



Credibility Interview Guidance **for Students**





Your visa application can be refused if the caseworker is not convinced you are a genuine student, even if you score the required points for having a valid CAS and proof of funds. The interview is your opportunity to prove you are a genuine student.

Remember these top tips:

- ▶ The interviewer won't have seen the personal statement you submitted to the university, and usually won't have seen your certificates or any other information you provided with your visa application so it is important to explain everything clearly.
- ▶ The interviewer will be checking your English language level is at the right standard to study in the UK. Try to be calm, confident and clear with your answers.
- ▶ Don't be afraid to ask the interviewer to speak more slowly or clearly if they have a strong accent or if the call connection is poor.
- ▶ You might want to practice with someone before the interview, but it is important your answers are all your own and you provide specific and personal information relevant to your application.
- ▶ You may find it useful to take extra documents with you to the interview. For example, if you have financial evidence that proves you have savings that will cover a second/third year of your course, or if you have evidence from an employer confirming the course will help you in your intended career.

- ▶ Always be honest in your answers. If your visa is refused for deception you will not be able to re-apply for 10 years!
- ▶ You can request a copy of the transcript of the interview. We would suggest you do this regardless of how you feel the interview goes.

During the interview you may be asked some of the following questions. These are not necessarily the exact questions, and you may not be asked all of them or in this order, but we hope these notes will help you prepare for the interview and give you an idea of the information the caseworker will be looking for.

We would expect the questions to cover the following main areas:

1. **Your intention to study**
2. **Information about your course and the university**
3. **Your future plans**
4. **How you will fund your studies**

Please read the full document to help you think about the range of questions that might be asked within these areas, and think about how you would answer them.

We wish you the best of luck with your interview and look forward to meeting you soon.

Visa and Immigration Support Team





Your intention to study

► Why have you applied to study in the UK?

- ▼ Why would you like to live and study in the UK?
- ▼ How will studying in the UK be different to studying in your own country?
- ▼ Why have you decided to study in the UK rather than (for example) your home country and/or other English speaking countries such as Australia or the USA?
- ▼ How will studying in the UK benefit you?
- ▼ What do you know about the British education system compared to that of your own country or other countries such as Australia/USA?

► How did you decide to apply to the University of Wolverhampton?

- ▼ What research did you carry out into different universities – in the UK and other countries?
- ▼ Did you use an agent?
- ▼ Did you meet University of Wolverhampton staff at a recruitment event?
- ▼ Do you have any other connection to the university? For example, do you have friends or family who have studied at Wolverhampton?

► Why did you choose to study at the University of Wolverhampton?

- ▼ Think about what specifically attracted you to Wolverhampton over any other options. You should think about why these factors are important to you and be able to explain it clearly.
- ▼ Can you explain why you decided other universities were not suitable for you?
- ▼ You might want to think about the city of Wolverhampton as well as the university, and what attracts you to our city over other options.

► Why did you choose to study this course?

- ▼ Does the course relate to any previous courses or work experience you have completed?
- ▼ What do you hope to achieve by completing this course?
- ▼ Did you consider any other course?
- ▼ Can you give reasons why you chose this specific course over other courses in the same subject area?





Information about your course and the University of Wolverhampton

▶ What do you know about the course?

- ▶ How long is the course, when is the start date, when will it finish?
- ▶ How is the course assessed?
- ▶ What qualification will you achieve? For example, a Bachelors, a Masters or something else?
- ▶ Do you know how many hours you are expected to attend lectures every week?
- ▶ Can you name some of the modules you will study?
- ▶ Can you explain why these modules are interesting for you?

▶ What facilities do you expect there to be at the University of Wolverhampton?

- ▶ What is it about these facilities that attracted you to Wolverhampton?
- ▶ How will the facilities help you successfully complete the course?
- ▶ Are there any extra-curricular facilities you find attractive, for example the university gym facilities or sports clubs?

▶ What skills will you develop on the course?

- ▶ How will the skills/knowledge you will gain from the course benefit you in future?

▶ What do you know about the University of Wolverhampton?

- ▶ Do you know how big the university is?
- ▶ Do you know where the university is?

▶ Do you know where you will live while you are studying?

- ▶ Have you looked at the university accommodation options?
- ▶ If you prefer to live in private accommodation have you done any research into where you might live?
- ▶ Do you know how you will travel to the university from your accommodation?





Your future plans

► What is your current occupation?

- ▼ Can you explain if there is a link between your current occupation and your future plans?
- ▼ If you are not currently working, can you explain what you do with your time?

► After you complete your course, what are your plans?

- ▼ Do you have a career in mind?
- ▼ Do you already have some relevant work experience?
- ▼ Are you returning to a job you have already started?
- ▼ Will you need to complete any higher level course before you can pursue your intended career?
- ▼ Will you need to start in an entry-level job before you can progress to your intended career? How long do you think this might take?

► Can you explain why you are applying to study in the UK now?

- ▼ For example, if there has been a gap of some years since your last study, can you explain what you have been doing and why you have decided to return to study now?
- ▼ Is there a clear link between your previous studies, what you have been doing recently, and your future plans?
- ▼ If you have studied a different subject area in the past, can you explain why you are changing to a different subject area now?
- ▼ If you have been working, why is now the right time for you to return to study?

► What is your expected salary in your intended career?

- ▼ Think about whether you will need to start in an entry-level job before you can progress – it might be important to make this clear.





Financial questions

▶ How much will your course cost?

- ♣ Can you explain the full cost of the course and how much you have paid in advance?

▶ Do you know how much you need for living expenses per month in Wolverhampton?

- ♣ Do you know how much your accommodation will cost?

▶ How will you pay for your tuition fees and living expenses?

▶ If your parents will pay the fees can you explain what your parents do for work?

- ♣ How much do your parents earn?
- ♣ Do your parents have any additional sources of income – for example property that is rented out or savings?
- ♣ If you or your parents are relying on savings, where has this money come from? (For example, inheritance, or savings over a period of time?)
- ♣ How many other people are dependent on your parents' income? (For example, do you have brothers/sisters who will also go to university or grandparents that do not work?)
- ♣ If the tuition fees will be much higher than your family's income, can you explain how you will pay the fees (for example, using savings)?
- ♣ Can you provide evidence of where the money has come from? (For example, further bank statements or evidence of property ownership?)
- ♣ If you are on a programme for more than 1 year, how will you pay for future years – and can you provide evidence of this?

▶ If you will receive a student loan, how will you repay the loan?

- ♣ How long do you think it will take you to repay the loan?

▶ If you will receive official financial sponsorship, who is the sponsor (for example, perhaps the Cultural Bureau or Education Ministry of your home country's government)

- ♣ Are there any conditions of the sponsorship? For example, are you required to return home at the end of the course as a condition of the sponsorship?
- ♣ How long the sponsorship is valid for?
- ♣ Can you confirm the sponsorship covers full tuition fees and living expenses, or do you need to cover your living expenses yourself?
- ♣ If you will have dependents, are they also covered by the sponsorship?





Useful links

- [University of Wolverhampton](#)
- [University Course finder](#)
- [About the University](#)
- [About Wolverhampton](#)
- [UK Council for International Student Affairs](#)
- [British Council](#)
- [Home Office](#)

wlv.ac.uk/international

wlv.ac.uk/courses

wlv.ac.uk/about-us

wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolverhampton

ukcisa.org.uk

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/living

gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration

