Your CAS for Bristol

A CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) is an electronic reference number and accompanying electronic virtual document containing information about your course of study as well as your personal details. Therefore, it is not a paper document. The CAS number will be unique to each student.

If you are a new student your CAS number will be automatically e-mailed to you when you meet the conditions attached to your offer. If you are a continuing student you will need to see an International Student Adviser in the International Office for a pre-CAS check. If you are eligible for a CAS, in terms of immigration policy, the Adviser will inform your Faculty Office and they will check your academic eligibility. If you are eligible, your CAS will then be e-mailed to you. If you are a continuing student, you are advised to request your CAS at least 6 weeks before your visa expires.

The e-mail giving your CAS number will include the information that will be contained in your CAS virtual document. You will not need to print a copy of this e-mail for your visa application; you just need to write the CAS number in the appropriate section on your visa application form. When they receive your application, Home Office immigration staff will enter the CAS number into their computer system to retrieve the virtual document. Therefore, you do not require a letter from the University of Bristol to accompany your visa application.

Having a CAS does not guarantee your application will be successful as you must still also meet all other requirements for applying for a student visa.

You must have a valid CAS to apply for your Tier 4 student visa. A CAS is valid for 6 months from the date of issue. You will need a new CAS every time you make a student visa application.

Check your CAS:
1. Are your personal details correct?
2. Are your course details correct?
3. How much have you paid to the University for your tuition fees?
4. What qualifications will you need to send with your application to prove that you meet the conditions of your offer?
5. Do you need an ATAS certificate?
6. If you are a University of Bristol financially sponsored student are the details of your sponsorship correct?

If there are any problems with your CAS please contact your faculty office, before you make your visa application.

How long will my CAS be valid for? Your CAS will be valid for 6 months. Therefore, any visa applications you make must be made whilst this is still valid. If your CAS is older than 6 months, your student visa application will be refused.

What should I do if I have my visa refused or decide not to use my Bristol CAS? In either of these situations, please email os-as@bristol.ac.uk with details.

Will the University of Bristol inform the Home Office if I do not start my course, withdraw, defer or suspend my studies? The University of Bristol has been granted a licence by the Home Office to sponsor students and is required to comply with its general and specific sponsor duties. Sponsor duties include duties such as informing the Home Office if a student has any unauthorised absences, fails to enrol on their course or stops their studies.

I have an unpaid debt to the University of Bristol e.g. fees from last semester, will this appear on my CAS? Unpaid debts to the University of Bristol may appear on your CAS.

What happens if I finish my course early? If you finish early your visa will be curtailed by the Home Office, you will have 60 days from the date of your completion...