



This information is only for students at the University of Oxford.
If your visa is sponsored by another institution you must contact them directly.

My BRP is lost or stolen what do I need to do?

If your passport has also been lost or stolen you need to report this to the police where you lost it and apply for a replacement. Contact your country's embassy, consulate or high commission or passport office for information on how to replace your passport.

Step 1: check thoroughly to see if you can find your BRP

Search quickly but thoroughly again to see if you can find it and ask whether it has been handed in. Check in all the locations you think it might have gone missing, for example College, your Department, accommodation, shops and cafes, public transport, clubs or anywhere else where you might have had it with you, but take care in unfamiliar surroundings, and remember to follow Covid safety guidelines.

Step 2: tell the police

Contact the police and ask if it has been handed in. If you think you have lost the BRP, ask the police to record this, though they might not issue a report. If it has been stolen or you think it might have been, ask the Police for a crime reference number. If you are in Oxford, inform Thames Valley Police here: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/how-to-report-a-crime/> If you are outside the UK report the loss or theft to the local police where it happened.

Step 3. tell the UK Home Office

As soon as you are sure it has gone, report the loss to the Home Office, using this page:

<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/lost-stolen-damaged>

When you have done this the Home Office will cancel your BRP immediately so you will not be able to use it if you find it after reporting it.

The next step depends on whether you are in the UK or away from the UK:

- **If you are in the UK go straight to step 5**
- **If you are outside the UK go to step 4 then step 5**

Step 4: if you are away from the UK:

Apply for single-entry 'replacement BRP visa' to get back to the UK.

Apply online here: <https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/brp-vignette-transfer>. It may take up to 15 working days but you may be able to pay extra to get it processed faster.

Select visa type as follows:

- A replacement biometric residence permit (BRP) visa

You don't need a CAS, or evidence of qualifications or funding, as this is not a new Student visa application. It might help to print off and submit a Student Enrolment Certificate:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/selfservice?wssl=1>

Once you have returned to the UK, you need to make a replacement BRP application within three months of the report – see Step 5.

Could I get back to the UK without getting a replacement BRP visa?

Trying to come back without your BRP or a replacement BRP visa could be risky. If you are a visa national, you may not be able to board a flight to the UK. If you are a non-visa national you could be refused entry at UK Border Control, or admitted but in a different capacity which you would then need to sort out. A non-visa national is a person who would not need a visa if they were coming to the UK for tourism or short term study: <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>. If you do decide to try returning without getting a replacement BRP visa, try to have with you evidence of the theft or loss of your BRP, evidence you have reported to the police and UK Home Office, a Student Enrolment Certificate and a copy of your lost BRP - if you don't have this, you may be able to get a scan from your college.

Step 5: in the UK, report and apply for replacement BRP card

Follow instructions on this Home Office page: <https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits/lost-stolen-damaged>

The replacement application costs £56. You must be back in the UK for this step. You must apply within 3 months of reporting your BRP lost or stolen, or within one month of returning to the UK. Use this application form: <https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/biometric-residence-permit-replacement-service>. The application will take up to eight weeks. For a quicker replacement, you could apply by booking an in-person appointment, but this would cost an extra £610.

You must report a lost or stolen BRP but you don't have to apply for a replacement if it would have expired in 3 months or sooner and:

- you don't plan to leave and return to the UK within that time, or
- you are leaving the UK before it would have expired, or
- you are making a new visa application within this time

If the BRP was valid for longer than 3 months but you don't want to replace it because you are leaving soon or applying for a new visa anyway, you must get permission from UKVI to be excused from applying to replace it. Email us on student.immigration@admin.ox.ac.uk (we are only able to assist Oxford students).

Step 6: get your new BRP scanned

Contact your college for current arrangements for scanning your new BRP. If you are a Recognised Student email student.information@admin.ox.ac.uk. If you needed to get a new passport, this will need scanning too.

Further information about BRPs:

BRP lost in the UK but you don't have time to get a replacement before travel?

If you leave the UK without having replaced your BRP, or while the BRP replacement application is pending, you need to apply for a single-entry BRP replacement visa while you are outside the UK in order to return – see Step 4. If you have not already done so, you will need to apply for a replacement BRP within one month of returning to the UK.

Do I have to replace my BRP if I'm going to be leaving the UK or changing my visa soon?

You have to report a BRP if it is lost/stolen. If your BRP was due to expire within 3 months of the date of the loss it is not compulsory to replace it if you are leaving the UK or applying for a further visa within that time. If your BRP was still valid for longer than 3 months but you don't want to replace it because you are leaving the UK or making a new Student or other visa application soon, please email student.immigration@admin.ox.ac.uk for advice.

Need further help?

Email the student visa advisers: student.immigration@admin.ox.ac.uk. Please note that we are only able to advise Oxford students, so please include your name as given on your passport, your Oxford student number (if you can) and/or your course title. If you are not an Oxford student you should contact your own University, school or colleges International Student Advice Service.