



Sidney Sussex College

Cambridge, CB2 3HU

Please read the following important information, which has been issued by the University Health and Wellbeing Committee.

Why register with a local doctor (General Practitioner or GP)?

As a new student, you should register with a Cambridge GP as soon as you can when you first arrive in the city. That way, you can receive emergency care if you need it and access health services quickly and easily while you're at the University. This is especially important if you have an ongoing health condition such as asthma, diabetes or epilepsy.

Cambridge GPs are experienced in dealing with students, and also in working with the University and Colleges. This is important if you are ill in the lead up to (or during) your examinations and you need special exam arrangements or allowances to be made.

If students do not register, this has a negative impact on local GP funding as well as on the provision of normal medical services and of emergency medicines during outbreaks. A visit to A&E is for emergencies only (for example, a severe injury). For most medical problems, the first port of call is your GP. Outside normal working hours, you can ring 111 or your GP's telephone number and you will be put through to the out of hours GP service.

UK students are not permitted to register with both a Cambridge GP and one at home. If this is your case, you can register in Cambridge in term time and see your home GP during the vacations by completing a temporary resident form, or by simply re-registering with your home GP. When required, Cambridge GPs are used to liaising with other Practices and Hospitals across the country and to sharing student records. Any necessary hospital appointments should not be affected, as you can elect to be seen at any hospital.

All students can choose to register with any local GP, although the College Nurse can provide details of the Practices close by (office hours to be confirmed by the beginning of term; e-mail: nurse@sid.cam.ac.uk). Details of how to register with a GP can be found on the NHS website (<http://www.nhs.uk>) together with contact details of Cambridge GPs.

Full-time international students on a course lasting more than six months will be exempt from charges for all of NHS hospital treatment, except for any statutory charges such as prescriptions.

If you are on a course lasting six months or more, the Immigration Health Surcharge entitles holders of a Tier 4 student visa to receive National Health Service (NHS) treatment from a GP or in a hospital from the beginning of their stay, free of extra charges. This also applies to your spouse and children if they are in the UK as your visa dependents.

Non-UK students from the EEA (European Economic Area) should apply for an EHIC card before arrival, as this will entitle them to reduced cost or free medical treatment.

Finally, keep in mind that you may need to pay for dental and optical treatment, as well as for any medicine prescribed by your doctor.