

Deferring your place

What is deferral of studies?

Deferral of studies means that you wish to enrol on your chosen programme at the very beginning of the next appropriate entry point (normally January or September, depending on your course).

When is deferral of studies allowed?

Students are only allowed to defer on the grounds of documented evidence. Documentary evidence must be presented in order to prove that your request for deferral is genuine. Such evidence may include visa refusals, medical evidence, and evidence of family crisis or death certificates.

How will deferral affect my status in the UK?

Deferring the start of your studies will have implications for your immigration status if you are already in the UK on a student visa. It may also result in you losing any deposits/fees you have paid to the University.

When can I enrol?

Students are allowed to defer on **one occasion** only for up to a maximum of two semesters. Any further requests for deferral will be treated as course withdrawal and you will have to re-apply for your chosen course.

Enrolment at the next designated entry point (normally January/September) will be approved by the International Admissions Co-ordinators.

How do I request a deferral?

Students should complete a Deferral Request form and submit it, along with supporting documents to International Admissions. If your deferral is approved, you will be issued with a revised unconditional offer letter. If your deferral is not approved, your request will be treated as a withdrawal. You may reapply but you will need to submit a new application including details of what you intend to do prior to starting the programme.

What happens to my deposit and tuition fee payments?

No refund of fees will be given in cases of deferral. All deposits and additional payments will be retained by the University and may be credited to your account when you do enrol on your chosen programme.

Will there be any changes to my offer?

The conditions of your offer and any scholarship or bursary attached were made for the intake you originally applied for. This means that your new offer may not necessarily carry the same requirements, scholarship or bursary.

Frequently asked questions for students deferring entry

Immigration – Students who are already in the UK

I am already in the UK on a visa which was issued for study at another institution - what happens to my immigration status?

If you are currently in the UK on a visa which was issued for the purpose for study at another institution and you have completed your studies there, you will be required to leave the UK before this visa expires.

What should I do if I am still in the UK and have already been issued with a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) by Northumbria University but have not used it yet?

If you have not yet started your visa application, this CAS will be withdrawn by International Admissions and you will need to request a new one prior to coming to the UK for your new start date.

I am in the UK and have already begun my application for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa, but now wish to defer my place – what should I do now?

We will inform the Home office that we are withdrawing sponsorship and you will need to leave the UK. You will also need to request a new CAS from us prior to applying for your new Tier 4 (General) Student visa.

Immigration – Students who are not yet in the UK

If you have already received a CAS from Northumbria but have not yet used it, the CAS will be withdrawn and you **must not** attempt to use it to apply for a visa. Any applications made using an invalid CAS will be refused.

If you have been issued with a CAS and **have** started the visa application process, we will inform the Home Office and the CAS will be withdrawn and your visa should not be granted.

If you decide to defer after your CAS has been used and a visa has been granted, again, we will inform the Home Office and the visa will be curtailed. **You must not attempt to travel on this visa.**