



Bournemouth
University

IMMIGRATION HEALTH SURCHARGE (IHS) *for BU students applying for a Tier 4 (General) visa in or outside the UK on or after 8th January 2019*

(last updated on 1st March 2019)

Always read the relevant and most up-to-date guidance on <https://www.gov.uk/> and seek advice from a trained immigration adviser. Our guidance documents are specific to Bournemouth University (BU) students and have all been carefully checked but we accept no legal responsibility for their accuracy after the date of publication.

The Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) is a financial contribution to the UK's National Health Service.

You will have to pay the surcharge, if you are:

- applying for a Tier 4 visa to enter the UK for more than six months; or
- already in the UK and you wish to apply for a Tier 4 visa here.

The surcharge must be paid online and the online visa application system will automatically ask you for the payment, just before it asks for the Tier 4 fee payment. Please note that anybody with an accepted credit/debit card can make the IHS payment, it does not have to be paid from your personal account.

Once IHS is paid, you will have access to health services for free as long as you are studying at BU.

Please note that IHS is paid for the total length of your Tier 4 visa, not just for the length of your course. For example, if you apply from outside the UK to study a BU degree level course which is **12 months** long, this could mean **5 extra months** on your visa (**1** before your course starts and **4** after your course ends). Therefore the total length of your visa will be **17 months**. For every six months visa (this is rounded up), you pay £150 IHS. Therefore in our example the fee to be paid will be £450. Please see the table below for some more examples.

For more information on the additional time you get on a Tier 4 visa and to be able to calculate your IHS, please read the Tier 4 Policy Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-application-for-uk-visa-as-tier-4-student>.

You can also use the IHS calculator to see how much you will have to pay: <https://www.immigration-health-surcharge.service.gov.uk/checker/type>. However, please note that sometimes the online system does not calculate IHS correctly and in these cases the Home Office will ask you to make a top-up payment before they make a decision on your visa application.

Please note that your visa could be **refused**, if you:

- do not pay the IHS,
- do not pay the correct fees (or fail to make a top-up payment, if asked),
- request a refund of the IHS before a decision is made on your visa application.

For more guidance on immigration and visas, visit the BU website:

<http://studentportal.bournemouth.ac.uk/>

and the UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) website: <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>.

Please note that the information in the below table is for reference only and BU courses are always subject to change. Pre-sessional courses are not included.

A '**year**' in the table below means an '**academic year**' according to the BU calendar: <https://www1.bournemouth.ac.uk/students/academic-dates>

The Home Office will calculate your actual Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) fee based on the length of your course (plus additional time) considering the specific start and end dates in your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS).

Type and length of BU course	Additional time on Tier 4 visa before the course start date	Additional time on Tier 4 visa after the course end date	Total expected length of Tier 4 visa	Expected IHS fee
Top-up courses, less than 12 months	1 month	2 months	over 12 months	£450
Master, September start, less than 12 months	1 month	2 months	over 12 month	£450
Master, September start, without placement option, 12 months	1 month	4 months	over 12 months	£450
Master, January start, without placement option, 16 months	1 month	4 months	over 18 months	£600
Master, September or January start, with placement option, 24 months	1 month	4 months	over 24 months	£750
Bachelor, without placement option, 3 years	1 month	4 months	over 36 months	£1050
Bachelor, with placement option, 4 years	1 month	4 months	over 48 months	£1350
PhD, 48 months	1 month	4 months	over 48 months	£1350