visa application.

If you need to contact our team, they can be reached by emailing [Admissions](#) or calling +44 207 7294884. We look forward to welcoming you to the London campus.