

Right to Rent

Housing Providers in the UK are now required by the government to make 'Right to rent' checks on all prospective tenants before the tenancy starts. This is to ensure that tenancies are only provided to those that are legally able to live in the UK. Students will need to provide documents that show they have the right to be here before they collect the keys to their new property.

When will the checks begin?

- Checks will start on the 1 February 2016 but only to **new** tenancies arising after 1 February.

Your housing provider will check your documents are valid and take a copy while you are there. *They should not keep your documents.*

Will I be affected?

All adults (aged 18 and over) living at the property must demonstrate their right to be in the UK – regardless of whether they are named on a tenancy agreement and regardless of their nationality.

This will apply if you are:

- a lodger
- subletting
- renting from a private landlord/landlady

There are exemptions, including some student accommodation e.g. halls of residence provided by UWE

What do I need?

You will be asked by your housing provider or letting agency to provide documentary evidence of your right to be in the UK. Acceptable documents include:

- UK passport or passport/national identity card (current or expired) showing that the holder is a national of the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.
- Permanent residence permit or travel document/Home Office document showing indefinite leave to remain

If you don't have the above documents, you can provide a letter from UWE confirming your student status and one other document such as a full UK birth certificate, letter from an employer or photocard UK driving licence.

I am an international student. What do I need?

- A current biometric 'residence permit' card
- A current passport endorsed to show that you are allowed to stay in the UK for a time-limited period.

Your housing provider will check again if your leave to remain is due to expire within the period of your tenancy. If your documents are with the Home Office for an extension of stay, they can request confirmation of your right to stay via the Landlords Checking Service.

For further information about how right to rent checks may affect you whilst studying, visit www.gov.uk/righttoorentchecks.

For a full list of acceptable documents, visit https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/489675/2016-01-5_Document_Guidance_For_Landlords_V1_1.pdf



University of the
West of England