EU Settlement Scheme: Sample scenarios

These sample scenarios offer guidance on what action you may need to take depending on 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 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 five years, she immediately qualifies for settled status (subject to criminality and security checks) and can apply for her new UK residence status. Once she has received her status she does not need to do anything further after the UK leaves the EU.

‘Christophe’ arrived before the UK’s exit, but will not have been a resident in the UK for 5 years when we leave the EU.

Christophe will have been residing in the UK for four 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 five 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.

‘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 July 2019. Ignas is Lithuanian and Audra is American.

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 five 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. Once Audra and Ignas have settled status, their child will automatically be eligible for settled status too, despite not being resident in the UK for five years.

‘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 five 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 five years continuous residence generally needed to be eligible for settled status in 2025.