

Education

If you wish to study in Norway, you must apply for a residence permit as a student.

Special rules apply to citizens of EU/EEA/EFTA countries through the EEA Regulations. Students from EU/EEA countries do not have to apply for a study permit, but can use the registration system.

Study permit requirements

In order to be granted a residence permit as a student in Norway, you must:

- Be able to document your identity.
- Enclose a certified copy of a valid travel document (passport) with your application.
- Be admitted to an approved full-time study programme
- Be able to support yourself and your family for the whole period for which you are applying for a study permit. Have funds corresponding to full support from the [Norwegian State Education Loan Fund](#). If you are to pay tuition fees, this sum will come in addition. Student loans, grants, own funds or income from employment can be included in the applicant's funds.

You must submit a concrete offer of employment if you plan to cover the whole or part of the financial maintenance requirement by means of income from employment. A complete offer of employment contains a description of your position, working hours per week and hourly wage in NOK, as well as the duration of the employment offer.

If you have own funds, you must transfer the amount to an account in your own name in a Norwegian bank or deposit the amount in an account established by the educational institution for this purpose. You can document that you have the funds by means of a transcript of your bank balance, or a confirmation from the educational institution that the money is deposited in an account.

- Be guaranteed accommodation. You must be guaranteed accommodation during the period that the application covers. The accommodation requirement is met if you have at your disposal a house, an apartment, a bedsitter or a room in a hall of residence.
- Leave Norway when your residence permit expires. It must be likely that you will return to your home country when you have completed your studies, and the circumstances in your home country must also indicate that you can return.

Exemptions for certain groups

If you are among those who can apply from Norway, you can enter the country before you have been granted a residence permit. You can apply from Norway if you:

- have been admitted through programmes organised by the American Field Service (AFS), American Scandinavian Student Exchange (ASSE), Fulbright, Youth for Understanding (YFU), STS High School Foundation (STS), Rotary or the Research Council of Norway (NFR).
- have a scholarship from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) or other Norwegian public institution.
- are going to study at an institution of higher education through an exchange programme under the auspices of the EU or pursuant to an agreement between a Norwegian and a foreign institution of higher education.

What must be enclosed with the application?

When you apply for a study permit, you must submit:

- a copy of your passport
- a completed application form for a student residence permit
- a passport photo/ photo that meets specific requirements
- a letter of admission from the educational institution containing your name, the study

- programme you have been admitted to and the duration of the study programme
- documentation of financial maintenance (subsistence), for example in the form of documentation of support from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund, a transcript of your bank balance or a confirmation from an educational institution that the money has been deposited in their account
 - documentation of accommodation
 - documentation that you have paid a fee
 - translations of the documents into Norwegian or English.

As a rule, it is sufficient that you enclose a copy of the documents with your application, but you must present the original documents when you hand in your application.

The content of the permit

- The study permit does not form the basis for a permanent residence permit.
- The study permit entitles the holder to work 20 hours a week.
- Members of your family may be entitled to come to Norway to live with you while you are studying here. Read more about family immigration for students.

Is the permit renewable? Your study permit is renewable. In order to be entitled to stay on the same conditions, you must submit your application for renewal at least one month before the permit expires. [Read more about how to apply for renewal of your study permit and what documentation must be enclosed.](#)

Frequently asked questions

How to apply

You submit an [application form](#) to the [Norwegian embassy or consulate](#) in your home country or in the country where you have held a residence permit for the past six months. You cannot enter Norway and start working until you have received a residence permit. You will receive an answer to your application from the embassy or consulate or, if relevant, through the person you have authorised in Norway.

How long will it take to process the application?

See the overview of expected case processing times at www.udi.no/saksbehandlingstider.

The Directorate of Immigration's (UDI) goal is to process all educational cases well before the start of the school year. This requires you to apply as soon as you have been admitted to an educational institution, enclosing all necessary documentation.

You can appeal a rejection

Read more about how to appeal a decision on www.udi.no/klage.

Do you have to apply for a permit to work part-time?

When you are granted a student residence permit, you are automatically also granted permission to work part-time in addition to your studies, and you can work full-time during holidays. You do not need to apply specifically for this.

Further information

If you have more questions about this topic, contact your [nearest Norwegian embassy or consulate](#), the [nearest police district](#) or [the UDI's Information Service](#).