

## Ghent University – Blocked Account Refund Policy

This policy outlines the conditions under which funds from a blocked account may be reimbursed as a lump-sum. Please read carefully before submitting your request for solvency proof with the blocked account procedure.

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### 1. If your visa application is rejected

If a student cannot come to Belgium because their visa was refused, the amount deposited in the blocked account will be reimbursed **to the same bank account from which the transfer was originally made**.

Please note:

- Transfers cannot be made to embargoed accounts.
  - To request a refund, **download and complete** the [Declaration Reimbursement Form](#) and send it by email to: [internationalsupport@ugent.be](mailto:internationalsupport@ugent.be) together with **proof of your visa refusal**.
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### 2. If you arrive in Belgium but stop your studies early

If a student has arrived in Belgium but decides to end their studies and leave early, the remaining amount in the blocked account will be reimbursed **to the student's Belgian bank account**.

- To request a refund, **download and complete** the [Declaration Reimbursement Form](#) and send it by email to: [internationalsupport@ugent.be](mailto:internationalsupport@ugent.be) together with:
  - Proof of departure issued by the Belgian Migration Office.
  - A copy of your flight ticket in case you haven't registered at Migration Office yet.

We recommend contacting us **at least two weeks before departure**.

If the student does not have a Belgian bank account, the refund will be made to the **original bank account** from which the funds were transferred.

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### 3. Compliance and financial regulations

Refunds to students who do not come to Belgium are made only to the originating bank account. This is in line with the Belgian Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Act of 18 September 2017. More information: [FOD Economie – Anti-Money Laundering](#)

For students already in Belgium, reimbursement will be made **to their Belgian bank account**. Students are advised **not to close their Belgian bank account** before the refund is processed.

From **9 October 2025**, most banks have introduced **IBAN-name verification** for SEPA payments. This means the name of the account holder must match the IBAN. If the names do not match, the bank may delay or reject the payment. Students are advised to ensure name and account details are consistent. You can submit these details on the Declaration Reimbursement-form.

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### 4. Special cases (UHR countries or intermediary banks)

For students from countries where intermediary banks are used for transfers (UHR countries), an alternative reimbursement method may be required.

In such cases, please contact the Team International Support for assistance – [internationalsupport@ugent.be](mailto:internationalsupport@ugent.be)

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### 5. Additional information

- The **handling fee (€100)** is an administrative cost and cannot be reimbursed.
  - Further details on refund procedures and FAQ's about the University's blocked account can be found here: [FAQs on Blocked Accounts — Ghent University](#)
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*Last updated: 30 October 2025*