

## Visa regulations

Belgian immigration law requires **students** to complete the formalities listed below **before** departure for Belgium. These formalities will ensure the proper permission to enter Belgium and conduct studies.

More information:

- [Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#):
- [Belgian Immigration Office](#)

## Non EEA-citizens:

To enter Belgium, **you will need a visa**. The type of visa depends on how long you intend to stay in Belgium. For stays longer than 90 days you need to apply for a **Long Stay Visa (Type D)**, also called Authorisation for Provisional Sojourn

Non-EEA citizens are citizens who do not belong to the EEA.

\* EEA = European Economic Area member states: EU + Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland

\* EU = European Union member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom

### **How to apply?**

As a rule, students must apply for this visa at the Belgian Consulate or Embassy in their own country or in the country where they legally reside, and not from the public authorities in Belgium itself. If there is no Belgian Consulate or Embassy in their home country, they may submit their application at the Belgian Consulate or Embassy in one of the neighbouring countries.

### Documents to submit:

1. **Valid passport.**

With at least one year's validity remaining.

2. **Permission to enrol at Odisee.**

This letter will be provided by Odisee once you have been admitted to the BBM programme.

3. **Proof of solvency.**

There are **two acceptable types** of the proof of solvency

a. Proof of your own financial means

A proof of your own financial means **by transferring a certain amount to a blocked bank** account in Belgium in your name. Kindly notify the Student Administrative Services Centre about your intention to make use of this procedure ([admissions@odisee.be](mailto:admissions@odisee.be)) The detailed instructions will be communicated to you afterwards.

b. Form 'Agreement for Acceptance of Financial Responsibility' – Annex 32

More information [here](#)

In case of doubt, the Belgian Consulate or Embassy in your home country will inform you as to what form of the proof of solvency is acceptable and what procedures to follow.

4. **Certificate of good conduct:**

This certificate, which is also called a police record, can be obtained from the police department in your home country. It should cover the last five years. If the police department in your home country does not provide such a certificate, the Belgian Consulate or Embassy will inform you as to what steps to take. For US citizens, this certificate is also called the FBI Clearance.

5. **Medical certificate:**

The official form for the medical certificate can be obtained from the Belgian diplomatic service in your home country. This certificate has to be completed by a doctor appointed by the Belgian diplomatic or consular agent nearest to your official place of residence and stamped for approval by said agent. Only the completed original (Dutch, French or English language) certificate is accepted by the ministry in Belgium. The medical certificate needs to be legalised by the Belgian embassy or consulate as well.

This certificate should state that you are in good health and are not a carrier of contagious diseases, e.g. tuberculosis.

Note: Due to changes in Belgian legislation, as of March 2015 foreigners have to **pay a supplementary administrative fee before applying for their long-stay visa**. Click [here](#) for more information. (Please note: Odisee is accredited and subsidized by the Flemish government in Belgium.)

ATTENTION: Students should not enter Belgium with a tourist visa if they intend to stay longer than 90 days or three months. Odisee will not support an application for a change of status or visa.

**EEA-citizens:**

You **do not need a visa** to enter Belgium.

\* EEA = European Economic Area member states: EU + Liechtenstein, Norway, Iceland

\* EU = European Union member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom

EEA citizens have, in principle, access to and may stay in all the other member states of the union. Special arrangements also apply for Switzerland while Monaco follows the French regulations.

**No** need to apply for any visa. Just bring along your:

1. Valid passport or identity card
2. Proof of solvency: e.g. your personal bank statements, personal bank card or credit card, or the bank statements and attestation of financial support from your parents; in case you can't present this you will be asked to sign a declaration that you have sufficient financial means to complete your studies in Belgium
3. European Health Insurance Card that proves you are affiliated with a health insurance in your home country

For further questions, please contact [admissions@odisee.be](mailto:admissions@odisee.be)