

eVisa Communications Partner Pack

August 2024



Introduction

Dear stakeholder partners,

The Home Office is replacing physical immigration documents with a digital proof of immigration status – an eVisa - for customers already living in the UK, and for new visa applicants too.

To prepare your customers and stakeholders for this change, we have developed this suite of communications materials to help you share and embed eVisa messages across your channels. All of these can be accessed using the links in this partner pack.

This pack includes:

- An overview of eVisa key messages
- eVisa overview factsheets
- eVisa guides for affected customers
- A link to the eVisa GOV.UK webpage

This partner pack will be routinely updated and supplemented by new materials throughout 2024 – **please use and share them on your channels.**



eVisa key messages

- eVisas are a key part of delivering a border and immigration system which will be 'digital by default' by 2025, a change that will enhance the customer experience, deliver excellent value, and increase the immigration system's security and efficiency.
- Customers in the UK who currently use a physical immigration document, such as a biometric residence permit (BRP), or legacy paper document such as a passport containing an ink stamp or a vignette sticker will now need to take action to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa
- It is free, and straightforward for customers who hold physical immigration documents to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa. Details of how to do this are available at <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u>.
- Updating from a physical document to an eVisa does not affect a customer's immigration status or the conditions of a customer's permission to enter or stay in the UK.



eVisa key messages (continued)

- eVisas are tried and tested, with millions of customers already using them on select immigration routes, such as the EU Settlement Scheme.
- Those who check immigration statuses can already accept a 'share code' to check someone's status using the relevant online services including employers (the <u>right to</u> <u>work check</u>) and, in England, landlords (the <u>right to rent check</u>).
- Others can check an individual's immigration status using a share code provided by the individual being checked using the 'check immigration status' service.
- When presented with a legacy immigration document, like a passport containing an ink stamp, those checking status can direct the individual whose status they are checking to <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u> for details of how to access and use their eVisa.
- The Home Office are communicating with customers, those who need to check immigration status, and new visa applicants with further information on the move to eVisas and what it means for them in 2024 and beyond.
- Further information and future updates are available at <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u>.





What is an eVisa?

- An eVisa is an electronic record of a person's immigration status. It removes the need for physical documents such as the biometric residence permit (BRP), passports containing a visa vignette sticker or immigration ink stamps, or the biometric residence card (BRC).
- All BRP holders should visit <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u> now to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa. Holders of other physical immigration documents, including passports containing vignette stickers or ink stamps (for those who hold indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain), and BRCs, can also find information here on what they need to do to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa.
- Legacy document holders with settled status, including holders of passports containing ink stamps or vignette stickers are encouraged to make a 'No Time Limit' application at <u>www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/replace-visa-brp</u>, which currently provides successful applicants with a BRP with which they can prove their rights. They will be able to use this BRP to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa.
- Later this year, the No Time Limit process will provide successful applicants with a UKVI account and access to their eVisa, rather than providing a BRP.
- As physical documents that evidence immigration status expire, customers who have created a UKVI
 account will be able to use the view and prove service to prove their status securely with third parties, such
 as employers or landlords (in England), and view their immigration status.

eVisa stakeholder factsheet

K Government

April 2024

EVisas Stakeholder Factsheet Moving to a digital proof of immigration status

Key points

- Government is replacing physical immigration documents with a digital proof of immigration status called an eVisa.
- Customers in the UK who currently use a physical immigration document, such as a biometric residence permit (BRP), or legacy paper document such as a passport containing ink stamps or a vignette sticker (if they have indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain) should take action to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa later in 2024.
- Most new visa applicants will get an eVisa from autumn 2024 onwards.
- The move to an eVisa will not impact a customer's underlying immigration status.
- It is free for customers who hold a valid physical or legacy paper document to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa.
- The latest updates and information on these changes can be found at <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u>.

What is changing and when?

EVisas are a key part of delivering a border and immigration system which will be 'digital by default' by 2025. This process is already underway, and millions of people in the UK who applied for their visa through the EU Settlement Scheme or used the ID Check app already have a digital proof of their immigration status. These changes will bring significant benefits to customers, deliver excellent value, and increase the UK immigration system's security and efficiency.

The latest information about eVisas is available at www.gov.uk/evisa

In 2024 customers who currently prove their immigration status using a physical or legacy paper document will need to take action to create a UKVI account and access their eVisa to ensure that they can prove their rights without delay or difficulty.

The Home Office has launched an initial rollout of eVisas to BRP holders by email invitation only, to be sent in phases, before the service is opened to all BRP holders from summer 2024. Customers with BRPs do not need to do anything unless they receive an email, and should not worry or contact the Home Office if they do not receive one immediately as the service will open to all in the coming months. The latest information is available on <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u> and holders of other physical immigration documents, including (for those who hold indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain) passports containing vignette stickers or ink stamps, and BRCs, can also find information here on what they need to do to create a UKVI account to access their eVisa.

Organisations and individuals who are required to check immigration status should continue to use the usual online checking services: This factsheet presents an overview of eVisa changes for stakeholders and impacted customers. It includes information on:

- What is an eVisa
- Who needs to take action
- What customers will need to do
- Those who check immigration statuses
- Sources of further information

You can download the factsheet here



eVisa status checker factsheet

UK Government

August 2024

An eVisa Guide for anyone required to check immigration status in the UK

Key points

- Government is replacing physical immigration documents with a digital proof of immigration status called an eVisa.
- Those who are required to check immigration status, including right to work and right to rent (in England), may see an increase in the number of people presenting share codes to prove their rights throughout 2024, though some physical and legacy paper documents continue to be acceptable in some circumstances.
- Biometric residence permits (BRPs) and biometric residence cards (BRCs) cannot be accepted as evidence of a right to work and right to rent (in England).
- Guidance is available for those who need to check immigration status.
- Customers in the UK who currently use a physical immigration document, such as a biometric residence permit (BRP), or legacy paper document such as a passport containing ink stamps or a vignette sticker (if they have indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain) should take action now to create a UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) account to access their eVisa.
- Most new visa applicants will get an eVisa instead of a physical immigration document from autumn 2024 onwards.
- The latest updates and information can be found at www.gov.uk/evisa.

This factsheet is designed for organisations and individuals ('status checkers') who are required to check the immigration status of people in the UK. British and Irish citizens can continue to evidence their rights as they currently do, for example by showing their British or Irish passport.

What is changing?

Throughout 2024, the government is replacing physical immigration documents with digital proof of immigration status for customers already living in the UK and new visa customers too.

By 2025, almost all physical immigration products and services will be replaced with a digital record of a person's immigration status called an eVisa. The documents being replaced include:

- Biometric residence permits (BRPs).
- Legacy paper documents, including passports that contain an ink stamp or vignette sticker (where the holder has indefinite leave to enter or indefinite leave to remain).
- Biometric residence cards (BRCs).

This will increasingly change the way that people prove their rights to you over time, and the latest information on the changes is available at www.gov.uk/evisa.

This factsheet presents an overview of eVisa changes for those required to check immigration status. It includes information on:

- What is changing for checkers
- Guidance for employers, landlords, and other checkers

You can download the factsheet here

UK Government

eVisa toolkit for employers

eVisa Employer Toolkit - Updated August 2024

This toolkit provides written model copy for UK-based employers to use when communicating with their employees about the move from physical immigration documents to eVisas.

It comprises:

- An email to send to employees who currently hold a visa about the eVisa changes
- Content about eVisas for use on employer intranets

Further information about the move to eVisas can be found at <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u> and resources for employers and employees, including social media content to post and share, is available to download in the eVisa <u>Partner Pack</u>.

1. Model email to employees on eVisa changes

Dear colleagues,

The Home Office is currently replacing physical immigration documents with a digital proof of immigration status called an eVisa. As part of the move to eVisas, anyone who uses a physical immigration document to evidence their immigration rights in the UK and who does not already have a UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) account will need to take action to access their eVisa.

If you currently prove your immigration status using a biometric residence permit (BRP), or you have indefinite leave to enter or remain and use a passport containing an inkstamp or visa vignette sticker, please visit <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u> to create a UKVI account to access your eVisa. You should do this even if you have recently applied to renew your visa, or your BRP. If you have a biometric residence card (BRC) and hold status under the EU Settlement Scheme, then you will not need to take any action other than keeping your <u>UKVI account up to date</u> with your latest passport and contact details. The move to an eVisa will not impact your underlying status.

Creating a UKVI account is free, straightforward, and will not usually require you to send any documents to the Home Office. An eVisa is a secure, convenient way to prove your rights, and cannot be lost, stolen or tampered with. If you do not take action to create a

1 of 3

This toolkit provides written model copy for UK-based employers to use when communicating with their employees about eVisas.

It includes:

- An email to send to employees who currently hold a visa about the eVisa changes
- Content about eVisas for use on employer intranets

You can download the toolkit here

Stakeholder eVisa guides

These guides provide key information about eVisas for impacted customers based on the physical or legacy paper immigration documents that they hold:

- eVisa brief overview
- An eVisa guide for Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) customers
- An eVisa guide for holders of passports containing ink stamps, vignette stickers, and other legacy paper documents
- An eVisa guide Biometric Residence Card (BRC) customers

You can download these guides here



Social media assets

These static graphics are available in standard Instagram and X formats. There are more static graphics which can be shared on your social channels at the link below.





You can download these graphics and others here

eVisa GOV.UK webpage





For official updates on eVisas, we recommend directing your audience to <u>www.gov.uk/evisa</u>.

U	-0-
H	

This webpage will be updated with the latest information on eVisas, including information for impacted customers on how to create a UKVI account.



Subscribe to this page for notifications of the latest updates, allowing you to stay informed.



