

EU CITIZENS IN SCOTLAND

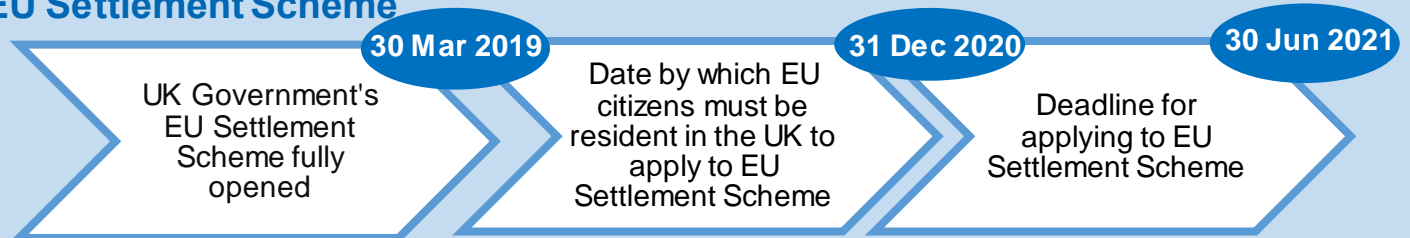
THIS IS OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

STAY IN SCOTLAND FACTSHEET

The information in this guide is in line with the Withdrawal Agreement, and relates to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Key Dates

EU Settlement Scheme



UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme

Following decisions by the UK Government the UK has now left the EU.

EU citizens* and their families will have to apply to the UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June 2021 in order to continue living, working and studying in the UK after that date.

EU citizens who have been in the UK for five continuous years will be able to apply for *settled status*. EU citizens who have been in the UK less than five years can apply for *pre-settled status*. After five years continuous residency they can then apply for *settled status*.

* EU citizens used throughout this document to also refer to EEA and Swiss nationals, who are eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Who is eligible/who should apply?

- EU citizens and any of their family members who are not UK citizens must apply.
- Those with permanent residence documents must apply.
- Citizens of Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Switzerland must apply.
- Irish citizens do not need to apply, but can if they wish. There are separate arrangements for Irish citizens under the Common Travel Area. Non-Irish family members will need to apply.
- EU citizens with indefinite leave to remain or enter the UK (ILR) do not need to apply, but can apply if they wish to do so.

Even if you have been resident in the UK for a long time you will still need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after Brexit.



How do you apply?

- To apply, visit www.gov.uk. The application process is online.
- You must verify your identity by scanning a biometric passport, national identity card or residence card. You can do this using an app on your phone or by sending your documents to the Home Office. ID document scanning centres are currently closed due to COVID-19.
- You need to show you have been resident in the UK. This requires you to either provide a National Insurance number for an automated check or show proof of your residence.
- You must declare any criminal history.

What are you applying for?

- EU citizens who have been resident in the UK for five continuous years can apply for *settled status*.
- EU citizens who have been resident in the UK for less than five years can apply for *pre-settled status*.

Where can you get help?

If you're an EU citizen living in Scotland, be sure of this: whatever happens, we promise to do all we can to help you stay. The Scottish Government has produced a package of support to help EU citizens stay in Scotland. The package includes:

- Digital and printed toolkits providing information and signposting to available support including:
 - A guide for EU citizens
 - A guide for employers of EU citizens
 - A factsheet
 - Posters and leaflets
- Over £1 million of funding committed to supporting EU citizens in Scotland, including through Citizens Advice Scotland's Advice and Support Service.

Further information and copies of Stay in Scotland materials are available at www.gov.scot/stayinscotland.

Citizens Advice Scotland – Advice and Support Service

If you are facing difficulties with your EU Settlement Scheme application and want additional support, advice or information, you can phone Citizens Advice Scotland free on **0800 916 9847** or visit a local Citizens Advice Bureau. Find your local Citizens Advice Bureau at www.cas.org.uk/bureaux .

More Information

We would urge all EU citizens looking for more information to visit the Scottish Government's EU Exit website <https://www.mygov.scot/brexit/>. There are a number of other sites you can check for more information:

- [GOV.UK - 'Continue to live in the UK after it leaves the EU'](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/continue-to-live-in-the-uk-after-it-leaves-the-eu) - A tool that asks for your personal situation and can help you know if you need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.
- [Law Society of Scotland](http://www.lawscotland.org.uk) – If you need to find a private solicitor who specialises in immigration.
- [Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner](http://www.immigration.gov.uk) – Find an immigration adviser near you.

