



**Applying for a new
Biometric Residence
Card following a grant
of status under the EU
Settlement Scheme**

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Introduction

If you have a Biometric Residence Card (BRC) that was issued to you as the family member of an EU citizen under the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2016 and you have since been granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme, you can apply to replace your residence card with one that confirms your status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

You can also apply to replace your Biometric Residence Card if you have been issued a Biometric Residence Card with Pre-Settled Status under the EU Settlement Scheme and you have since been granted Settled Status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

You do not have to replace your Biometric Residence Card in these circumstances, but it is advisable to do so. This is because it is important that any document that you have confirming your immigration status accurately reflects the status that you have in terms of the type of status and the duration of the status.

Although status under the EU Settlement Scheme is digital, a non-EEA national continues to be required to produce their Biometric Residence Card, together with a valid passport, to demonstrate their status at the border when seeking to enter the UK.

If your Biometric Residence Card has expired or is due to expire, it is advisable to apply for a replacement Biometric Residence Card before travelling out of the UK.

Where a non-EEA national with status under the EU Settlement Scheme is outside the UK and does not hold a valid Biometric Residence Card because it has been lost, stolen or expired, they will be required to apply for an EUSS Travel Permit if they wish to return to the UK. An EUSS travel permit, together with a valid passport, will allow an individual with status under the EU Settlement Scheme to travel to the UK. Once in the UK, they can apply for a replacement BRC.

In addition to requirements of the UK authorities, airlines and other carriers will require a non-EEA national who is a visa national to produce a Biometric Residence Card or a valid visa or visa exemption document, such as an EUSS family permit or EUSS travel permit, when seeking to travel to the UK.

You can make the application for a new Biometric Residence Card [online](#) and the Gov.UK website provides the following information about how to apply:

How to apply

To apply for a replacement BRP or BRC you need to:

- fill in the application form
- have your documents ready
- pay the application fee
- have your biometrics taken (fingerprints and a photo)

You will need to complete a new application for each dependant applying for a BRP or BRC.

You will be able to save your application and come back to it another time if you need to.

For an application where you are applying to replace a Biometric Residence Card under the EEA Regulations with a Biometric Residence Card under the EU Settlement Scheme or where you are applying to replace your Biometric Residence Card with Pre-Settled Status with one with Settled Status, there is currently no fee payable.

Note: there is no fee payable if you are able to return your Biometric Residence Card (current or expired) to the Home Office to be replaced. If, however, you have lost your Biometric Residence Card or are otherwise unable to return it to the Home Office, you may need to apply in a different way and a fee may be payable.

For this application, whilst there is no fee payable, you will need to provide your biometrics. If you are required to enrol your biometrics again at a local centre and you are unable to find a free appointment, you may have to pay a fee of around £125 for this.

Examples of Biometric Residence Cards

Example of a Biometric Residence Card (BRC) issued to the family member of an EU citizen under the Immigration (EEA) Regulations 2016



Example of a Biometric Residence Card (BRC) issued to the family member of an EU citizen under the EU Settlement Scheme



Link to apply to replace your residence card online

You can apply to replace your residence card here:

<https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/biometric-residence-permit-replacement-service>

Selecting the application route

When you click on the above link, you will see this screen:

Update, replace or transfer - biometric residence permit or card

Use this form if you are in the UK and you want to update, replace or transfer your biometric residence permit (BRP) or your biometric residence card (BRC).

Select the category of application below for more information on who can apply:

[Update, replace or transfer your biometric residence permit \(BRP\)](#)

[Update or replace your biometric residence card \(BRC\)](#)

When completing the form, it is important to make sure you select the options that relate to replacing your Biometric Residence Card. There are other options to replace a Biometric Residence Permit which do not relate to you.

If you click on the Biometric Residence Card link, you will see this screen:

[Update or replace your biometric residence card \(BRC\)](#)

Update, replace or transfer your biometric residence card (BRC)

You can use this form to get a **biometric residence card (BRC)** if you are in the UK, you have been granted leave under the EU Settlement Scheme and if:

- your BRC is lost, stolen or damaged
- you have changed your name, nationality, facial appearance, date of birth, or gender
- you want to upgrade your BRC issued under the EEA regulations to a BRC issued under the EU Settlement Scheme
- you want to change from a pre-settled status BRC to a settled status BRC issued under the EU Settlement Scheme (you can only do this if you have been granted settled status under the [EU Settlement Scheme](#))

You cannot apply on this form if you have been granted an [EU Settlement Scheme Family Permit](#) vignette (visa sticker inside your passport) and:

- your passport is lost or stolen, and you want to remain in the UK.
- your vignette has expired, and you want to remain in the UK

When you are ready to apply, you can click on

[Apply now](#)

Application process and information required

Initial application information

You will be asked:

Do you currently have an application with the Home Office for leave to remain for which you have not yet received a decision?

Do not make an application for a replacement biometric residence permit (BRP) if you have recently made an application for leave to remain. If your application for leave is successful, you will be issued with a new BRP.

Yes

No

You cannot apply for a new BRC when you are waiting for a decision on your application to the EU Settlement Scheme.

If you select 'no', you will be asked:

Are you currently in the UK?

Yes

No

If you select 'yes', you will be asked to enter an email address and create a password.

Verifying contact details

Once you have entered an email address and created a password, you will be sent a verification email.

You will need to open and click on the verification email in your email account to verify your email address and continue with your application.

You will be asked to confirm who the email address belongs to and whether you have an immigration adviser assisting you with the application.

Type of application

BRP or BRC

You will then be asked to select the type of application you are making:

Select what you are applying for:

[What is a biometric residence permit \(BRP\) and a biometric residence card \(BRC\)?](#)

To update, replace or transfer your **BRP**

To update or replace your **BRC**

[Save and continue](#)

You should click on the option which says:

To update or replace your Biometric Residence Card (BRC)

(The other option to replace a Biometric Residence Permit is not relevant).

Status – Settled or Pre-Settled

You will then be asked to confirm whether you have Settled Status (Indefinite Leave) or Pre-Settled Status (Limited Leave for five years) – you should select the appropriate category.

Select the option that applies to you:

- I have been granted **settled status**
- I have been granted **pre-settled status**
- I do not have settled or pre-settled status

Save and continue

Note: If you have not been granted settled or pre-settled status you cannot apply for a replacement Biometric Residence Card under the EU Settlement Scheme.

If you do not know what status you have been granted, you can check the decision letter you received from the Home Office or log on to your online status here <https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>.

Details about the status you have under the EUSS

You will then be asked to provide details about your status under the EU Settlement Scheme, including the number of any document you used to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme and any UAN (unique application number) you were given for your application.

Provide details to confirm your immigration status

[What if I am unable to provide any of these details?](#)

EU Settlement Scheme identity document number

This is the number of the identity document you used in your application. This must be either your passport, European identity card number or Biometric Residence Card number.

EU Settlement Scheme unique application number (UAN)?

This must be the UAN for your EU Settlement Scheme application. This can be found on your decision letter, which you received by email. The UAN will be in the format: XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX.

Save and continue

Note: If you applied to the EU Settlement Scheme without a document you should have been provided with a reference number, which you can insert here on the form. If the reference number includes zeros (0) and hyphens (-) do not include these when you enter the number.

You will then be given the chance to check your answers.

Personal details

You will be asked to provide your personal details, including:

- your name;
- any other names you have been known by;
- your contact details;
- your address;
- your gender and relationship status; AND
- your nationality, date of birth and country of birth.

If you have a passport, you will be asked to provide the document details, including issuing authority and any issue date and expiry date.

If you have a national insurance number, you will be asked to provide this.

Criminality

You will be asked questions about whether you have any convictions or other penalties, including civil penalties, and whether you have committed or been involved in war crimes and / or terrorism.

If you have any convictions or other penalties, including civil penalties, and / or you have been involved in war crimes and / or terrorism, you should seek legal advice before applying.

Other history

In either peace or war time have you ever been involved in, or suspected of involvement in, war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide?

Have you ever been involved in, supported or encouraged terrorist activities in any country?

Have you ever been a member of, or given support to, an organisation which has been concerned in terrorism?

Have you, by any means or medium, expressed views that justify or glorify terrorist violence or that may encourage others to commit terrorist or other serious criminal acts?

Convictions and other penalties

At any time have you ever had any of the following, in the UK or in another country?

- A criminal conviction
- A penalty for a driving offence, for example disqualification for speeding or no motor insurance
- An arrest or charge for which you are currently on, or awaiting trial
- A caution, warning, reprimand or other penalty
- A civil court judgment against you, for example for non payment of debt, bankruptcy proceedings or anti-social behaviour
- A civil penalty issued under UK immigration law

Details of Home Office reference numbers and Biometric Residence Card

You will also be asked whether you have been recognised to be a Refugee or granted Humanitarian Protection by the UK authorities, whether you have held a Home Office travel document and whether you have changed your details since receiving your most recent Home Office document.

You will be asked to provide any Home Office reference numbers. You should provide all of the Home Office reference numbers you have had, as far as you can.

You will be asked for the details of your Biometric Residence Card, including:

- place of issue;
- card number – this can be found on the top right hand corner of the front of the card;
- date of issue; and
- expiry date.

You will be asked if the Biometric Residence Card is damaged.

You will be asked if you are able to provide your Biometric Residence Card with the application.

You will be asked if any of your details have changed since your Biometric Residence Card was issued.

Note: If your Biometric Residence Card is damaged, if any of your details have changed since the issue of your Biometric Residence Card or if you cannot provide your Biometric Residence Card, you may need to apply in a different way and a fee may be payable.

You will be asked to select what you are applying for:

To upgrade your BRC issued under the EEA regulations to a BRC issued under the EU Settlement Scheme

OR

To change from a pre-settled to a settled BRC issued under the EU Settlement Scheme

Consent / verification form

The Home Office will check that the information and supporting documentation from a bank or utility company that you supply as part of this application is correct. You must download, sign and return the following declaration to confirm that you consent for the Home Office to request verification checks.

This is an example of the consent (verification) form the Home Office will ask you to sign and upload:

PART 1: Consent for the Home Office to verify application information

You (the applicant) should sign the Part 1 consent, and relevant other parties should sign Part 2 and 3, where they are relevant to your application. You must send them with your supporting documents. If you fail to do, your application may be refused.

Where any of the information or documentation also relates to someone else (for example a joint bank account or joint utility bill) you should ask that person or persons to sign PART 2 of the consent form.

From the applicant

I understand that the Home Office may check whether the information and documentation that I provide is genuine and correct.

I agree to the provider of the information and documentation telling the Home Office whether it is genuine and/or correct or in what way(s) (if any) it is not genuine and/or correct.

I agree to the disclosure to the Home Office of any relevant data (including personal data) that the provider of the information or documentation holds on me for the above purpose. If I have not supplied correct information or documentation to the Home Office the provider may disclose my relevant correct data (including personal data).

I understand that the information obtained may be used to decide my application and for related purposes.

I understand that providing information or documentation that is not genuine and/or correct will normally result in my application (or subsequent applications) being refused and may lead to my prosecution for a criminal offence.

Name and address of applicant:

Consent for the Home Office to verify third party information –

If any information or documentation provided is in the joint names of the applicant and another person (or persons), the joint owner should also sign a declaration and you should upload this to your application.

If the information or documentation relates to another person or persons who is to provide the applicant with financial support, that person or persons should also sign a declaration and you should upload this to your application.

You will be provided with examples of these third party consent (verification) forms with the consent (verification) form you are provided in the course of your application.

Mandatory documents

You will be informed of the need to provide mandatory documents and asked to tick a box to confirm the documents being provided.

You must provide proof of your address in the form of a document confirming your name and address, such as:

- your UK driving licence
- a council tax statement
- a utility bill
- a bank statement OR
- a letter from a GP containing your full name and address.

You only need to provide one of these documents.

You will also be asked to provide a consent form for the Home Office to undertake checks in relation to you (see above for example consent form) and you will be asked to provide your current Biometric Residence Card.

You must provide your documents after you submit your application, these can be originals or copies. Any passports provided must be originals – if you attend a biometric appointment, your passport will be scanned and returned to you at the appointment.

You will be able to upload copies of your documents on the website of the Home Office's commercial partner – where you book any biometric appointment – or you can take your documents to any biometrics appointment to be scanned and uploaded by the Home Office's commercial partner, but note that there will be a fee charged if

you do not upload the documents to the website and instead take them to any biometric appointment.

You will be told how to provide your biometrics, including how to book an appointment, and how to upload your documents after you submit your application.

Declaration

You will be required to make a declaration, as follows:

Declaration

By sending this application, you confirm that to the best of your knowledge and belief the following is correct:

- the information relating to the application
- the supporting evidence

Also, the application will be processed according to the [privacy policy](#) and [terms and conditions](#).

If false information is given, the application will be refused and the applicant may be banned from the UK and prosecuted.

Submitting the application

Once you have confirmed the declaration and submitted the application, you will see a screen confirming that the application has been submitted.

You should also receive an email confirming the application has been submitted.

You will be able to download and save the completed application form, the document checklist and the verification form.

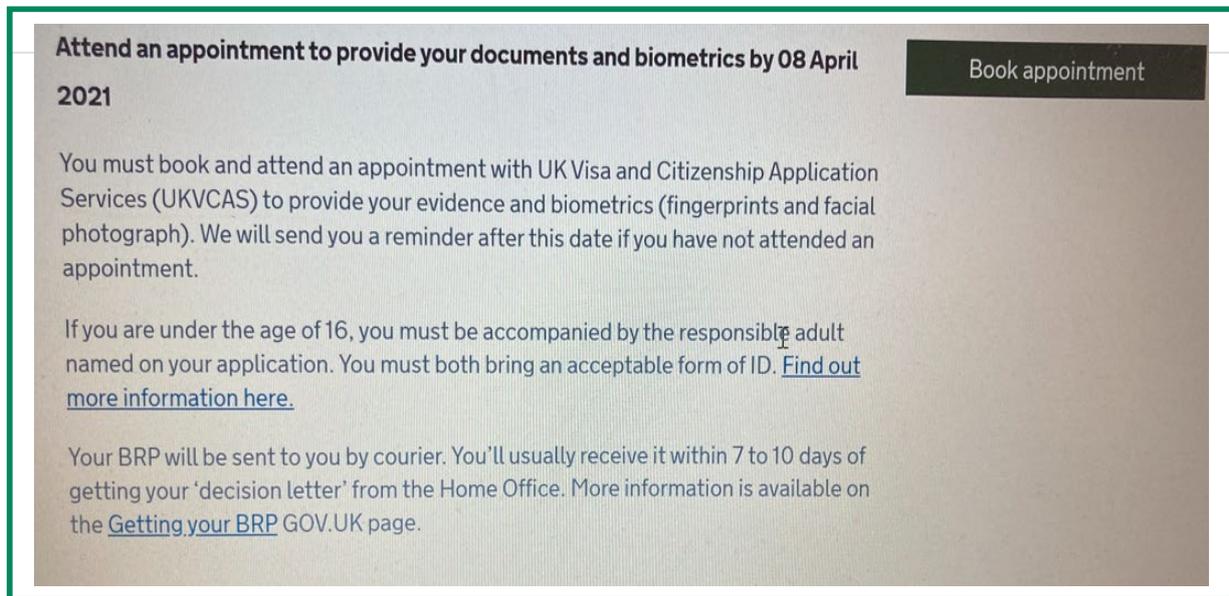
You will be required to upload 'evidence', including:

- a document as proof of address;
- a signed consent (verification) form; and
- a copy of your Biometric Residence Card.

Providing your biometrics

Once you have submitted your application, you will be informed that you need to book a biometric appointment and when you must do this by.

You will be able to click on the link to 'Book [an] appointment':



When you click on 'Book appointment', you will be directed to the UKVCAS website where you will need to set up an account on that website.

<https://www.ukvcas.co.uk/locations>

If you have previously provided your biometrics, once you have registered for an account on the UKVCAS website, you may receive an email from the Home Office informing you that 'UK Visa and Immigration (UKVI) is currently assessing whether your application can be progressed via the Identity Verification app (IDV app).'

The IDV app is an app that you can download onto your phone to enable you to submit information to the Home Office without having to arrange and attend an appointment in person.

The email will inform you that 'UKVI aim to carry out this checking process within 7-10 working days from registration with UKVCAS/UKVI.' The email explains that you will not be able to book an appointment at a UKVCAS Service Point or use the IDV app until you receive further correspondence from the Home Office. You will, therefore, have to wait until you receive further correspondence from the Home Office informing you whether you need to use the IDV app or whether you need to arrange and attend a biometrics appointment in order to provide your biometrics to the Home Office.

If you have not provided your biometrics to the Home Office previously and / or you do not receive an email informing you that you need to await a further email, you can simply book a biometrics appointment.

You will need to provide your biometrics to the Home Office in the required way – either through the IDV app or by booking and attending a biometric appointment.

Your application for a replacement Biometric Residence Card will not be processed until you have provided your biometrics.

Note: whilst the application for a replacement BRC is free – appointments to provide biometrics are not always free.

Free appointments are now available in all centres except premium lounges.

You may not find a free appointment when you first set up your account, but free appointments are released every day at 9.00am (28 days in advance) so you may wish to check the UKVCAS website over several days to see if you can find one.

Fee paying appointments are also available (cheapest rate is around £125)

It is not unusual for it to take a number of months for an application for a replacement Biometric Residence Card to be processed once the application has been made and biometrics provided. If you are concerned about how long the application is taking, you can contact the Home Office Settlement Resolution Centre to enquire as to any reasons for the delay.

Receiving your new Biometric Residence Card

Any Biometric Residence Card issued will be valid until the end of any period of Pre Settled Status or until 31.12.24, whichever is the soonest. If you have Pre Settled Status valid beyond 31.12.24 or you have Settled Status, you will be issued a Biometric Residence Card valid until 31.12.24, this does not reflect the duration of your leave (permission to be in the UK), but relates to the Home Office plan to end the use of physical immigration documents by the end of 2024.

Once you receive your new Biometric Residence Card, you will be asked to return your old Biometric Residence Card to the Home Office.

Note: The Home Office will not automatically connect your new Biometric Residence Card to your online status under the EU Settlement Scheme

Your online status will remain connected to the document you used to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme whether this was your previous Biometric Residence Card or your passport.

If you want your replacement Biometric Residence Card connected to your online status under the EU Settlement Scheme, you will have to formally request this be done by the Home Office. We would recommend that you request that the Home Office connects your online status to your Biometric Residence Card.

Connecting your new Biometric Residence Card to your online status

If you wish to connect your new Biometric Residence Card to your online status under the EUSS, you will need to formally request the Home Office makes this change.

You can request changes to your personal details by logging into your online status here:

<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>

Or, by making the request through this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/update-uk-visas-immigration-account-details>

You will need the details of the document you used to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme and you will need to be able to access the mobile phone or email connected to your online status – these will either be the details you used to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme or, if you have updated your contact details since applying, your updated contact details.

Note: if you are offered the possibility of a code being sent to an email address or mobile phone that you can no longer access and you are unable to log into your EUSS status, you can request these be amended to your current details by calling the Settlement Resolution Centre. The contact number for the Settlement Resolution Centre is: 0300 123 7379.

You will then need to select the details that you wish to update – in this case, requesting to change your document.

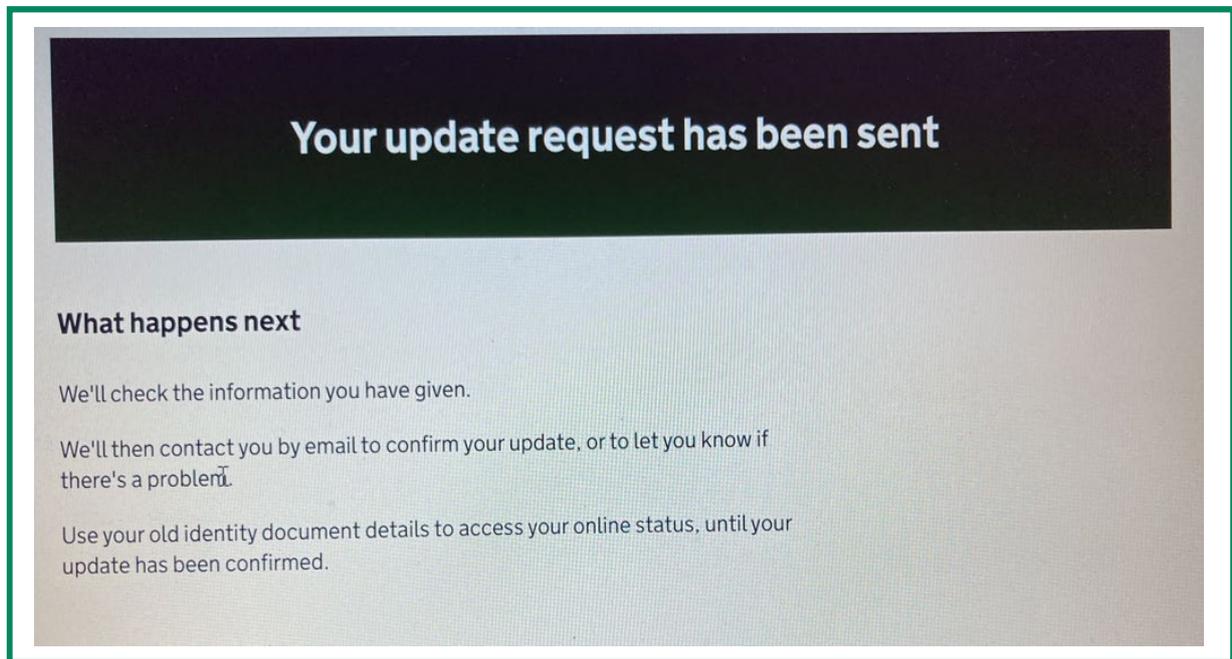
You will be required to input the details of your old document – the document currently connected to your online EUSS status – and of your new document – the document you are asking the Home Office to connect to your EUSS status.

You will be required to provide the following details:

- document type;
- document number;
- country of issue;
- expiry date;
- name;
- nationality; and
- date of birth.

You will also be asked to upload a photograph of the new document – this should include the front and back of the Biometric Residence Card.

Once you have provided all the relevant information, you can submit the request to the Home Office. You will see the following screen which will confirm that your update request has been sent.



You should also be sent an email to confirm that the request has been made.

You should then receive an email confirming that your details have been updated.

This may be some weeks after you make the request.

Once you have received an email confirming that your details have been updated, you should be able to log into your EUSS online status using your new document – until this time, you will need to continue to use the details of your previous document to log into your EUSS status.



labyrinth
project

The law is complex and may have changed since this guide was produced. This guide provides general information only for the law in England and Wales. You should seek up-to-date, independent legal advice. Rights of Women does not accept responsibility for any reliance placed on the legal information contained in this guide.

For free, confidential, legal advice on the EU settlement scheme, contact Rights of Women's advice lines. Details can be found here: www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/get-advice/immigration-and-asylum-law

This guide has been developed as part of the Labyrinth Project, which is contributing to system change for women by building capacity and forging stronger networks of support and shared learning locally and nationally. You can learn more about the project here: www.solacewomensaid.org/our-partnerships/labyrinth-project and access more resources developed through the project here: www.womancentre.co.uk