The journey of a Student visa applicant

CAS Team Procedure

The journey of a Student visa applicant
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Contents

• What is a CAS?
• A map of the visa applicant’s journey
• What are the possible hold-ups?
• Does the CAS team only deal with CAS-eligible students?
• What is a CAS?
What is a CAS?

- 'Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies'
- 16 digit code
- Unique to that student, sponsor and course
- Contains a representation of the full assessment made by that sponsor
- What is a CAS?

E.g. E4F8HG0F32C0T4
Refusal of Entry Clearance

Failure to meet the Immigration rules results in a refusal. Refusals are held against the student and the sponsor.

Refusals can be based on:
- Credibility
- Finances
- Academic ability
- English language ability
- Criminal convictions
- Lack of TB certificate
- ATAS etc.

Refusal rate has declined for Kent in recent years:
- 21/22 - 18 refusals
- 15/16 - 70+ refusals

Failure to meet the Immigration rules results in a refusal of Entry Clearance.
The journey of a Student visa applicant

1. The applicant becomes UF
2. CAS record is created
3. CAS record is audited
4. Final check
5. Pre-CAS is sent
6. Pre-CAS (and T&Cs) are accepted
7. CAS record is used to create the CAS Number
8. Applicant makes their Student visa application
9. Student arrives and registers for study

The visa applicant's journey
The journey of a Student visa applicant

1. The applicant becomes UF
2. The first stage that the CAS team is made aware of eligible visa students
3. We are not automatically notified of fee and visa status, so it is essential that applications for study are accurate at submission
4. We manually check through the main application to determine how the applicant meets the requirements for a CAS in order to apply for a Student visa
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7. The applicant becomes UF
The journey of a Student visa applicant

CAS Record is created

1. Course details
2. Passport details
3. Qualification information
4. English language details
5. Previous study/visits to the UK
6. Funding source
7. Applicant details
8. CAS record
9. CAS Record (Pre-CAS)
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CAS Record is audited

1. The Academic Review
   - What was their offer based on?
   - What English Language do they hold?
   - What course have they been accepted for? Does that course have additional requirements, e.g. ATAS (Academic Technology Approval Scheme)?

2. The Immigration Review
   - Does their application indicate they’ve been to the UK previously?
   - Are they a genuine student? Do they need an IHC (Immigration History Check)?

3. The Financial Review
   - Are they from a high or low risk country (Differential Evidence List)?
   - Does their application indicate financial hardship?

4. • Course have additional requirements, e.g. What course have they been accepted for? Does that
   • What English Language do they hold?
   • What was their offer based on?

5. • Does their application indicate they’ve been to the UK previously?

6. • Are they a genuine student? Do they need an IHC (Immigration History Check)?

7. • Does their application indicate financial hardship?

8. • Are they from a high or low risk country (Differential Evidence List)?

9. • Course have additional requirements, e.g. What course have they been accepted for? Does that
   • What English Language do they hold?
   • What was their offer based on?
The journey of a Student visa applicant

Once all the sections on the checklist are fully completed, the application is assigned as „Final Check“. Once all the sections on the checklist are fully completed, the application is assigned as „Final Check“. These are then reviewed again by a second CAS team member.

Final check
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Pre-CAS is sent

• Pre-CAS is a reduced version of the CAS
• Represents a draft version of the CAS – very similar to the offer letter
• The actions asks the student to accept or not accept the details as being correct
• If the student does not accept, we get an automatic in-tray message stating what they believe is wrong with the details
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Two stage acceptance:
1. Accept the pre-CAS details are correct
2. Accept the terms and conditions of sponsorship

Not automatically issued a CAS

No in-tray message for the CAS Team

Pre-CAS (and T&Cs) are accepted
The CAS Record is used to create the CAS Number.
The journey of a Student visa applicant

1. Applicant makes their Student visa application
2. Submits relevant information to Home Office
3. The CAS Team are not permitted to assist or advise on visa application process
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5. Submit relevant information to Home Office
6. Kent Union Advice Centre (advice@kent.ac.uk)
7. Waits for decision
8. Will either be granted entry (or LTR) or will be given a refusal of entry clearance
9. University of Kent
Student arrives and registers for study

- Presents entry vignette and picks up BRP
- May register before decision (if already in the UK)
- Registers with police (if required)
What are the possible hold-ups?
The journey of a Student visa applicant

What are the possible hold-ups?

• Incorrect financial evidence
• Missing evidence (e.g. passport and qualifications)
• Last minute changes to applications
• Lack of engagement – “Ghost applicants”
• Incorrect financial evidence

What are the possible hold-ups?
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Does the CAS team only deal with CAS students?

- EU Settlement Scheme
- Dependents
- Workers
- ILR/Settlement
- LTR
- Article 26/Asylum/Refugee

Commonly reviewed statuses include:

- Must ensure students are covered for the full period of study and will not require sponsorship
- Required to ensure every student has

Does the CAS team only deal with CAS students?
Further reading

www.kent.ac.uk/studentimmigration - Currently being redesigned
Further reading

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/appendix-

Student
Any questions?