

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter confirms that students holding a Student Visa are eligible to work in the UK, subject to the conditions specified by the Home Office below.

Immigration authorities take work restrictions very seriously. If a student exceeds permitted hours or engages in forbidden work, they may face refusal of an immigration application or removal from the UK. Additionally, a student might be prevented from returning to the UK for a certain period.

During term time, students holding a student visa must not work more hours than stated in their "Right to Work" document, except for an approved work placement or internship. For more information, see the [UWE—Work placements webpage](#).

If permission to work is not stated in one of these documents, the student is not permitted to work.

It is the Employer's responsibility to do the right-to-work check. If permission to work is not specified in the right to work check document, the student is not allowed to work.

For more information regarding international students working in the UK, please visit:

- [Student Sponsor Guidance- Document 2: Sponsorship Duties- Version 07/2023 - This guidance is to be used from 17 July 2023. Please refer to 6.1, 6.13 and 6.23.](#)
- [Right to work checks: an employer's guide](#)
- [UK Council for International Student Affairs website](#)
- [Checking a job applicant's right to work](#)
- [Navigating work and study with a Student visa](#)

Students should not be working more than the relevant hours during these periods when they should be studying, writing a dissertation, or preparing for exams as part of their course, even if they are not expected to attend classes.

Depending on the education provider, study term dates may end on any day of the week. Therefore, if the educational institution's **term time ends** on a Friday, full-time work would be permitted from the next day (in this scenario, a Saturday). A week is considered to run from Monday to Sunday. Students should confirm with their sponsor the term-end date and verify this with their employer as part of the right-to-work checking process when considering working. This will allow employers to ensure students are not in breach of their visa conditions.

Education, Nursing and other Health care at UWE that sit outside of the dates stated in this document. These programmes have their own structure for the academic year. Please contact your school for term dates and vacation periods.

[Students who have the right to work \(P.20\)](#) are permitted to work full-time outside of term time. This includes the period before their course starts, during the official UWE vacations, or during any period for which they hold permission after completing their course.

This is the university's term dates webpage [UWE 2025-2026 Term Dates](#).

Please note that postgraduate students do not have summer vacation periods, as they are expected to work on their final assessments/dissertations during this time. Therefore, they should limit their working hours throughout the summer as outlined in their eVisa.

Here are the Key Term Dates in the 2025/2026 Academic Year for Postgraduate programmes (PG):

For postgraduate taught students, the course will be taught during three terms, starting in September 2025.

Autumn Term

- Monday 15th September 2025 - Friday 23rd January 2026

Spring Term

- Monday 26th January 2026 - Friday 15th May 2026

Summer Term

- Monday 18th May 2026 – Wednesday 30th September 2026

The following vacation dates are considered outside of term time:

- Christmas Vacation: Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026
- Easter Vacation: Monday 6th April 2026 - Friday 17th April 2026

As soon as PG students receive the 'congratulations' email for successfully completing their programme, they are considered to be outside of term time until their current Student Visa expires.

This is UWE's official letter and cannot be confirmed or amended on an individual's request. Any unauthorised amendment to the content of this document is considered a breach of the expected standard of conduct and will be reported to the Conduct Team.

Yours sincerely
Immigration Advice Service



This letter is based on UKVI rules and guidance current as of September 2024. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this letter, the University stresses that details may be subject to alteration or omission.

Attention Students

If your employer asks you for confirmation of your right to work, direct them to the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) website [GOV.UK - Checking a job applicant's right to work](https://www.gov.uk/checking-a-job-applicant-s-right-to-work).

If you need to get a share code to prove your right to work to an employer, you may use the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work>.

It is important that you are aware of your employment rights to help you recognise if you are at risk of being exploited by your employer or at risk of becoming a victim of [modern slavery](#).

Your employer **should not**:

- Confiscate your passport or other ID document from you
- Ask you to pay a recruitment fee
- Tell you to work an excessive number of hours
- Pay you below the minimum hourly wage
- Pay you 'in-kind', e.g. force you to live in accommodation provided by the employer instead of payment for your work
- Force you to work against your will
- Coerce you to do things that you are uncomfortable with, or that you think might be illegal

If you experience any of the above or you think you might be a victim of exploitation by an employer, please contact the Serious Concerns team at UWE on 01173284000 for advice immediately.

It is illegal for your employer to pay you cash in hand without deducting tax and National Insurance contributions from your wages. If you accept money in this way, you risk losing your employment rights and your student visa. In addition, you could end up having to pay the tax and National Insurance contributions yourself.

Work students must not do:

- Students can undertake most types of work but must NOT engage in business activity, self-employment or be employed as a professional sportsperson, entertainer, or doctor in training. There is a useful blog post available at the UKCISA website that should help you to decide if the job you would like to take up is allowed under a Student visa <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student-advice/working/working-after-studies/>

Volunteering

- Volunteering does not count towards your maximum 10 or 20 hours if it meets the definition of volunteering in the [Student route caseworker guidance](#) (page 94):
- "Volunteers do not have a contract, they must not be a substitute for an employee, and they must not be doing unpaid work – for example, receiving payment in kind (although they are sometimes reimbursed for reasonable travel and subsistence expenses). [...] Volunteers usually help a charity or voluntary or public sector organisation."
- Any other kind of unpaid or voluntary work that does not meet this definition will count towards your weekly 10 or 20 hours limit.

The national [Student Volunteering Week](#) takes place every February.