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Guidance

Healthcare for UK nationals living in Cyprus

How to get state healthcare if you live, work or study in Cyprus.

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From:

Department of Health and Social Care (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>), Foreign & Commonwealth Office (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-office>), and Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-development-office>)

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Stay up to date

This guidance will be updated if anything changes to how you get state healthcare in Cyprus.

Sign up for email alerts. (<https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-cyprus>)

This information is about living in Cyprus. There's different guidance if you're just visiting Cyprus (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-residents-visiting-the-eueea-and-switzerland-healthcare>).

State healthcare in Cyprus is not free. Healthcare costs are covered by both the state and through patient contributions. These are known as co-payments.

Cyprus has a General Healthcare System (GHS) (https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=home-en).

UK nationals usually access Cypriot healthcare in one of these ways:

- as a UK national working in Cyprus
- using a Cypriot residents' medical card
- using a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) or UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) for temporary stays
- registering a UK-issued S1 form with the GHS

Healthcare if you live and work in Cyprus

You must register as a Cypriot resident (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-cyprus>) if you're living or working in Cyprus for more than 3 months.

If you're working in Cyprus, you must also register with the Cyprus Social Insurance Services and pay healthcare contributions.

Once you're a resident, you can register with a Cypriot doctor through the General Healthcare System (GHS). You must be registered with both the GHS and a doctor to access state healthcare in Cyprus.

Once you're registered with the GHS, you'll be able to access state healthcare services.

You may need a referral from your doctor or a specialist for certain services.

If you're on a low income, receive certain benefits or have an S1, you can apply for a medical card (<https://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/moh.nsf/All/9708963BBC895E4FC2257BAD0045791A?OpenDocument&highlight=Medical%20Card>). A medical card means your co-payments will be lower or free when you access state healthcare services.

You cannot use your EHIC in Cyprus once you're a resident.

You may be entitled to an Cypriot EHIC for travel, including visits to the UK.

You may also have the right to apply for a UK S1 if you start drawing a UK State Pension.

How to register

Create an account with the GHS. You can either register online through the GHS Beneficiary Portal (https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=home-en), or in person with your doctor.

Once you have a GHS account you must register with a GHS-listed doctor.

How much you'll pay

State healthcare in Cyprus is not free. You may have to pay some of the cost of any treatment or service, for example:

- 1 euro for a prescribed medicine or medical product
- 6 euros to see a specialist with a referral from your GP
- 25 euros to see a specialist without a referral from your GP
- 10 euros to go to A&E

Depending on your age, you'll get a number of free visits with your registered GP each year. Your GP can tell you how many visits you're entitled to.

Once you've used up your free GP visits, you'll pay up to 15 euros per visit.

If you have a medical card, your co-payments are less.

If your UK employer has sent you to Cyprus temporarily ('posted workers')

A posted worker (<https://www.gov.uk/working-abroad/posted-workers>) is someone who is employed or self-employed in the UK, but temporarily sent to another European Economic Area (EEA) country.

UK posted workers can access healthcare in Cyprus using a UK-issued EHIC or an S1 form if Cyprus opts in to posted worker arrangements as a part of the agreement with the EU. Cyprus needs to confirm this by the end of January 2021.

If Cyprus does not opt in to posted worker arrangements, you may need to do one or more of the following:

- join a local healthcare scheme
- cover the cost of your healthcare with private health insurance

HMRC has a helpline for National Insurance enquiries from non-UK residents

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/national-insurance-enquiries-for-non-uk-residents>). They can answer questions about posted worker status and explain which documents you'll need to get healthcare while posted.

UK-funded healthcare: using an S1 form in Cyprus

There's different guidance if you have an S1 as a posted worker.

You may be entitled to state healthcare paid for by the UK if you're a Cypriot resident (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-cyprus>) and receive a UK State Pension.

You may also be entitled to an S1 form if you're a frontier worker (someone who works in one state and lives in another). You must contact HMRC National Insurance enquiries (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/national-insurance-enquiries-for-non-uk-residents>) to find out if you're eligible.

If you've been living in Cyprus since before 1 January 2021, you may also be entitled to an S1 if you receive some other 'exportable benefits'.

Not all UK benefits that can be claimed while abroad entitle you to UK-funded healthcare. Read more about claiming benefits if you move abroad (<https://www.gov.uk/claim-benefits-abroad/where-you-can-claim-benefits>) or contact Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus>) to ask about a benefit.

Once you have an S1 form, you must register it with the GHS.

This will mean you and your dependants will be entitled to healthcare in Cyprus on the same basis as an insured Cypriot citizen.

You'll also get:

- a UK-issued **EHIC** (<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-ehic-european-health-insurance-card/>) for travel
- planned treatments (<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/going-abroad-for-treatment/what-is-the-s2-route/>) in other EU countries

If you moved to the EU before 1 January 2021, you'll have access to the NHS in England when you're visiting.

Dependants and family members may be classified differently in Cyprus than the UK.

Check with the local authorities when you register your S1 form.

How to get an S1 form

If you have a UK State Pension, you must request an application form by phone from NHS Overseas Healthcare Services.

NHS Overseas Healthcare Services

Telephone: +44 (0)191 218 1999

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Saturday, 9am to 3pm

How to use an S1 form in Cyprus

You must get an S1 form, then register with the GHS. You can either register online (<https://www.gesy.org.cy/en-us/home-en>), or through your local doctor.

Watch the video to find out how to register for Cypriot healthcare as an S1 holder (https://www.gesy.org.cy/sites/Sites?d=Desktop&locale=en_US&lookuphost=/en-us/&lookuppage=hiovideogallery).

Once registered, you will be issued with a Cypriot medical card. This will mean you're entitled to reduced co-payments for state healthcare on the same basis as a Cypriot citizen.

Show your medical card when you visit a doctor.

Studying in Cyprus

You can use an **EHIC** or **GHIC** (<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-ehic-european-health-insurance-card/>) to get medically necessary healthcare until the end of your study period.

Moving back to the UK

If you return to the UK you'll be able to use the NHS like any other UK resident.

Read more about using the NHS when you return to live in the UK (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-the-nhs-when-you-return-to-live-in-the-uk>).

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1. 31 December 2020

Updated sections on living and working in Cyprus, using an S1 form in Cyprus, posted workers and studying in Cyprus. Changes reflect healthcare arrangements for people moving to Cyprus under the new rules of the UK's deal with the EU.

2. 9 November 2020

Updated 2 sections: 'Healthcare if you're using an S1 form in Cyprus' and 'Healthcare if you're studying in Cyprus'. Students and people with a registered S1 in Cyprus can now apply for a new UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) that will remain valid from 1 January 2021.

3. 23 September 2019

First published.

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- Healthcare for UK nationals living in Greece (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-in-greece>)
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- Healthcare for UK nationals living in Romania (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-in-romania>)
- Cyprus travel advice (<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/cyprus>)

Detailed guidance

- Living in Cyprus (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-cyprus>)

Collection

- Healthcare in the EU, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/healthcare-in-the-eu-norway-iceland-liechtenstein-and-switzerland>)

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- [Living abroad \(https://www.gov.uk/going-and-being-abroad/living-abroad\)](https://www.gov.uk/going-and-being-abroad/living-abroad)
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