

## Citizenship and Residence

Since the General Election in June, everything and nothing has changed. This paper provides a brief summary of the main piece of potential policy that has been announced that will impact the HE Sector - namely the policy paper *Safeguarding the Position of EU Citizens Living in the UK and UK Nationals Living in the EU*.

### Key points

- The UK Government is seeking **mutually assured rights for EU citizens in the UK and UK Nationals overseas**. The new rights will be international but not subjected to the Court of Justice of the European Union.
- However, whilst EU citizens will not need to apply for British citizenship, all EU citizens (and their families) will need to obtain an **immigration status, including a residence document** (possibly including biometric information).
- This will be known as **settled status**. There are three particular routes to achieve settled status:
  - EU Citizens who have been in the UK for 5 years before a specified date
  - EU Citizens who have been in the UK before the specified date but have not completed their 5 years of residency before the UK's withdrawal from the EU
  - EU Citizens who have been in the UK before the specified date but have not completed their 5 years of residency before the end of grace period
- The **specified date is yet to be determined** - it will be no earlier than 29 March 2017 and no later than the date the UK leaves the EU.
- The **grace period** will probably last for 2 years. It will start on the day the UK leaves.
- EU citizens will need to have lived continuously in the UK for 5 years to qualify for settled status and will undergo an **"assessment of conduct and criminality"**.
- EU citizens who wish to remain resident in the UK after the withdrawal ends will need to have applied for settled status before the grace period ends.
- EU citizens who arrive after the specified date and before the withdrawal date will need to apply to stay under the **new immigration system** when it comes into force.

### Education

- Students who start a FE/HE course **in or before 2018/19** will be eligible for permission to stay in order to complete their studies
- The UK Government want the existing rights and arrangements for EU citizens who arrive before the specified date to be respected and maintained
  - This includes **access to tuition fee loans and maintenance grants**
  - EU citizens will also remain **eligible to receive Research Council PhD studentships** for 2017/17 and 2018/19 and have the right to remain in the UK to complete their course
- The UK will also be seeking for continued **mutual recognition of professional qualifications** post exit.

You can find the [full paper on EU citizens and UK nationals here](#). It includes some further basic information on other policy areas (eg health care the wish to maintain the European Health Insurance Card) and some "worked through" examples.