EU Settlement Scheme: Sample scenarios

We’ve developed four sample scenarios to help guide you through what action you might need to take depending on your job role and how long you have been a resident in the UK.

‘Andriana’ will have been a resident in the UK for 10 years when the UK leaves the EU

Andriana is a Greek citizen who works in Higher Education (HE). She will have been residing in the UK for 10 years when we leave the EU on 29 March 2019.

As Andriana has been living continuously in the UK for over 5 years, she immediately qualifies for settled status (subject to criminality and security checks) and can apply for her new UK residence status once the scheme opens. Once she has received her status she does not need to do anything further after the UK leaves the EU.

Andriana is eligible to apply under phase 2 of the pilot as she works in HE, but only if she has a current biometric passport and access to an Android smart phone.

‘Christophe’ arrived before the UK’s exit but won’t have been a resident in the UK for 5 years when we leave the EU

Christophe is a French teacher who will have been residing in the UK for 4 years at the point the UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019.

After the UK leaves, Christophe will be able to continue living and working in the UK until 30 June 2021 without having to make an application. As soon as Christophe has been a resident for 5 years (in 2020), he can make an application and subject to criminality and security checks, he will be eligible for settled status which will allow him to remain in the UK permanently.

Christophe works in a school, so he isn’t eligible to apply under phase 2 of the pilot, though he will be able to apply when the scheme opens fully.

‘Audra’ and ‘Ignas’ moved to the UK in 2015 and are expecting a baby

Audra and Ignas moved to the UK from Lithuania in April 2015. They are married and are expecting a baby in 2018. Ignas is Lithuanian and works in a factory and Audra is American and works in Higher Education (HE).

After the UK leaves the EU on 29 March 2019, Audra and Ignas can stay in the UK until 30 June 2021 without having to make an application.

As soon as they have been a resident for 5 years (in April 2020), they can make an application and, subject to criminality and security checks, they will be eligible for settled status. They will also need to apply by 30 June 2021 under the EU Settlement Scheme for a UK residence status on their child’s behalf.

However, if she wants to, Audra can apply for pre-settled status as part of phase 2 of the pilot as she works in HE and is married to an EU citizen. However, Ignas can’t apply as he doesn’t work in HE, so he’ll have to wait until the scheme opens fully, at which time he’ll be able to link his application to Audra’s.
‘Emmeline’ arrived after the UK’s exit from the EU but before the end of the planned implementation period

Emmeline will be moving to the UK from Belgium in June 2020. Emmeline will then have until 30 June 2021 to make an application under the EU Settlement Scheme for a UK residence status.

As Emmeline will not have been a resident in the UK for 5 years at the point of making her application, she will (subject to criminality and security checks) be eligible for pre-settled status.

This will allow her to stay in the UK until she has reached the 5 years continuous residence generally needed to be eligible for settled status in 2025.