



Using a Certificate of Deposit to meet the Financial Requirements - August 2016

This guidance is based on frequently asked questions. It is not intended to be used on its own and you should always refer to the guidance on the ISVAT web pages. The financial requirements for the Tier 4 visa are very strict and it is the main area where LSE students receive a refusal for their visa application.

Can I use a Certificate of Deposit as evidence of funds for my Tier 4 visa application?

Yes you can. However you must ensure that it meets the requirements for Tier 4 visa application purposes.

What are the requirements if I want to use a Certificate of Deposit?

The requirements for a Certificate of Deposit are stated in:

- Paragraph 169 of the [Tier 4 Policy Guidance](#)
- Page 110-111 of [Home Office's modernised guidance for staff assessing Tier 4 applications](#)

As explained in that guidance, a Certificate of Deposit will be accepted if it meets all the following requirements:

- the certificate of deposit must have been issued within 31 days of the date of application
- at least 28 days must have elapsed between the date of the deposit and the date of issue of the certificate
- the Certificate of Deposit should not indicate that the funds are frozen (this means that it must be clear that the funds can be accessed).

The certificate must also contain:

- the bank logo
- an official bank stamp
- the account number
- account holder's name
- the amount of funds

I have a Certificate of Deposit which was printed today and shows that the funds are held for 28 days in the future, can I use that as evidence of funds if I submit my online visa application today?

No, because that would only show that the funds have been held for one day on the date that you apply for the visa. Your application will be refused if your certificate only shows that funds will be held in the future; this is currently the main reason for visa refusals for new LSE students.

The Certificate of Deposit must show that the funds were held for at least 28 days **BEFORE** the date that it was printed. Therefore the date of deposit on the certificate needs to be a minimum of 28 days **BEFORE** the printing date.

Can I use a copy/print out of an electronic version or do I have to provide an original Certificate of Deposit?

No, only an original hard copy Certificate of Deposit can be used for visa application purposes. If you use a copy or print out of an electronic version, your application is likely to be refused.

Whose Certificate of Deposit can I use in my application?

You can only use a Certificate of Deposit belonging to:

- You; or
- Your parents; or
- A legal guardian as recognised by a court of law.

If you are using your parents'/legal guardian's Certificate of Deposit, you must also provide:

- A letter confirming their relationship to you and that they are happy to sponsor your studies
- Your original birth certificate/court document confirming they are your legal guardian.

A Certificate of Deposit belonging to anyone else, e.g. a brother/sister/grandparent/uncle/friend/colleague will not be accepted and your application will be refused.

Can I only use a Certificate of Deposit if I apply for the visa from my home country?

A Certificate of Deposit is accepted as evidence of funds whether you apply for your visa from your home country or from the UK. If you are applying in the UK, we recommend that you only apply for the visa once you receive the original Certificate of Deposit; postage from overseas can take time so please take that into consideration when planning your visa application.

Note: There are strict eligibility criteria for applying in the UK so you should check that you are eligible to apply in the UK before doing so.

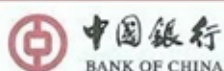
What if I can't obtain a Certificate of Deposit which meets the requirements?

If you use a document which doesn't meet the requirements, your application will be refused. If you cannot use a Certificate of Deposit, you will need to consider alternative options e.g. a bank statement or bank letter. [Contact us](#) for advice if required.

I am still unclear about the dates that need to be shown on the Certificate of Deposit; please can you give me an example?

Yes, look on the next page where you will find an annotated an example of a Certificate of Deposit.

Who do I contact for help? For further immigration advice [contact the ISVAT team online](#). If you have questions about your CAS, contact the team who issued your CAS.



The bank's logo must be on the certificate. This is an example only.

个人存款证明 PERSONAL CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

This should be the date the certificate was printed. It must be within 31 days before the date you will submit the online visa application form. In this example dated 1st August 2016, this certificate could only be used if the online visa application is submitted between 1st August and 1st September 2016. If the application is submitted before or after those dates, this certificate will not be accepted for visa purposes.

号 码 No.:
开立日期 Date: 2016/08/01

被证明 The account holder's name (you or your parents), 先生 / 女士

(有效身份证件名称: 居民身份证 证件号码: 1234567890)

自 2016 年 07 月 01 日 到 2016 年 08 月 01 日 在我行存款如下:

We hereby certify that from 01/07/2016 (DD/MM/YYYY) to 01/08/2016 (DD/MM/YYYY)

This 'to' date must be at least 28 days after the 'from' date.

This 'from' date (1st July 2016 in this example) must be at least 28 days after the date of deposit. If the 'from' date is the same date as the money was deposited and the certificate was printed, that would only show that the funds were held for one day and your visa application will be refused.

Mr/Ms The account holder's name (you or your parents),

(type of valid identification: Chinese Citizen Identification ID No: 1234567890)

Has deposited accounts with the bank as follows:

存款账号 Deposit Account No:	存款种类 Type of Deposit:	货币 / 金额 Currency & Amount:	存入日 Deposit Date
000054321000	定期 Term Account	CNY500,000.00	2016/07/01
*****END*****			

The funds held must be enough to cover any unpaid course fees stated on the CAS plus living costs (usually £11385 in GBP). Remember to check the exchange rate at www.oanda.com before submitting your online application form.

This 'Deposit Date' (1st July 2016 in this example) must be at least 28 days before the date of printing. If the 'Deposit Date' is the same as the date the certificate was printed that would only show that the funds were held for one day and your visa application will be refused. The 'Deposit Date' must be at least 28 days in the past.

备注: 有关本个人存款证明相关说明详见背面条款, 请您

Remarks: For notes of the Personal Certificate of Deposit, please refer to the terms and conditions on the back. Please read carefully.

The certificate must have an official bank stamp on it. This stamp has only been used for example purposes.

