# England Tier 4 Student Visa Application Process

#### -IMPORTANT: DO NOT LOSE THIS CHECKLIST-

All Students MUST have a student visa to participate in this program.

Students arriving without a visa will be sent home by immigration officials at your own expense.

YOU are solely responsible for obtaining your visa ON TIME for your program.

Please take this process seriously.

\*\*THESE GUIDELINES ONLY PERTAIN TO US CITIZENS STUDYING IN THE UK FOR THE YEAR and SEMESTER STUDENTS WHO WISH TO WORK WHILE IN THE UK\*\*

#### What You Will Need TO DO:

- > CONSULT and READ information on the Tier 4 STUDENT VISA process at the UK website.
- > **GATHER** all of the supporting documentation (and copies!) for your visa application.
- NOTE: While you will not need to travel to the UK Consulate to apply for a visa, you will need to travel to an authorized biometrics center.
- > **SUBMIT** all required documents for your student visa.
- ➤ **IF YOU ARE NOT** A **US CITIZEN** you <u>may need</u> to **APPLY** for a visa you need to **DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH** at the UK Embassy in your country of citizenship.

#### **Step 1**: Prepare by Collecting Necessary Documentation

- NOW! Consult these websites: <a href="http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/studying/adult-students/apply-outside-uk/">www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/studying/adult-students/apply-outside-uk/</a>
- At the beginning of June, you can prepare by getting your documents in order.

## <u>Step 2</u>: Apply for a Tier 4 Visa <u>AFTER</u> you receive your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) Letter from UEA/Durham/Oxford

- After you receive your CAS letter from UEA/Durham/Oxford and support letter from Dickinson College (but no earlier than 90 days prior to the program start date) you may initiate an on-line application for your UK student visa.
- When you have completed your online application and online visa payment, you will receive an email message containing your application number (also known as a 'GWF reference'). Please make a note of this number. You will also be prompted to book an appointment (using the online calendar) to enroll your biometric information.

#### Step 3: Schedule and attend an appointment to submit your biometrics data

> Set up a biometrics appointment (through the consulate website). Go to the approved center and have your biometric information taken. When you have selected an appointment time using

### England Tier 4 Student Visa Application **Process**

the online calendar, you will receive another email confirming the time and date of your biometric appointment at an Application Support Center. Please print this confirmation receipt and bring it to your appointment, with your original valid passport or travel document and a printed copy of your online application form.

#### **Step 4**: Submit all of your supporting documents for your UK visa application.

- Submit all of your supporting materials to the consulate within 14 days of your biometrics appointment. Note: If you do not do this within 14 days, your application fee will be forfeited and your will have to re-apply!
- > The visa application for the Tier 4 (student) visa is £310 (subject to change) plus a \$12 "return courier service" fee
- Use checklist (below) in preparation for your visa application.
- KEEP all of your documentation in a safe place. Some documents will be very difficult to replace if lost.

Travel with your Passport and Visa Documentation with You **DO NOT** pack them in your checked baggage!

#### CHECKLIST FOR Tier 4 STUDENT VISA DOCUMENTATION

Items you will need in order to apply for a Tier 4 Student Visa: (For every document that you provide, you must include the original document and a photocopy. This includes a copy of your passport bio-data page (the page containing your photograph). Please ensure that the photocopies are of good quality and can be read easily.) Keep a photocopy for your records.

| Required Items  | Provided by:                   | Notes   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Copy of your online visa application form                             | You                            | Must be signed and dated  |
| Your stamped biometric appointment receipt                            | You                            | Your confirmation receipt will be stamped at your biometrics appointment  |
| Confirmation of Acceptance<br>for Studies (CAS) from UK<br>university | UEA<br>Durham<br>Oxford        | Do NOT lose this. It can be difficult to replace if lost! You will need the CAS reference number to apply.                                  |
| Letter of Support from Dickinson College                              | CGSE (in supplemental package) | Acceptance letter which states Dickinson's financial support for student.   |
| Transcript  | CGSE (in supplemental package) |   |
| Valid, Signed US Passport   | You                            | Must be valid for a minimum of 6 months AFTER the end date of the program. NOT A COPY. Must have at least one blank page to affix the visa. |

## England Tier 4 Student Visa Application **Process**

| Travel Itinerary   | You | Even if you have an e-ticket, make sure you have a confirmed travel itinerary, with a confirmation number, showing your intended departure from the UK  |
|--|-----|---|
| 2 Recent Passport Photos   | You | Can be taken at CVS or Walmart.   |
| Bank Statement*  | You | *Not required, but strongly advised especially for international students. The statement should show proof of funds in a bank account in your name. If the bank statement is in your parent/guardian's name, include a letter of support from parent/guarding whose name is on the account along with the bank statement. |
| If not a U.S. citizen, evidence of your immigration status in the US             | You | For example, your original permanent resident card, advance parole document, or a valid visa in your passport or US visa approval notice. If you are on a J-1 visa you must include your DS-2019, and if on an F-1 visa you must include your I-20.   |
| Pre-Paid, Self-Addressed<br>FedEx or UPS Envelope for<br>the return of your visa | You | Be sure your label is printed FedEx or UPS label and not handwritten. Also, make sure you will be present at the address you use when your visa is returned.  |

All U.S. citizens must apply through the NY British Consulate. Mail your completed application to the British Consulate, address below. After you have submitted your application, you will receive email correspondence from the consulate once they have opened your application and begun to process it. You will receive another email when they mail your passport and Tier 4 Student Visa to your address. Once you receive your visa, check that all the information is correct.

| Contacts:  |
|--|
| Center for Global Study and Engagement (CGSE)   Dickinson College   717.245.1341 |
| global@dickinson.edu   |
| UK Border Agency   www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/                                   |
| UK Consulate in New York   845 Third Avenue   New York, NY 10022   212.745.0200  |