

#HomeAwayFromHome



National Indian Students and Alumni Union (UK)



STUDENT PACK

www.nisau.org.uk

#HomeAwayFromHome

Congratulations on starting your UK journey. It's hopefully going to be a wonderful experience, and we can't wait to see what you make of it. As students and alumni of the UK, we know just what a wonderful experience student life can be here, and the opportunities that exist to do well not only for one's own self, but also for the wider community.

You will be one of the first few cohorts to benefit from the new Graduate route visa, which gets you a period of 2/3 years post-study work in the UK, without the need for any job sponsorship. We know how important this is for most of you, and that is indeed why we spent more than 7 years spearheading campaigns to bring the post study work visa back. We are thrilled therefore that you will be able to benefit from it should you wish to.

Like you, a great many Indian students have been students in the UK over the centuries. But it was only in 2012 that our founder took the initiative to create the national union of Indian students, first of it's kind outside India, because we wanted to make sure that our community was properly represented nationally and internationally, and that someone was there to take care of Indian students' welfare. And it is with that very mission and purpose that we are proud to let you know - we are your home away from home. No matter what the issue, feel free to contact us if you ever find yourself in any need or just want a friendly ear or advice. From helping with food and groceries to those in need during Covid, to helping recover lost passports to well-thought through advocacy which we think recently helped moved the dial on moving India from the UKs Red to Amber travel list - we are usually able to help out in most circumstances. So don't hesitate, just ask. If there is something we can't help with directly we can signpost you to someone who will be able to help.

Know that all our services are free and we will never charge you for anything. Our work is made possible by dozens of volunteers, all of whom are students or alumni themselves. You too can join the team - simply email us if you'd like to.

We have a very active events portfolio and pride ourselves on putting on the finest India -centric events in the UK that help students and the wider community alike engage with contemporary India. We regularly host thought leaders from all walks of life so be sure to take advantage of this virtually or at a campus near you.

Finally, we have a network of Indian societies at most universities with sizeable Indian student populations. Join your university's India society to stay close to India while at uni and make friends, but do also be sure to widen your horizons and take full advantage of the opportunity to make friends with people from a range of different backgrounds. If your university does not have an India Society and you would like to start one, please let us know and we will help you get going.

We are entering a new and hugely exciting era in UK-India relations, and one that students and alumni are going to be at the heart of. Stay in touch with NISAU as we work to make sure that your voice is heard at the highest levels.

Until then, please go through this student pack we have put together to help you with your journey to and in the UK.

With lots of love.



Sanam Arora
Founder and Chairperson

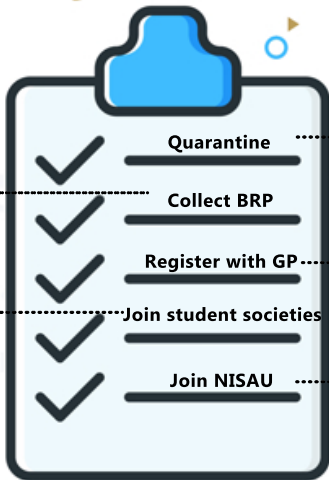


Mohanish Borana
National President



Aishwarya Mishra
National General Secretary

Essential



From University
office or local
Post Office
choosen

Join for acquiring
critical skills
and to know
more people with
common choices

Read NISAU
Advisory*

Locate your
closest GP and
register with
them. This
is covered under
your IHS fee

Attend events,
widen your
network, make key
contacts

*NISAU Advisory - https://www.nisau.co.uk/_files/ugd/590b8a_99b72024b2af402ea4be2a6f37f29efc.pdf

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Please direct all your queries to the service provider.



Home Vantage Current Account

ICICI Bank UK PLC can act as a perfect banking partner for you. With our unique value proposition of digital account opening, a transaction ready UK bank account can be opened from the UK or India.

Debit card and other credentials will arrive at the UK or India address provided by you.

So, whether you are in the UK or yet to arrive here, just download 'ICICI Bank UK iMobile App' and open a UK Bank Account instantly.'

Features and Benefits

- Instant Account Opening
- Instant online money transfers to India
- View details of ICICI Bank India NR accounts
- Free Text Alerts
- No minimum balance requirement
- Service assurance
- Contactless Debit Card
- Up to 15 days Rate Block facility for remittance to India



How to apply to a UK Bank Account whilst in India?

- Download ICICI Bank UK PLC Mobile App or visit www.icicibank.co.uk
- Fill in application form and complete KYC (keep your original passport handy)
- After the submission of complete application, account will open instantly (subject to checks)
- Post account opening, generate internet and Mobile banking password
- Once account is opened, welcome kit and debit card will arrive at your address provided

Documents Required

Original Indian or UK passport (for scanning)

Get in touch

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+44 (0)7405 170573

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+44 (0)7946 289515



Download Now

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Things to pack



Educational certificates
Make sure you leave copies at home,
also retain digital copies



International Driving licence
Some car hiring agencies,
may rent out cars on Indian licence
(must be in English). It is advised
you carry an international DL.



**Glasses (extra pair)
and prescription**



**Medicines with
prescription**



Pressure Cooker



**Indian spices
whole spices**



**Easy to cook
(quarantine period)**

Cheap spare mobile phone

Universal Adaptor

**Your favorite
Indian snacks**

Note: You can purchase all essentials in the UK. Please only carry sufficient amount for your first few weeks in the UK.

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Finding The Right Home



- ✓ Arrange your accommodation before you reach the UK
- ✓ Have you made your room choice wisely?
- ✓ Prioritise your safety and location to University
- ✓ Support team will guide you through the whole process

www.universityliving.com



Pre-verified
properties



Centrally located
close to campus



Flexible
contract



24/7 security



All bills
inclusive



Global student
community

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DO YOU...

NEED HELP WITH UNI CHOICE
OR APPLICATION?

NEED HELP GETTING A VISA?

NEED HELP APPLYING FOR
THE GRADUATE ROUTE?

NEED YOUR QUESTIONS,
ANSWERED?

BOOK YOUR **FREE** CONSULTATION TODAY

eduInUK.com



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Information - Landing



Airport

- ✓ Please have all your documents ready for inspection at the border control. These may include - CAS letter, TB certificate, accommodation confirmation, Passport with vignette, Passenger locator form. Please be aware you may be asked to show all or some of these documents.
- ✓ To check what goods are banned or restricted:
www.gov.uk/duty-free-goods/banned-and-restricted-goods

Essentials

- ✓ Train - Most of the UK is very well connected. You can get a train to your main destination. For tickets - www.thetrainline.com
- ✓ Coaches/Bus - Most of the airports have a major bus station. For tickets - www.nationalexpress.com/en ; uk.megabus.com
- ✓ Taxi service - Prebooked, app-based global cab providers or black cabs from airport.
- ✓ SIM Card - Students generally prefer networks like Lebara, Lyca and GiffGaff because of their plans and very cheap international calling rates. You can buy a SIM at any general store or supermarkets in town, on airports or railway stations easily.

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While in the UK

Groceries and essentials

Uber Eats, Just Eat and Deliveroo are basically Zomato and Swiggy of the UK. Tesco, Sainsburys, Lidl, Morrisons, Aldi, etc. can be used to order groceries. You may have Indian grocery stores close to your accommodation.

Public Transport

In London

Transport for London - www.tfl.gov.uk (recommend getting 18+ student oyster)
Please note that Oyster Cards are only valid in London.

Outside London

For intercity trains you can get 16-25 Railcard - www.16-25railcard.co.uk
All cities have their own transport system, please familiarise yourself with it.
City mapper and google maps (apps can be downloaded on IOS and android).

Entertainment

Amazon Prime - bought in India will **NOT** work in the UK. You can get free Amazon UK Prime if you register with your university student email address.

Netflix - Your home netflix account should work here.

Exploring around

If you have a bucket list of places to must visit. Make sure to check opening times and book tickets prior to visit as there may be offers online. Not all attractions are open 365 days.

Tips

Make sure to check for student discounts everywhere.

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Graduate Route

Key points

2/3 years of post-study time in the UK (depends on type of qualification)
Can do most jobs - no need for sponsorship or even start your own business.

Eligibility:

If you began a course lasting 12 months or less in 2020 or spring 2021 then you must be in the UK by 27 September 2021 or before the valid visa ends, whichever is sooner.

If you begin a course of 12 months or less in Autumn 2021 or Spring 2022 via distance learning, you must enter the UK by 6 April 2022 and complete the remainder of your study in the UK under a Student visa.

UK Bachelor's or Master's or PHD

Currently holds a valid permission on :

The Student route

Tier4 (General) route

Valid exceptional assurance

University confirmation of Successful Course Completion

Valid CAS - course as on CAS

Apply online at www.gov.uk/graduate-visa

Valid BRP for identity verification using 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app

If on exceptional assurance, proceed with 'No BRP' to fill out the application form

Submit by paying the Application Fee of £700 + IHS fees

You must not travel outside of the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands or the

Isle of Man until you get a decision. Your application will be withdrawn if you do

Our PSW Seminar session with home office:

www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1097261784410938&ref=watch_permalink

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#HomeAwayFromHome

Build your UK family



Join NISAU



Note* - Sometimes spammers providing assignment writing services can get into student WhatsApp / Facebook groups, it is our recommendation that you do not engage with them and report such instances to group admins of the respective groups.

Follow us



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Study Essentials

Plagiarism

Representing someone else's work as your own, or getting it done through paid academic writing services is an academic misconduct. This results in serious allegations.

Academic misconduct is a big offence in the UK. If found guilty, the penalties are severe and could result in you being expelled from the University.



NEVER GET YOUR ASSIGNMENT DONE BY SOMEONE ELSE

Tips

- ✔ Sometimes spammers providing assignment writing services can get into student WhatsApp / Facebook groups, it is our recommendation that you do not engage with them and report such instances to group admins of the respective groups.
- ✔ Most universities allocate you a personal tutor/ mentor. Please make full use of this opportunity to get the best out of your academic experience in the UK.
- ✔ Websites such as [app.grammarly.com](https://www.app.grammarly.com) can help you better your English standards in courseworks.
- ✔ Make the best of your time trying to gain as much knowledge as possible!

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Working in the UK

Work Restrictions

Term time **20** hours maximum



Allowed during vacation and after completion of course

National Insurance Number

- ✓ Before you apply for any job in the UK, whilst on a Tier 4 visa, you are required to apply for a National Insurance number. This usually takes up to 2 weeks to arrive by post so make sure you apply for one, well in advance. The details and procedure for your NI number can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number>



Tips

- ✓ Contact your university's careers department for help with job search, CV, cover letters and more.
- ✓ Research your visa options on the government Website: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration>
- ✓ Consider finding part-time work while you are studying. This is a useful way of earning money, improving your English and getting UK work experience.
- ✓ Employers value volunteering. You can volunteer for NISAU or other charities. This can help you get valuable references for job applications.
- ✓ Use LinkedIn to network and make connections with companies you are interested in.

https://www.nisau.org.uk/essential_info.html

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Well-being



Whatever the problem, you're never alone. Ask for help at your place of study. There may be an international student advisory service, welfare tutors, main tutors, security staff or police on campus who are trained to offer advice and support to those who are experiencing personal problems.

Please contact your GP. You can also contact www.samaritans.org or call 116 123 free anytime, from any phone, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

NHS talking therapies can help you cope with stress by providing listening ears.

Reach out to them: tinyurl.com/45a5ev2h

Talk with NISAU, we are here to help you!

Email us: team@nisu.org.uk

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Emergency Contact

Police
Ambulance
Fire Services



NHS
Emergency
Services




Student scams are very common, please refrain from sharing any sensitive information such as PASSPORT NUMBER, BRP, BANK DETAILS and other information with anyone.

Please be aware the **HOME OFFICE** will NEVER call you. Scammers may call with fake numbers and intimidate you.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL

Immediately report such incidences to **ACTION FRAUD UK**.

www.actionfraud.police.uk

 **0300 123 2040**



Incase of any scam or fraud, report to action fraud

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Further information and guidance

High Commission of India

The High Commission of India is located at India House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4NA.

There are also 4 Consular missions located in Edinburgh, Belfast, Cardiff and Birmingham.

W: www.hcilondon.gov.in/

Student Advice line

The UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) is the UK's national advisory body serving the interests of international students and those who work with them.

W: www.ukcisa.org.uk

T: +4420 7788 9214

Monday to Friday (except for public holidays): 1.00pm to 4.00pm (UK time)

National Indian Students and Alumni Union (NISAU)

We are the oldest and largest network of Indian students, alumni and young professionals in the UK. We are your home away from home.

W: www.nisau.org.uk

E: team@nisu.org.uk

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✓ CV Enhancement

✓ Be The Change

✓ Critical Skills

✓ Networking

✓ Volunteering

✓ Represent Youth



Email us: team@nisu.org.uk

Please note these are voluntary positions and should not be considered as employment in any shape or form. We promise a good experience, lots of learning and references if required.

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nisau

National Indian Students and Alumni Union UK

www.nisau.org.uk

