

Guidance for the ERCM attendants who need to obtain a visa to visit the UK.

Do you need a visa?

Conference attendants from outside the UK may be required to apply for a visitor visa to enter the UK. You can check if you need a visa using this link: <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>.

What visa type you can apply for?

People coming to the UK to attend an academic conference, and are required to obtain a visa to enter the UK, may apply for a [Standard Visitor visa](#) – the link takes you to the UK gov website where you can find more details about the eligibility criteria and requirements for a Standard Visitor visa and other important information.

How to apply for a standard visitor visa?

- You can apply for a Standard Visitor Visa online via: <https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor/apply-standard-visitor-visa>
- You need to identify the location of available biometric enrolment services in your country via ([TLS contact](#) if you are in Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle East; [VFS global](#) for all other countries).
- Attend a visa appointment to provide your biometrics (fingerprints and facial photograph).
- You will need to pay £95 visa fees (additional fees may be applied by the commercial partner that facilitates visa appointments)

Required documents for a Standard Visitor visa application:

- A completed visa application form (completed online)
- Original passport with at least 6 months validity.
- Recent colour passport size photographs.
- Proof of financial support for the period of the trip (a personal bank statement or a letter of funding from your institution).
- Proof of a booked and confirmed round trip flight/train ticket.
- Proof of booked accommodation/ address during your stay in the UK (e.g. hotel booking)
- Proof of circumstances in your home country, including documents that demonstrate your employment or student status, such as
 - A letter from your employer on company headed paper, detailing your role, salary and length of employment
 - A letter from your education provider, on headed paper, confirming your enrolment and leave of absence
- Visa invitation letter from the conference organisers (we can provide this upon request)

*Additional documents may be required based on the location of your visa application. Please check all the required documents with your visa service provider before your visa appointment.

Covid related information:

- Before applying for your visa, make sure to check:
 1. The latest information on [travel to Scotland from another country during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#).
 2. If the country you are applying from is on the international travel [red list](#) and the Covid-19 testing and quarantine rules.
 3. The [visa decision waiting times](#) for UK visitor visas and whether it is impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions.