

Information and Next Steps for Humanitarian Scholars

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1. Accept your offer

Please accept your academic offer via the self-service portal if you haven't already done so. Your School will provide information on start of year arrangements. Our <u>Get Ready webpages</u> and <u>Welcome & Induction pages</u> are full of lots of useful information to help you prepare for studying at Manchester.

2. Activate your IT account

You'll have received your unique University of Manchester ID in communications sent by your Admissions team, including on your offer letter. You should have also received instructions to activate your IT account.

3. Apply for accommodation

All new undergraduate are guaranteed an **offer** of a room in university halls of residence. We recommend that you apply for university halls and not private accommodation because rooms come with inclusive bills and insurance which will be more cost effective. This will also help you manage your costs as you can pay in instalments . You'll also have access to a wide range of support services to make sure your time with us is as safe and enjoyable as possible. Please read this <u>separate</u> <u>document</u> with full details of your options for accommodation.

4. Applying for your visa

a. Right to Study Check

- You can only apply for your student visa online once you have received your CAS statement from the Admissions Team in your School. The CAS is an electronic document; it does not need to be printed to be included with your visa application.
- The CAS cannot be issued until you have accepted your unconditional offer online and completed a Right to Study Check. Your School may have already been in touch with you about this. You may need to wait a few days between completing the Right to Study check and receiving your CAS.
- As part of the Right to Study Check, your School will ask you to upload a scanned copy of your passport.

b. Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

- Keep an eye out for a draft CAS reminder in your email inbox;
- Confirm your CAS details when prompted;
- Your CAS will be issued 3-4 months before the start of your course via email.

c. Visa Application

 Please have a look at our <u>Visa Guidance</u> which takes you through the visa application step by step. The webpage includes lots of valuable information on all aspects of the application process.

d. Immigration Healthcare Surcharge

As you are applying for immigration permission (visa) for more than six months you must pay an additional fee to entitle you to free healthcare under the National Health Service (NHS).

You will need to pay:

- £2716 for a 3 years Bachelor's programme
- o TB test (if required)

You must read the information on the <u>UKVI website</u> about the healthcare surcharge.

e. When your Visa is issued

- BRP cards have been discontinued so you will receive an electronic visa (eVisa), possibly in addition to a 90-day entry visa vignette (sticker) in your passport.
- You will be emailed a link to an online portal confirming your visa status. You will be able to use a share code from the UKVI website to prove your immigration status to the University, your landlord or an employer.
- Please read the information on our website about <u>eVisas</u> before you travel.
- Along with your entry vignette sticker in your passport, you should also receive a written notification called a decision letter which confirms what the conditions of your visa are (e.g. working hours, police registration). You should carry your decision letter with you with you when you enter the UK along with a screenshot of your immigration status that you have verified online through the UKVI website.

If you have any questions about the visa process, please contact the Student Immigration Team via visa@manchester.ac.uk.

5. Advance payment for visa and IHS fee

The costs of your visa and IHS fee are included in your scholarship. If you would like us to make an advance payment to cover your visa and health surcharge, there are 2 options.

Option 1

A payment to your local bank account but only if your account accepts payments in GBP or USD. You should be aware that it is difficult to make payments to banks overseas. In previous years, students have experienced long delays in receiving the money and in some cases, banks have not been able to process payments.

Please provide a letter from your bank on their headed paper with your account details, or an account statement/void paying in slip (with any transactions hidden), which must include the following information:

- o Bank name and full address
- Name of account holder/payee (must be in your name)
- Account holder/payee full address as registered with bank (the address you provided the bank)
- Sort Code (if available)
- o Account number
- SWIFT number, IBAN number (if available) and Routing Number
- Currency of account (please confirm account accepts deposits in GBP or USD)

Once we have this information we will make a payment direct to your bank account.

Option 2

Open an online UK account. There are a number of online banks that offer the facility to open a UK bank account from overseas, without proof of residency. Our previous scholarship students have

opened online accounts with <u>Wise</u> and <u>Revolut</u>. You can read via <u>this link</u> the process of opening an online bank account with Wise.

Having a UK bank account is more convenient, and you will need one to receive your scholarship money once you arrive in Manchester.

Once you have bank details to share please upload them to our secure <u>Dropbox folder</u> If for any reason we cannot make a payment via either of these methods then the only other option is to pay you once you have arrived in the UK and opened a UK account.

6. <u>Scholarship finances</u>

The Humanitarian Scholarship Award Letter details the financial support provided to you. The tuition fees will be covered by the scholarship. You will be paid your stipend in 3 instalments across the year, at the beginning of October, January and April.

Please note your scholarship does not cover the cost of flights to or from the UK.

7. <u>Health</u>

We want to emphasise the importance of <u>signing up with a GP</u> as soon as possible. This is the best way to access non-emergency medical care in the UK.

- UoM guide: welcome.manchester.ac.uk/get-ready/become-a-student/register-with-a-gp
- A local or family doctor in the UK, is known as a 'General Practitioner' or 'GP'.
- As soon as you know your term-time address (before you travel), use the NHS website to search for your nearest GP surgery: **nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-GP**.
- Then, register as a new patient on your GP's website. Please note, some GPs may ask that you wait until you have arrived in the UK to register with them.
- We also have a GP on campus <u>https://rdp.org.uk/register-with-the-practice/register-with-the-university-gp-service/</u> that you can register with.

Please let us know now if you have any health issues or specific needs or additional support requirements, so that we can be prepared to help and support you once you're in the UK.

8. Get Ready for Manchester

There can be a lot to think about before you arrive. Visit our <u>Welcome to Manchester</u> pages for lots of useful information to help you get organised. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Welcome and induction week commences on **Monday 22 September** and there will be lots of events and activities for you to get involved in. It is an excellent opportunity to meet your fellow students and make new friends. We also hope to arrange a welcome gathering for all our Humanitarian scholars during this week.

9. Checklist

Accept your offer	Apply for student visa	
Activate your IT account	Open UK Bank Account	
Apply for Accommodation	Sign up with a GP	
Complete Right to Study check	Get ready for Manchester	