

Know your rights: Settled status (or Indefinite Leave to Remain)

You are eligible to apply for settled status if you:

- Started living in the UK by 31 December 2020
- Have lived in the UK continuously for 5 years*

*Continuous residence means that you have not been absent from the UK for more than 6 months in a period of 12 months, for 5 consecutive years. Exceptions apply.

You will be able to:

- Work in the UK
- Access the NHS
- Enrol in education or continue studying
- Travel in and out of the UK
- Access public funds such as benefits and pensions
- Stay in the UK as long as you like
- Bring your family to live in the UK

EU citizens with settled status have the same rights as they did before Brexit.

If you have settled status, you can spend up to 5 years in a row outside the UK without losing your status.

If you are a Swiss citizen, you and your family members can spend up to 4 years in a row outside the UK without losing your status.

You will be asked to prove your status using a 'share code' when accessing the NHS, applying for a job, renting a property, and applying for welfare benefits and/or social assistance.

[Link: official Home Office website where you can view and prove your immigration status](#)

[Watch: video on how to prove your status with a 'share code'](#)

Know your rights: Pre-settled status (or Limited Leave to Remain)

You are eligible to apply for pre-settled status if you:

- Started living in the UK by 31 December 2020
- Have lived in the UK for less than 5 years

With pre-settled status you will be able to:

- Work in the UK
- Access the NHS
- Enrol in education or continue studying
- Travel in and out of the UK
- Have limited access to public funds (subject to change)
- Bring certain family members to live in the UK (subject to change)

You should apply for settled status once you have lived in the UK for up to 5 years continuously.

With pre-settled status, you will need the 'right to reside' to access welfare and benefits from the state. You do not automatically have the 'right to reside' if you have pre-settled status. You do this by proving you have a job or are self-employed, you have savings you can use, or you are a student.

You will be asked to prove your status using a 'share code' when accessing the NHS, applying for a job, renting a property, and applying for welfare benefits and/or social assistance.

[Link: official Home Office website where you can view and prove your immigration status](#)

[Watch: video on how to prove your status with a 'share code'](#)