



Residence Permit Extension Instructions - Current Leiden University Students

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Do I need to extend my student residence permit?

Do you need more time to complete your study programme at Leiden University? Or are you going to start another study programme at Leiden University directly after completing your current programme? If so, you must ask Leiden University to request an extension of your residence permit from the Dutch Immigration Department (IND).

What is the deadline and how long does it take?

The deadline for submitting your extension request to Leiden University is:

- 3 months before your current student residence permit will expire

Upon receipt, Leiden University will submit your request to the Dutch immigration department (IND). You will generally have to wait about *4 to 8 weeks* for the IND to approve your request.

If you submit your request after the deadline, the university can generally still request an extension for you. However, there is a risk that your request will only be processed by the IND *after* your current permit has expired. This will result in a so-called residence gap, which can have an impact on subsequent immigration procedures, such as applications for permanent residency or naturalisation.

How do I request a residence permit extension?

Follow the steps below to request a residence permit extension:

1. Carefully read '[Appendix I: Obligations for residence permit holders](#)' before starting your request.
2. Inform Leiden University that you need a residence permit extension via the [Visa contact form](#).
3. Leiden University will send you an email, directing you to the uSis visa portal where you can submit your extension request.
4. Log into uSis and provide/upload the required documents (see next section).
5. Pay the visa/residence permit fee of €171 (2019)*:
 - online within uSis
 - or by bank transfer - see '[Appendix II: Bank transfers](#)'
6. After receiving your application, Leiden University will submit your request to the [Dutch immigration department \(IND\)](#)

**Fee set by the Dutch immigration department (IND) and subject to annual change. Turkish student need only pay €57 (2019).*



Required documents

Provide the following in uSis:

- Copy of your valid passport (pages with personal data)
- Copy of both sides of your current residence permit
- Copy of your current health insurance policy
- Signed [Antecedents Certificate](#)
- Proof of sufficient funds for tuition fee and living expenses (see section below)

Proof of sufficient funds for tuition fee and living expenses

For tuition fee

Upload the following *two* items in uSis:

1. A statement issued by the person/organisation paying your tuition fee, e.g. you, a parent, a scholarship provider or an employer. This statement must confirm that you, or the third party in question, is willing and able to pay.
2. Proof that you, or the third party in question, has the means to pay the tuition fee, i.e. a bank statement or scholarship letter. Your statement or letter must meet all the requirements listed under '[Criteria for bank statements/scholarship letters](#)'.

For living expenses

How much is sufficient?

You must demonstrate that you have sufficient funds for the upcoming 12 months of studies (or for the duration of your studies if less than 12 months).

The official amount, as determined by the Dutch Ministry of Justice, is:

- Student: €900 per month / €10,800 for one year (2019)*
- Student plus partner and/or children: €1,465.07 per month (2019)*

**Subject to annual change*

There are three ways of demonstrating that you have sufficient funds for living expenses. Select one of the following methods:

a. Transfer of funds to Leiden University (quickest/preferred method)

Transfer sufficient funds for your living expenses to Leiden University. See instructions in [Appendix II: Bank transfers](#). After you have done so:

- Upload a copy of the bank transfer receipt in uSis
- After your extension request has been submitted to the IND, [request a refund](#) of funds into your Dutch bank account



b. Bank statement in your own name

Upload a copy of a bank statement in your own name in uSis. Your statement must show sufficient funds and meet all the requirements listed under '[Criteria for bank statements/scholarship letters](#)'. Note that if someone else is sponsoring you, they must transfer the funds into your account.

c. Scholarship letter

Upload a copy of a scholarship letter in uSis. Your letter must show sufficient funds and meet all the requirements listed under '[Criteria for bank statements/scholarship letters](#)' (see below).

Criteria for bank statements/scholarship letters

Your bank statement must meet all the following criteria:

- On letterhead paper and bearing an official stamp or the signature of a bank representative
- In English, Dutch, French or German
- States the account holder, number, balance and currency type
- Funds are readily available, i.e. not shares, investments or trust funds
- Less than three months old, with the date of issue clearly stated
- States the bank's address, phone number and a contact person (preferably one who speaks English)
- Chinese 'certificates of deposit' cannot be accepted

Your scholarship letter must meet all the following criteria:

- Issued by a government ministry or organisation, or an accredited scholarship provider
- On letterhead paper
- States the name, address and telephone number of the scholarship provider
- In English, Dutch, French or German
- States your full name and date of birth
- States the amount of money you will receive per month, or the total amount of the scholarship - plus currency type
- States the exact start and end date of the scholarship (day/month/year)
- If the scholarship amount is not sufficient: demonstrate you have sufficient funds to make up the shortfall, either by transferring funds to Leiden University's bank account and submitting a copy of the bank transfer receipt (see [Appendix II Bank transfers to Leiden University](#)), or by submitting an additional bank statement (see criteria for bank statements above)

If your bank statement or scholarship letter does not meet all requirements, you will be asked to submit a new one. As this can be very time consuming, we advise students to demonstrate sufficient funds by way of bank transfer if at all possible. Note that in certain circumstances, you may be asked to send a hardcopy of your bank statement or scholarship letter by post at a later date.



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What happens after I submit my request?

Leiden University will let you know by email once the IND approves your residence permit extension. This will generally take about 4 to 8 weeks. You can then contact the IND to arrange collection of your new residence permit.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about your student residence permit, please contact Leiden University using the [Visa contact form](#).

You are welcome to drop by during 'visa/residence permit consulting hours' with any questions you might have:

- Tuesdays, 13:00 till 14:30: [Student Support Service Desk](#), Leiden
- Thursdays, 15:30 till 16:30: [Wijnhaven building](#) information desk, The Hague.



Appendix I: Obligations for residence permit holders

As a student residence permit holder you must meet a number of obligations during your stay. Remind yourself of these obligations *before* requesting a residence permit extension:

- **Town hall registration**
You must remain [registered at a Dutch address with your local town hall](#) and notify the municipal authorities of any address changes during your stay.
- **Insurance**
You are obliged to have sufficient health insurance coverage during your entire stay. The type of policy you need depends on the coverage you require and whether you will work or do a paid internship alongside your studies. Read more on the [health insurance page](#).
- **Valid residence permit at all times**
Your student residence permit will be issued for the duration of your study programme plus 3 months. You are obliged to leave the country before your permit expires, unless you have arranged residency on other grounds. If you start a new programme or need more time to complete your studies, you must extend your residence permit in good time.
- **Academic obligations**
You must remain registered as a full-time student of Leiden University and obtain at least 50% of the required study credits per academic year. Exceptions can only be made in cases of proven exceptional personal circumstances. If you are following a standard pre-master programme, you must complete it within 1 year. If you are following a short pre-master programme, you must complete it within 1 semester.
- **Sufficient funds**
You must have sufficient funds at your disposal at all times. You will be asked to [demonstrate sufficient funds](#) both for your initial visa/residence permit application, and before each subsequent year of study.

Leiden University is obliged to notify the IND if you make insufficient academic progress or have insufficient funds, which may result in the cancellation of your permit. This is in accordance with the [Code of Conduct governing International Students in Higher Education](#).



Appendix II: Bank transfers to Leiden University

When transferring funds to Leiden University, always state the nature of the transfer, followed by your student number and name, exactly as follows:

- When paying the residence permit fee: **VVR fee S123456 John SMITH**
- When transferring living expenses: **Living Expenses S123456 John SMITH**

Bank account details:

Account holder: Leiden University
Account number: 1606.32.285
Bank name: Rabobank
Address: Schipholweg 105, 2316 XC Leiden, Netherlands
Account holder: Leiden University
BIC/SWIFT: RABONL2U
IBAN: NL95RABO0160632285

Be aware that you are liable for any bank charges incurred.

Disclaimer

Leiden University retains the right to refuse to apply for a student visa/residence permit if there are significant concerns about the applicant's intended purpose of stay in the Netherlands. The Dutch immigration authority may impose additional requirements for visa/residence permit applications, which may result in a longer processing time. Leiden University cannot be held responsible for delays of this nature.