

Tier 1 - Post Study Work

Working in the UK after your studies

The Tier 1 Post Study Work came in to effect on 6th April 2009 and replaces both the old Post Study Work visa and the International Graduate Scheme. If you are granted a visa in this category you will be allowed to remain in the UK to work for 2 years without needing a Work Permit or a job offer.

How do I qualify for the PSW Scheme?

To be eligible to be granted a visa under the PSW Scheme you **must** score a total of 95 points. Below is how to work out if you have enough points to make a successful application.

75 points for 'attributes':

- You have been awarded a UK recognised degree or postgraduate degree, - **20 points**
- You studied at a UK institution that is a UK recognised body - **20 points**
- You obtained your qualification whilst in the UK either on a student visa or as a dependant (if you were on a dependants visa you will need to return to your home country to apply for the PSW Scheme) - **20 points**
- You must make your application for PSW within 12 months of obtaining your qualification (the date used will be the date on which you were first notified in writing that the qualification had been awarded - this can either be by email or by letter - **15 points**
- If you currently have IGS status you can extend for a further 12 months - **75 points**

20 points for English language and availability of funds:

English Language - if you scored 75 points in the 'attributes' you will automatically meet this requirement - **10 points**

Funds Requirement - you need to be able to show that for the 3 months prior to making your PSW application **your** bank account **never** had less than £800 (more if you have dependants on your visa).

If you are applying from your home country you will need to show that for the 3 months prior to applying for PSW your bank account **never** had less than £2800 - **10 points**

What am I allowed to do?

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

When can I apply?

You must wait until you have submitted all your work including your final dissertation and the Examination Board have confirmed you have successfully completed your course. At the time of making your application for PWS you must be able to provide written proof from the University of your final results.

You must apply within 12 months of successful completion of your studies, which is considered by the Home Office to be the date on which you were first notified in writing that the qualification had been awarded.

If you want to go home at the end of your course you will then have to apply for entry clearance to return to the UK to work under the PSW scheme.

How to apply?

You **must** apply for PSW before your current student visa expires. You can download the Tier 1 PSW application form and guidance notes (Tier 1 Post Study Work) for the UK Border Agency website; www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier1/poststudy/applying/

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