



TIER 4 CREDIBILITY INTERVIEWS

WHAT IS A CREDIBILITY INTERVIEW?

Before making a decision to grant someone leave to enter the UK, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) interview all potential students to ensure they have a genuine intention to study.

All interviews are conducted in English and normally via video link.

DO I NEED TO PREPARE?

You should already know why you wish to study at the University of Salford but for many students it may be the first time you have been interviewed by a government official and for some, this can be a nervous experience.

The best way to combat your nerves is to ensure you prepare for your interview beforehand and provide honest answers.

WHAT AREAS WILL THE CREDIBILITY INTERVIEW COVER?

You are likely to be asked a series of questions in relation to a number of areas. The UK Visas and Immigration official will ask questions in key areas such as:

- / Your career aspirations, including your post-study plans and reasons for these plans
- / Information about your course of study, including modules and course content
- / Information about the funding of your studies in the UK
- / Your understanding of the rules and regulations for your Tier 4 visa

- / Your living arrangements, including how close this will be to the University
- / Details about the University's location in the UK
- / Your personal life and your family history

All of this information should have been part of your initial research and should have informed your decision to study at the University of Salford. The information won't be new to you, but you may wish to go back to your original research and your personal statement in order to be prepared for the interview.

CAREER ASPIRATIONS

You are likely to be asked about your career goals. Your study options should match your overall career goals and aspirations. If your career goals would mean that your earning potential may be less than your current income then you should be prepared to justify why you are interested in this career area. You may also be asked to provide information about any gaps in your employment or study history.



YOUR COURSE

You may be asked to provide specific information regarding your chosen course of study. You should have researched all of this information prior to applying for a course of study in the UK and before you accepted an offer at the University. However, there may be some additional information that you need to think about before you attend your interview.

YOUR FUNDING

You may be asked questions to assess if the way you fund your studies and living costs is sustainable throughout your time in the UK. For some students part time work helps but, as an international student, you should not rely on this as a sustainable income source. UKVI will expect you to be able to have funds available throughout the whole of your stay in the UK and that you are able to explain and provide evidence of the source of your funds.

YOUR PERSONAL LIFE

Your visa will be issued on the basis that you have a genuine intention to study and an intention to return home once you have completed your study. If you have family or personal ties to the UK, these should not be your primary reason for coming to the UK, particularly if you are applying for entry clearance under Tier 4. You may be required to demonstrate that there are no reasons for you to permanently settle in the UK by answering questions surrounding your life back home and your ties there.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Be sure you understand where the University is located within the UK, where you are living and the proximity of the University to where you intend to live. Information about the University is published on [our website](#). The Home Office expect you to have a UK address as part of the conditions of your Tier 4 visa.

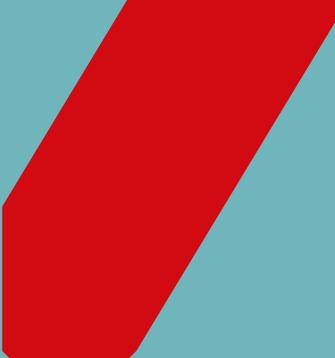
You should have also detailed your intended UK address on your Tier 4 visa application. It is advisable to find accommodation in close proximity to the University. If you have to travel for more than two hours a day to get to university then this isn't ideal. You may need to rush to University to hand in an assignment because of an unforeseen event or attend an appointment before a specified deadline.

TIER 4 RULES AND REGULATIONS

You may be asked some questions to ensure you understand the responsibilities that come with holding a Tier 4 visa as part of UKVI's assessment that you are a genuine student. Many of the responsibilities that you will have as a Tier 4 student are listed in the [Tier 4 Policy Guidance](#).

You may wish to review what the University of Salford expects of you whilst you are here by visiting [our website](#). You may also be asked questions in relation to your previous immigration history so you should be open and honest on your Tier 4 visa application form and in your credibility interview.

If you have previously been refused a Tier 4 visa, be clear about why you applied for the visa you were refused for and make sure you have a clear understanding as to why you were refused.



WHAT QUESTIONS AM I LIKELY TO BE ASKED?

HOW DO YOUR STUDIES FIT INTO YOUR CAREER PLANS?

Whilst you are preparing for your interview, you should consider the following:

- / What do I want to do after studying my course?
- / How does this course fit with my career objectives?
- / Will the course I want to study enable me to compete within the working environment?

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THE UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD?

We may have been recommended to you by a friend, family member or even an agent. However you should have made an informed decision to come here by yourself. Be clear about how you found out about the University and why you chose to study here, including what the University offers which other institutions do not.

HOW WILL YOU FUND YOUR STUDIES?

How you fund your studies is one of the vital things you need to consider whilst you are studying with us. Whilst there are minimum funding requirements you must meet when making your visa application, you may need to consider if the funds available to you are sustainable and you should be able to explain where you have sourced them from.

WHAT TIES DO YOU HAVE TO YOUR HOME COUNTRY?

You should be able to demonstrate that there are no reasons for you to permanently settle in the UK by answering questions surrounding your life back at home.

If you have children and you are bringing them with you, then also be prepared to answer questions about their care and education whilst you are studying and make sure you have included them on your application as your dependants.

WHERE DO YOU PLAN TO LIVE?

Be sure to have an understanding of where you are living and where this is in relation to the University campus. If you have not yet arranged accommodation it is vital you do so before you arrive at the University.

YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY OVERSTAYED. WHY WAS THIS THE CASE?

If you have previously had a refusal, your visa was curtailed or you have overstayed on a previous visa, you should understand the reasons why and be able to explain this to the entry clearance officer if asked. It is vital, where you have not informed the University of Salford that you speak to a member of the Home Office Compliance team at the University if any of those issues affect you.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

As part of the [#weareinternational](#) campaign, the University of Salford, in conjunction with a number of universities across the UK, have produced two videos about the visa application process in China and India.

You can also access the [University of Salford's Visa and Immigration web pages](#) where there are a number of additional resources. It is also advisable to review the web pages before you attend your Credibility Interview.

CONTACT US

The University's Admissions team is responsible for any issues surrounding your CAS. Ensure you check the CAS before you use it in a Tier 4 visa application and advise the Admissions team of any errors before submitting your visa application online.

If you are a new student and your visa application is refused you are advised to take the following actions:

- ✓ Email your full visa refusal notice to **Salford-CAS@salford.ac.uk**
- ✓ Provide the supporting documents you submitted with your visa application
- ✓ If your visa application is refused on the grounds of credibility, provide permission in the body of your email for the University to request the transcript of your interview from UK Visas and Immigration

You can also contact the Admissions team on **+44 (0) 161 295 4493**.

Our Home Office Compliance Team is responsible for all Tier 4 visa advice and support. If you have any further questions in relation to your visa application and arriving at the University of Salford please contact the team using the details below. The team can also provide information in relation to:

- ✓ ATAS (Academic Technology Approval Scheme)
- ✓ BRP (Biometric Residence Permit i.e. visa) collection
- ✓ Attendance monitoring

You can contact the Home Office Compliance team by:

Calling: **(0) 161 295 0023**. Please select option 3 and then option 2 to speak to an appropriate member of staff

Emailing: **HomeOfficeCompliance@salford.ac.uk**

