

What is a Certificate of Application?

If you've applied to the EU Settlement Scheme, you'll receive something called a Certificate of Application, also known as a CoA whilst you wait for the outcome of your application.

Let's explain what this important document means for you.

When you submit your EUSS application, you should receive your Certificate of Application immediately.

This certificate confirms that your application has been successfully submitted and meets all the validity requirements.

As soon as you have made a valid application to the EUSS, your rights are protected. Under the Withdrawal Agreement or Separation Agreement, you maintain all your rights whilst your application is being processed.

This means that whilst your application is being considered you can continue to reside in the UK, work without restrictions, travel (subject to Home Office requirements), and access benefits and services, including NHS healthcare.

After you have applied, the Home Office will check your application thoroughly.

If your application meets the necessary criteria you will move to pre-settled status or settled status. Until a decision is made you can rely on your Certificate of Application to protect your rights.

Your Certificate of Application is accessible to view online via your UKVI account

The Home Office has adopted a digital immigration system, and physical proof of documents are no longer issued. This means that you won't have a physical certificate paper. It's important you can view and prove your CoA via your UKVI account, and that all your details are up to date and correct.

You need your CoA to prove your right to work, rent property, travel, claim certain benefits, and access services whilst you're waiting for your final decision.

If you have experienced any difficulties proving your right to work, rent, travel, or access benefits then you can submit a complaint to the IMA. For more information visit www.citizens-rights.org.uk