Study Abroad Office University of Leeds Leeds, LS2 9JT T +44 (0)113 3437900 F +44 (0)113 3434968 E studyabroad@leeds.ac.uk



Chile

Visa Arrangements

Please be aware that Study Abroad Office staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.

Contacting the Chilean Consulate

The information provided online by the Chilean Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores is useful, but does not give you full details of how to submit your application. Therefore, we recommend that all students travelling to Chile contact the Chilean Consulate in London as soon as possible for the following reasons:

- Check paperwork requirements and application procedures
- Obtain any necessary application forms and the medical report form
- Check current processing times
- Book an appointment to submit the application (only when your acceptance letter has arrived)

Contact details for the consulate can be found at this link: http://chileabroad.gov.cl/londres/

The details at this link on 20/05/2014 were: 37-41 Old Queen Street, London, SW1H 9JA 020 7222 2361 consulado@embachile.uk.co

You can find the application process details provided by the Chilean Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores at: http://chileabroad.gov.cl/londres/2015/02/17/student-visa-does-not-allow-holder-to-work/

Application Paperwork

The website of the Chilean Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores lists the following documents that must be scanned and uploaded as part of a student visa application:

- Letter of Acceptance issued by a university or educational institution recognized by the State.
 - This is your acceptance letter from the Chilean institution. The Study Abroad Office will contact you as soon as it arrives with us.
- Letter from Leeds confirming your participation in an exchange program.

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- The Study Abroad Office will produce this for you and pass it on to you together with the above letter of acceptance.
- Passport.
- 1 passport-sized photo, scanned.
- Evidence of financial support during your studies.
 - This can be in the form of bank statements in your own name showing savings that will support you during your year abroad. If your family will support you, the person named on the bank statements will have to write a Letter of Responsibility confirming how much money will be made available to you and must be authenticated by a Notary Public or Solicitor, signed and sealed. We recommend contacting the embassy to confirm whether the signing of this letter needs to be witnessed. This form can be found at:

 http://chileabroad.gov.cl/londres/files/DEEDS-OF-COVENANT-TO-ADULT-STUDENTS.docx
 - We strongly recommend using your Student Finance for the upcoming year as financial evidence, but if not then we have been advised that an amount around £600 should be enough. This should be checked with the Chile Embassy beforehand though.
- A Police Certificate, showing that you do not have any criminal records nation-wide.
 - Standard service costs £45 (10 days), Express service costs £80 (2 days). You can read more and apply online: http://www.acro.police.uk/police_certificates.aspx
- Medical Certificate.
 - This form should be obtained in advance from the Chilean Consulate Website and can be found at: http://chileabroad.gov.cl/londres/files/HEALTH-REPORT.doc, and then completed by your GP. The length of time your GP will take to process it will vary, so please submit this to them as soon as you can.

Information from: http://chileabroad.gov.cl/londres/2015/02/17/student-visa-does-not-allow-holder-to-work/

Visa Fees

The most current information found shows the cost of a student visa for Chile is £383 for British citizens. Don't forget that if you are eligible for the travel grant from Student Finance, you may be able to claim this cost back.

Appointment

It takes approximately 20 working days for a reply once the application is submitted. Only after that period can you contact the Consulate to enquire whether it was successful and to ask for an appointment.

If approved, you will have to attend an appointment and present the original documents on the day you pick up your Visa at the Consulate.

On Arrival in Chile

Our records show that you must register your student visa with the police within 30 days of your arrival in Chile. You will need to take your passport, landing card, and three passport photos when you register with the police.

Once you have registered with the police, you must obtain an ID card from the Registro Civil. To obtain this you will need your passport with the police registration stamp in it, and photocopies of the relevant pages of your passport (ID page, visa, stamps, police registration).

The exchange coordinator at your host university should give you guidance on both of these processes when you attend orientation: if they don't mention it, don't be afraid to ask.