



Notes

* **Community Countries include:**

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Cyprus, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom,

Designated Countries include:

Australia, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Falkland Islands, Faroe Islands Hong Kong, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, Republic of Korea*, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland and Zimbabwe.

*Motorcycle entitlement from the Republic of Korea and the Faroe Islands is not exchangeable.



Further information

If you need further information, you can telephone the Driver and Vehicle Licencing Agency's Customer Enquiries line whose staff will be able to help. The telephone number is: **0300 790 6801** or the website: **direct.gov.uk** and put **"driving and Students"** into the search box.

The information above was last updated in 11/11. However, we recommend before you make any decision or enter into any agreement you carry out your own checks.

get in touch:

High Wycombe Campus

Reception

t: 01494 603 016

e: suadvice@bucks.ac.uk

Uxbridge Campus

Reception

t: 01494 605 180

e: suadvice@bucks.ac.uk

bucks students' union

Advice Centre

"a helping hand for everything student"



DRIVING IN GREAT BRITAIN AS A FOREIGN STUDENTS

Bucks Students' Union Advice Centre is a member of:
Advice UK - The Voice of Independent Advice
CPAG - The Child Poverty Action Group
NASMA - The National Association of Student Money Advisers
UKCISA - The UK Council for International Student Affairs

For our current opening times please go to our website: bucksstudent.com/advice.
Email us on: suadvice@bucks.ac.uk or call us on 01494 603 016.

Appointments can often be arranged outside our published times so please ask. We will usually be able to respond to any enquiry within 48 hours during term-time, but often more quickly.

advice

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Driving in Great Britain as an International student

All drivers must comply with the British minimum age requirement which is generally 17 years for cars and motorcycles, 18 years for medium sized vehicles or 21 for larger vehicles (i.e. lorries and buses).



Students from a European community/ European economic area country* (EC/EEA)

Students who hold Community licences may drive cars and motorcycles in Great Britain for as long as their licence remains valid, or until age 70. Those who do not hold a licence must have been studying here for at least 6 months prior to taking a driving test or applying for a full licence.



Students from a non-European community/non-European economic area country (EC/EEA)

Students who hold a non-EC/EEA licence or an International Driving Permit may drive here for up to **12 months**.

Those who hold a licence from a **designated country#** (see note) may apply to exchange this for a British one up to 5 years after becoming a resident here. However, to ensure continuous driving entitlement within the 5 years, a GB licence must be obtained before the 12 month period elapses by exchanging the licence for a GB one. If you do not do this you must stop driving.

Students who do not hold a licence or whose licence was not issued in a designated country, will need to apply for a provisional driving licence and then pass a driving test. They will be able to take a test and obtain a full licence providing they meet the necessary residency requirements, once they have been in Great Britain for 6 months.



How to apply for a provisional driving licence

If you are required to pass a GB driving test in order to gain a full British licence, you must first apply for a provisional driving licence. To do this you should complete a D1 application form (available from either the Post Office or the DVLA form ordering service) and return it to DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1AD with your licence, a passport style colour photograph and the correct fee. Once you are in possession of the valid provisional licence you must comply with the conditions applicable to provisional licence holders.

You may not take a test unless you are resident in this country. Once you have passed both the theory and practical parts of the driving test you may then apply for your full licence.



How to exchange your license for a GB license

You will need to complete a D1 application form (available from either the Post Office or the DVLA) and return it to DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1BT with your licence, a passport style colour photograph and the correct fee.