

# EU CITIZENS APPLY TO THE EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME

The EU Settlement Scheme is open and it is free to apply. You can access the application at [gov.uk/apply-eu-settled-status](https://gov.uk/apply-eu-settled-status).

## Basic information

Provide basic information such as your name, date of birth, contact details and nationality.



### Proof of identity

Using a valid passport, national identity card, or biometric residence card (if you are a non EU citizen) you can verify your identity in several ways:

- use the EU Exit ID Document Check app
- send your identity document by post to the Home Office
- visit an ID document scanning service location. For a list of locations offering this service, visit [gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations](https://gov.uk/eu-id-scanner-locations).

You will also need to provide a digital photo of yourself, so it can be checked against your identity document.



### Proof of residence

Provide your National Insurance number, if you have one.

If you do not have one, do not worry, a list of suggested evidence that is accepted can be found at [gov.uk/eu-evidence-of-residence](https://gov.uk/eu-evidence-of-residence).



### Criminality check

Declare any criminal convictions. Only serious or persistent criminality will affect your application.

This will not affect the vast majority of EU citizens<sup>1</sup> and their family members.

## Approval

Subject to application checks, you will be granted settled or pre-settled status, depending on how long you have lived in the UK.

You will get digital proof of your status through an online service. In most cases your new immigration status will be granted within a couple of weeks. You can track the progress of your application online or by contacting the EU Settlement Resolution Centre.

Once you receive your status, details will be provided by email on how to access it on [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk).

### Pre-settled status

If you have **less than five years** continuous residence in the UK, you will be eligible for pre-settled status (also known as limited leave to remain or enter). This means you can stay in the UK for a period of five years, until you are eligible for settled status.

### Settled status

If you have **five years or more** continuous residence in the UK, you will be eligible for settled status (also known as indefinite leave to remain or enter). This means there is no time limit on how long you can stay in the UK.

For more information about the EU Settlement Scheme, including support available, visit [gov.uk/eu-settled-status](https://gov.uk/eu-settled-status).

<sup>1</sup> EU citizens used throughout refers to EEA and Swiss nationals, who are all eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.