

Post Study Work Scheme (PSW)

The Post Study Work Scheme will allow you to remain in the UK to work for 2 years without needing a work permit or a job offer. This leaflet is a summary of the scheme. For more details and access to our online guidance please go to our webpages:

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/union/advice/international/post-study-work.php>

How do I qualify for the PSW?

You must score a total of 95 points. You will be able to claim **75 points** provided you can meet the following criteria:

1. You have been awarded a UK recognised degree or postgraduate degree or postgraduate certificate or diploma of education (teacher training only). All other postgraduate certificates and diplomas are not acceptable.
2. You must have been in the UK either as a student or any category which legally allowed you to study. You may only apply to change your status in the UK if you currently hold a student visa.
3. You must make your application for PSW within 12 months of obtaining your qualification (the relevant date will be the date on which you were first notified in writing that the qualification had been awarded.

10 points each for English language and availability of funds:

- **English language** – if you score 75 points in the above attributes you will be granted the necessary points without needing to prove your English language competency.
- **Funds requirement** of £800 if applying within UK plus £533 per dependant. See **How do I apply in the UK?** for further details. If applying from home country you will need to show £2800 and £1600 per dependant.

What work am I allowed to do?

- You can be employed, self employed or set up in business
- You or any dependants will not be allowed to take employment as a Doctor in Training.

All students: when can I apply?

You must wait until you have written proof of your **final** results approved by Faculty. This will be available as a **PSW certificate of student status** from SSiD.

If you want to go home at the end of your course you will then need to apply for entry clearance to return to the UK to work under the PSW scheme within 12 months. You will need to show more funds if you apply from abroad.

Charges

The charges are £500 for a postal application plus £50 for each dependant and £700 plus £50 for each dependant for an in person application in the UK. Visa fees are

£265 in your home country and the same for each dependant.

Dependants

If you have family members in the UK currently as your dependants they can apply to remain in the UK with you (see below). If you have married/entered a long term relationship since you arrived in the UK and your partner is not here in the UK as your dependant they will need to return home to apply for entry clearance. Your dependant will have a right to work or be self employed without needing a work permit.

How do I apply in the UK?

1. Wait to apply until you have got the final results **approved by Faculty**. If you are still 'awaiting results' you will not be able to prove that you have successfully completed the course. Most taught postgraduates get their final results by early December.
2. Download the **Tier 1 (Post Study Work) form** and the **PBS (Dependant) form** if appropriate from the UKBA website: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier1/poststudy/>.
3. **You must use our on line guide** to completing the form on our website: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/union/advice/international/post-study-work.php>
4. Apply before your student visa expires. Ideally you should apply no later than 2 weeks before your student visa expires. However, you can legally apply on the actual date of expiry of

your visa. You will be legally in the UK until a decision is made on your application even this is after the expiry of your student visa. It can take between 4-8 weeks to process applications.

5. You must provide original documents in the format requested by the UKBA. Failure to do so will lead to refusal.
6. You must send your application by post. We recommend you send it by Special Delivery. Alternatively you can submit it in person at one of the regional offices.

You must provide the following:

1. PSW certificate of student status available from SSiD.
2. Original degree certificate if **you have attended your graduation ceremony**.
3. **3 months original bank statements**. You must show you have held £800 in your bank account (s) for three months if applying from UK. You can show more than one bank account (including a bank account in your name from your home country). Whatever the combination **it is essential you can show your balance has not gone below £800 during the three months period**. For each dependant you will need to show an additional £533. The most recent statement must be dated within one month of your application.

4. Consent letter from sponsor – required if you have been sponsored for **all** of your tuition fees and living costs by a government or international scholarship agency.
5. Any additional documents/ and fee as required on the form.

How do I apply from my home country?

Please check our website <http://www.shef.ac.uk/union/advice/international/post-study-work.php> for full details on applying from your home country.

What help can I get with my application?

The Student Advice Centre will provide:

- **on line guidance** for applications made in the UK <http://www.shef.ac.uk/union/advice/international/post-study-work.php>
 - Group checking sessions. Details of the sessions will be available from the Student Advice Centre.
 - **There will be no individual checking of forms.**
- ## What are my other options?
- Please see our leaflet *Working in the UK after your studies* for further information about Tier 1 (General) and Tier 2 (work permits)

Immigration advice is now regulated by the Office for the Immigration Services Commissioner (www.oisc.org.uk).



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Help Point