

Pre-Departure Briefing for the UK – September 2024

Before arriving in the UK

- **Valid Passport and Visa:** Bring all visa documentation along with a valid passport. We also recommend keeping multiple copies of the passport and visa documentation to provide at the check-in counter or the immigration section in Pakistan.
- **Photographs:** Keep passport size photographs that are easily available for use.
- **Sponsor Documents:** Please keep a hard copy of the Sponsor Document – the Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) and the Offer Letter (as available).
- **Luggage:** Pack for cold weather and rain in the UK. Also, ensure you know the allowable baggage weight by your respective airline to avoid incurring heavy penalties at the checkin counter for extra baggage weight.
- **Travel Adaptor:** A power adaptor is needed if appliances have a different plug than the ones used in British wall socket.
- **Accommodation:** Please keep the complete address of your accommodation handy, especially as a hard copy. If you have booked a student accommodation, then the confirmation of the booking should also be available as a hard copy. You may be asked to provide details at the port of entry. If you plan to stay at a hotel initially, please make sure that the details of the hotel address are available.
- **Contact Details:** Create an emergency contact list, as well as your embassy, accommodation, institution details, nearby shops, delivery services and pharmacies.
- **Medication and Toiletries:** Learn how to travel with medication and what documentation the student needs to bring with them.
- **Local Currency:** Consider bringing small amounts of British Pounds (around £500) with you. As per the current rules of Pakistan, you are allowed to travel with \$5000 or equivalent in GBP. If you are travelling with more cash, you are legally obligated to declare it to customs.

After you Arrive in the UK

- **Transportation from the Airport:** Obtain ground transportation from the airport to accommodation. You should keep cash available in small denominations for easy use.
- **British Council Permit (BRP):** Collect your British Residence Permit (BRP) card within 10 days of arriving in the UK from the location listed in the decision letter that you must have received on email. If you do not have your decision letter, you will have to request UKVI for the letter to collect your BRP.
- **Register with the Doctor:** Register with a doctor to ensure you can avail health services in the UK. The list of doctors is available with the international office at your university.