

Visitor Application Process

FAQ's:

1. Do I need to pay a fee?

Yes. A 'bench fee' of £175 per calendar month is payable to cover the costs of issuing you with a pass to access the building and for use of our facilities including the law library.

2. Is any funding available?

No. Neither the faculty nor CELS provides funding to support visitors. Visitors are encouraged to secure their finances before submitting an application and will be asked to provide a statement that they have finances to support a visit (including the payment of the bench fee). Should you wish to make an application for funding from a research or charitable organisation, we can assist in confirming to them that an offer of a visit has been made.

3. Is there housing associated with a visit?

No. Visitors are not provided with housing. To a limited extent we can help support visitors in finalising their housing selection.

4. Will you process immigration documents for me?

It is for the visitor to ensure that they have all the documentation necessary to enter and reside lawfully in the United Kingdom. Neither the Faculty nor CELS can make an application on your behalf, but we can confirm to the appropriate authorities that you are a visitor under the terms of our visiting scheme. It remains the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they have the necessary funds and accommodation to meet national immigration requirements.

5. Do I need to provide evidence of proficiency in English?

All visitors must have a capacity to function personally and professionally in English. Evidence of this capacity to function can be provided in a range of ways, including having previously studied in an English language environment; having published extensively in English; evidence of working in an English language environment; or through possession of relevant certificates of English language proficiency.

6. I'm a postdoctoral researcher. Can I apply to visit?

Yes. We welcome early career, as well as more experienced, researchers. We are also happy to help support researchers applying under the Marie Curie Fellowship (MCF) scheme. As the deadlines for application for a MCF are different from the timeline for applications to our visitors' programme, we ask that you contact the Director of CELS in advance of the deadline for the MCF (which is typically in August).

7. Is there a minimum or maximum period of time for a visit?

We ask visitors to commit to visits of at least one term and no more than three terms. Visits of less than one term are unlikely to be successful unless there are exceptional

circumstances that would justify a shorter visit. For a shorter visit, it may be more appropriate to apply to use the Squire Law Library and requests should be directed to the law librarian, [Mr David Wills](#).

8. Do I need to spend the entire period of the visit in Cambridge?

We want visitors to be integrated into the life and work of CELS and the wider Law Faculty and so our expectation is that visitors should not have major commitments which would take them away from Cambridge during the period of the visit. We recognise that scholars and practitioners often have other commitments, but we ask that visitors are capable of making an appropriate balance between those commitments and the essential purpose of the visit.

9. How will my application be assessed?

The Director, Deputy Director and other members of the CELS management committee will assess the application against two principal criteria: the excellence of the research proposal and the contribution that will be made to the research priorities and interests of scholars affiliated to CELS.

10. Is there someone I can contact with questions that are not answered by the FAQs?

Yes. If you are unable to find an answer to your query, then please contact the Centre Administrator, Felicity Eves-Rey (cels@law.cam.ac.uk) who will try to assist you.