

Information for EU, EEA or Swiss research students

The UK left the European Union (EU) on 31 January 2020 on the basis of an agreement made between the UK and the EU known as the Withdrawal Agreement. The UK has negotiated separate agreements with the EEA EFTA states (Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein) and Switzerland. All references to EU citizens below also apply to citizens of these countries.

The UK's relationship with the EU is changing as a result, but it is not ending – students from the EU will continue to be welcomed at the ICR. In 2016, Professor Paul Workman, Chief Executive of The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), said:

“The referendum vote will not change the ICR’s international outlook or our passionate belief in the need for researchers to collaborate across borders to solve the biggest problems in science, and in our case to understand and defeat cancer. Nor will the vote alter our commitment to maintain a global workforce at the ICR of the brightest minds and most talented scientists and clinicians.”

Although we are in a period of uncertainty, some of the facts are detailed below which we hope will provide some reassurance.

If you are already a registered student from the EU, we encourage you to apply for settled or pre-settled status in order to protect your right to live and work in the UK beyond **31 December 2020** (if you have Irish citizenship, you do not need to apply). For more details of the EU Settlement Scheme, visit www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families. It is free to apply to the scheme – please note **the current deadline for applying is 30 June 2021** although we would encourage you to do this as soon as possible.

If you have an offer of a place to study and you are an EU citizen arriving in the UK after 31 December 2020, you will need to apply for a visa via the Student Route. The ICR's Student Admissions team will advise you of the requirements of this new scheme.

If you are a prospective student, please note that many of our studentships are open to all nationalities and are inclusive of fees as well as stipend and project cost. This will continue in 2021-22 as we welcome the best candidates both from the UK and internationally. Therefore we do not expect the change in the fee status of EU citizens to impact the majority of students starting a degree at the ICR.

There are some studentships with restrictions on who is eligible to apply or where a top-up fee may be charged for students arriving from abroad. **All applicants are advised to check the funding criteria against specific studentships advertised.**

For further detail, please see the UK government's website for the latest guidance on Brexit for EU students: www.gov.uk/guidance/brexit-guidance-for-eu-students-in-the-uk.

The UKCISA website has helpful guidance and is also updated regularly:

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/EU-EEA--Swiss-Students/Are-you-an-EEA-national>