

Brexit and the EU Settlement Scheme



- EU free movement law ended on 01 January 2021
- The EUSS covers all EU/EEA/Swiss citizens and family members living in the UK before **31 December 2020**
- The deadline for EUSS applications is **30 June 2021**.
- Applicants can apply late only with a 'good reason'...
- EU/EEA/Swiss citizens and family members will lose their rights to live, work and access funding and services in the UK if they fail to apply by 30 June 2021.

Who should apply?



EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK, and their family members are protected under the EU Settlement Scheme. Family members do not need to be from the EU; they can come from anywhere in the world (referred to as non-EU citizen family members).

Applications must be made even if they:

- were born in the UK but are not a British citizen
- have a permanent residence document
- are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen with a British citizen family member
- Children must make their own applications unless British

Irish citizens and people who have 'indefinite leave to remain' are not required to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to live and work in the UK.

How to apply?



The application process is mainly online. There are three key steps:

- **Step 1:** Proving applicant's identity and nationality
- **Step 2:** Proving continuous residence in the UK - through the applicant's National Insurance number, or additional documentation
- **Step 3:** As part of the application (aged 18 or over) there will be a criminality check. Only serious or persistent criminality will affect someone's application.

Status Granted

Applicants will get either:

- **Settled Status:** if they have a “continuous qualifying period” of 5 years or more
- **Pre-settled status:** If they have a “continuous qualifying period” of less than 5 years. Pre-settled status is a limited status that will expire after 5 years – applicants must make a second application, and will need to maintain continuous residence until they can apply for settled status.

Evidence of pre-settled or settled status will be in digital form. Applicants will need to google - ‘view and prove my settled status’.

View and prove your immigration status

If you have been told you can view your immigration status online you can use this service to:

- get a ‘share code’ to prove your status to others, for example employers
- update your personal details, for example your passport number or email address
- check what rights you have in the UK, for example the right to work, rent or claim benefits

Adult Social Care providers and the EUSS

- Providers are not legally obliged to check if their staff and service users have applied to the scheme, but should inform these groups of the EU Settlement Scheme and support them with their applications where possible.
- EU care workers may lose their right to work if they don't apply by 30 June 2021. A recent [report from the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants warns](#) that EU care workers are often not aware that they need to apply to the EUSS, or are not aware of its deadline.
- There are indications that people who rely on social care services might be less likely to have applied to the scheme, so they could need extra information and support to do so.

Available EUSS assistance



- EU Settlement Resolution Centre - call 0300 123 7379 between Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays), 8am to 8pm, Saturday and Sunday, 9:30am to 4:30pm
- Charity / community organisations – Home Office have funded organisations and LAs to assist vulnerable applicants with their EUSS applications for free
- Identity Scanning Locations - search gov.uk for a list of locations in each LA.
- Assisted Digital Service - call 03333 445 675 or text “VISA” to 07537 416 944

- **Support available in Merton:**

Citizens Advice Merton and Lambeth (CAML) have an adviser who can provide specialist advice on the EUSS. To access this support email eusettlement@caml.org.uk or telephone 07796 931 724;



The Polish Family Association are offering digital assistance and general advice. Your clients can book an appointment by calling them on 07917 401 064, or emailing info@polishfamily.org.uk.



Thanks for listening!

