



Information for international students studying and wanting to work in the UK.

The purpose of this document sets out the information and responsibilities you have as an international student studying and wanting to work in the UK and what processes you need to follow.

Not all international students are entitled to work while studying in the UK. Those of you who are granted permission to work will have the details stated on your visa and the number of hours you are permitted to work during term time. This is usually restricted to 10 or 20 hours per week. If you do have the right to work you can usually work full time before and after your course ends and during vacation times, providing your visa is valid. The definition of a week, as stated by the Home Office is a 7-day period from Monday – Sunday.

Yours study term times may end on any day of the week, depending upon your education provider. Therefore, if your educational institution's term time ends on a Friday, full-time work would be permitted from the next day (in this scenario, a Saturday). As part of your right to work check, you require confirmation from your educational sponsor what your term dates and vacation dates are and provide this information to your employer for each year you are studying.

If you work irregular hours or for more than one employer this must not total in excess of 10 or 20 hrs in term time and a detailed record of hours worked must be documented to ensure you are not in breach of your visa conditions.

If there are periods when you are not expected to attend classes but should be studying, preparing for exams, or writing dissertations you should have confirmation from your university if you want to work more than your allocated hours of 10 or 20 per week.

You can carry out most types of work except for self - employment or work as a professional sportsperson or entertainer. In addition, you are not permitted to fill a permanent full-time vacancy unless you are applying to switch to the Skilled Worker or Graduate routes during your study. The immigration rules allow valid applications for these routes to take up permanent, full-time vacancies either, up to three months prior to the course completion date for the Skilled Worker route, or once you have successfully completed your course of study for the Graduate route or where you have permission under the Doctorate Extension Scheme.

You have a responsibility to ensure you adhere to your immigration restrictions and fully understand what you can and cannot do and the hours you are allowed to work. Failure to comply can lead to serious consequences, including termination of your employment, visa cancellation, fines and / or potentially a ban on re - entering the uk.

For more information regarding international students working in the UK, please refer to the UK Council for International Student Affairs <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/>