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# European settlement scheme

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Are you a European Union citizen, European Economic Area citizen, or Swiss citizen living in the UK?

Now that the UK has left the European Union you will need either settled or pre-settled status to continue living in the UK.

This status allows certain entitlements, including the right:

- To live in the UK after 30 June 2021
- To work here
- To access public services such as:
  - healthcare
  - education
  - benefits

## Who should apply

You and your family usually need to apply to continue living in the UK if you're from any of the following:

- The EU (except Ireland)
- Iceland
- Liechtenstein
- Norway
- Switzerland

Which status you get will depend on how long you have been living in the UK when you apply.

- If you have been a resident in the UK for more than 5 continuous years when you apply, you will be eligible for settled status.
- If you have been a resident for less than 5 years when you apply, you will be eligible for pre-settled status.
- The UK left the EU with a deal on 31 December 2020, therefore you have until 30 June 2021 to apply for either settled or pre-settled status.

You do not need to apply if you have Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) or Indefinite Leave to Enter (ILE) or are an Irish citizen, but you can if you want to.

## How to apply

- It is free to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme
- Use this tool on the GOV.UK website to check your personal situation on how to [continue to live in the UK](#).
- Full details on how to apply can be found on the GOV.UK webpage [Apply to the EU Settlement Scheme](#).

[Check how Brexit will affect your personal situation.](#)

## Cost of applying for EU settlement

Part of the application process involves downloading a free App and scanning your immigrations documents to the Home Office in

order to verify your immigration status.

## No fee

- If you are able to scan your own biometric passport or Biometric Resident Permit (BRP) document for this part of the process (or you post your non-biometric documents to the Home Office), then applying for EU Settlement is free of charge.
- You can use a friend or family members' smartphone device. There are no security or privacy issues doing this because no personal data can be transferred to the person's phone
- The **EU Exit: ID Document Check** App can be downloaded from Google Play or the Apple Store.
- Check whether your device is compatible and find out how to use the [EU Exit: ID Document Check App](#)

## Small fee charged

- If you are unable to use the free **EU Exit: ID Document Check App**, or you do not wish to post your passport or UK-issued Biometric Resident Permit (BRP) to the Home Office for verification, then you can go to a local Registration Office who offers the **ID Document Scanning Service**.
- **Please note:** only biometric passports or valid UK-issued Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) can be scanned. There is a fee of £14 for this.
- Blackpool Council offers an **ID Document Scanning Service** at The Wedding Chapel (Festival House) on Blackpool Promenade or you can search for [other locations offering biometric ID document scanning](#).

## Blackpool's ID Document Scanning Service

### Fee

We charge £14 per applicant to use the service. This fee has been set by the Home Office. You can pay on the day using cash or a credit or debit card, although during the pandemic credit or debit card is preferable. If we are unable to scan your document, you will not be charged.

### When

We offer pre-booked appointments on Fridays although we can accommodate requests for most week days. We are open Monday to Friday between 10.00am and 2.45pm. Please phone 01253 477171 for your appointment.

### Where

The Wedding Chapel (Festival House)  
People's Promenade  
Blackpool  
FY1 1AP

## What to bring to your ID scanning appointment

- Your current valid biometric EU, EEA or Swiss passport or a valid UK-issued Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) for family members of an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen
- A mobile phone that can receive text messages
- A valid email address
- The payment of £14 per applicant

We will hand your ID documents back to you - there is no need to leave them with us. After submitting your information, you will receive an email with a link to complete an online application. This should be completed within the timescale specified. If not, you may have to present your ID documents for verification again.

## If you need help to complete the online application form

Many libraries offer assisted digital support to those who are having difficulty navigating the GOV.UK website or in using the **EU Exit: ID Document Check App**, but currently not any of the Blackpool libraries. Lancashire County Council libraries are part of the

scheme and they offer a free service.

To use this service **you must contact** the 'We Are Digital' helpline to make an appointment

- The service is free to use.
- Phone 03333 445675 Monday to Friday (9am to 6pm) or Saturday (9am to 4pm) - call charges apply
- Or text the word "VISA" to 07537 416944.

We are Digital act as first point of contact and can provide.

- Over the phone support
- Face-to-face support in a local centre

They will refer you to the centre nearest to your home if they cannot help you over the phone. You will need to take along an Android smartphone or tablet or an iPhone 8 or above to use this service.

You cannot get help from the assisted digital service if you need immigration advice (for example, advice on which immigration form you need to complete) or you need an update on the progress of an immigration application you have already submitted.

You can find more information from the the GOV.UK website on [how to access the Assisted Digital support scheme](#).

## What happens next

The Home Office will contact you to let you know if you have been successful in applying for settled or pre-settled status.

### Additional information

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