

Student Route Application Form FAQs (Applying outside the UK)

The Student route application is not complicated but does have several parts to it. Before you start your application you should ensure that you have to-hand the following:

- all the documents listed in your CAS as well as your financial documents (bank statements or educational loan letter) and scholarship letter (if applicable)
- your current passport and any previous passports issued to you
- details of all the occasions in the last ten years where you have travelled outside your home country
- details of any medical treatment you have received on any previous visits to the UK

The following frequently asked questions (FAQ) guide will help you to complete your application. However, if your question is not listed here please get in touch via international@rcs.ac.uk

1. Q - When asked when I plan to arrive in the UK what should I write?

A - You should state the date you think you'll arrive in the UK bearing in mind that we strongly suggest you don't book a flight until you have received your visa. It's important to realise that if the intended date of travel that you state on your application form is less than one month before the course start date of 20 September 2021 (6 September 2021 for Opera) then you will not be granted the maximum period of leave possible before the start of your course. Instead your visa will start seven days before the intended travel date on your visa application; you will not be able to travel to the UK before this date.

If you know that you will arrive after 20 September 2021 (6 September 2021 for Opera) please let admissions@rcs.ac.uk and your department know.

2. Q - How long do I intend to stay in the UK?

A - Even if you plan to do further study in the UK after your course at the Conservatoire ends you should state the number of years of your RCS programme of study as detailed in your CAS.

3. Q - Am I coming to the UK to study at a higher education institution?

A - Yes, the RCS is a Higher Education Institution (HEI).

4. Q – Does my Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) statement indicate that my English language ability was assessed by the RCS or that I am a 'gifted' student?

- a. You should say 'Yes' to this question. Even though you may have been asked to submit an IELTS test certificate you do not need to submit your IELTS certificate with your visa application.

- 5. Q - Do I have an address for where I am going to stay in the UK?**
- Many international students will not have an address in the UK until they arrive in Glasgow and find a flat. If this is the case, select 'No' and then briefly explain your short-term plans, e.g. staying in a hotel.
- 6. Q - Do I have a National Insurance number?**
- Most international students will not have a National Insurance Number (NINO) unless they have previously worked in the UK. A National Insurance number exists to make sure your National Insurance contributions and tax are recorded against your name only.
- 7. Q - Do I need to obtain permission from the ATAS?**
- NO
- 8. Q - Is 100 Renfrew Street the site where the majority of my study will take place?**
- Yes. Even if you'll take some classes at Wallace Studios you should say 'Yes'
- 9. Q - Will I be receiving money from an official financial sponsor for my continuing studies?**
- If you are in receipt of any scholarship from the Conservatoire, no matter how small, you should select 'yes' and then that 'I am not being wholly sponsored'. If your Conservatoire scholarship covers your first year of tuition and £9207 for living costs then you are being wholly sponsored and you should select 'my sponsor has confirmed this information on my CAS'
- 10. Q - Have I or my parent(s)/legal guardian(s) already paid any money to my sponsor for accommodation?**
- You should select 'No' to this question. Even if you have already paid money to Base Glasgow this does not count as paying money for accommodation to a sponsor
- 11. Q – What documents do I include with my application?**
- This depends on whether you are eligible under the 'differentiation arrangements', i.e. if you are from a [low-risk country](#). If you are from a low-risk country, then you only need to send off your passport as part of your application. You don't need to send in any financial information or the academic certificate/transcript listed on your CAS statement. If you're not eligible under the differentiation arrangements, i.e. you are from a country not listed in the link above, then you will need to provide the documentation listed at the end of your visa application. Principally, this will be your passport, your bank statements (or other valid evidence of having sufficient funds), the academic qualification stated on your CAS statement but *not* your IELTS certificate.
- If you have been in the UK with a valid visa for at least 12 months on the date of your application then you do not need to show that you have money to support yourself.
- 12. Q – Can I travel to the UK and apply for my Student route visa when I arrive?**

- a. No. If you arrive without a Student route visa (or another type of visa which permits the type of study you will be doing) you will *not* be able to enrol on your course. You will be asked to fly home immediately and apply for your Student route visa in your home country.