



## Staff Immigration Team

#### Microphone:

 Due to the number undertaking training, please mute or turn off your mic.

#### Questions:

- The training will be broken into sections, with a 'pause' at certain points for questions.
- You can type in questions in the chat panel or turn on your mic to ask



## Staff Immigration Team

Website: <a href="http://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk">http://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk</a>

James Baker – Head of Staff Immigration

Tel: (2)89908

Email: james.baker@admin.ox.ac.uk

Tim Currie – Staff Immigration Officer

Tel: (2)89903

Email: tim.currie@admin.ox.ac.uk

Lisa Crook – Staff Immigration Officer

Email: <u>lisa.crook@admin.ox.ac.uk</u>

Staff Immigration Assistant

Email: sit-administration@admin.ox.ac.uk

Kim Proffitt – Administrative Assistant (College Tier 4 Hours Monitoring)

Tel: (2)89894

Email: collegetier4@admin.ox.ac.uk

Staff Immigration Advisors:

Medical Sciences/ Humanities / GLAM / UAS / Continuing Education

Angelina Pelova Tel: (2)89904

Email: angelina.pelova@admin.ox.ac.uk

Paul Deeble

Email: paul.deeble@tss.ox.ac.uk

MPLS / Social Sciences / Colleges

Lyn Davis Tel (2)89927

Email: <u>lyn.davis@admin.ox.ac.uk</u>

Richard Birt Tel (2)89912

Email: richard.birt@admin.ox.ac.uk



## What we do

- Advise departments, colleges and visa holders on:
  - Global Talent, Skilled Worker and Tier 5 process and requirements
  - ILR and British citizenship
  - Right to Work checks
  - Visitor immigration requirements
- Process Skilled Worker and Tier 5 Certificate of Sponsorship applications and hold all data on these visa holders centrally.
- Manage complex cases and matters of non-compliance with external legal input where necessary.
- Support any EU/EEA Frontier worker applications and any staff applying late for the Pre-Settled/Settled status due to reasonable grounds.
- Provide regular training on Global Talent, Skilled Worker, Tier 5, right to work and visitors.
- Represent the collegiate University's comments and concerns with immigration policy to the Home Office.
- Run the College RTW Hub and Student hours monitoring service
- Provide assurance to the Audit and Scrutiny Committee on immigration and right to work compliance.



### Content

- Legislation and policy
  - Purpose of the legislation
  - What is an illegal worker?
  - Avoiding discrimination
- University's sponsor licenses & consequences of non-compliance
- Who needs a right to work check?
- Terminology
- How to complete a right to work check
- Manual or Online check
- RTW check using online portal
- Manual RTW check



### Content

- Manual Documents which give permission to work
  - List A documents
  - List B documents
  - Validity of passports
  - Biometric Residence Permits
- Categories of employee and worker
  - Oxford Students
  - Non Oxford Students with Tier 4/Student visas
  - Skilled Worker supplementary work
  - Sharing and repeating RTW checks
- Summary



## Legislation and Policy



## Legislation

#### Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006

- Right to work legislation came into effect on 27 January 1997
- Updated in February 2008
- Updated in May 2014
- Updated in July 2021
- Latest update to the Act 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022



## Purpose of the legislation

- Make it harder for people with no right to work in the UK to gain or keep employment
- Put the responsibility onto employers to prevent illegal working
- Make it easier for the Home Office to sanction employers who employ illegal workers
- Provide employers with a statutory excuse against sanction



## Avoiding discrimination

- RTW checks apply to <u>all</u> nationalities
- Cannot make assumptions of a person's nationality on the basis of name, race, appearance etc.
- Equality Act 2010, employers are required to treat all job
  applicants equally. Home Office advises that a right to work check
  should be completed for all prospective employees, and at the
  same stage of the recruitment process
- The collegiate University risks sanction under the Equality Act if employees/ prospective employees are treated differently on the grounds of race



## What is an illegal worker?

A person who is "subject to immigration control" (i.e. requires a visa to work in the UK) and:

- does not hold the necessary visa to work in the UK
   Or
- is working in breach of their visa conditions (i.e. in a role in which their visa doesn't cover/ for more hours than their visa permits)

Remember, it the same offence to breach the conditions of a visa as it is to work with no immigration status in the UK.



- Dr A arrived for her first day of employment, but forgot to bring her right to work documents
- The college allowed her to commence work and her right to work was checked the following day

**Consequence** – no statutory excuse against illegal employment if the documents were later found to be fraudulent because the right to work check was not done before employment commenced.

#### What should the college have done?

- Sent Dr A home on her first day to get her right to work documents and not allowed her to commence work until a right to work check had been completed
- Consider undertaking right to work checks at interview stage



- Mr B, an Oxford student undertook some casual work for four hours per week during term time. He has a Student Visa
- He is also working 20 hours per week for three colleges.
- The college did not know about his other work

**Consequence** – illegal employment of a Tier 4 visa holder.

#### What should the college have done?

Referred Mr B to the RTW hub and hours monitoring service where he would have completed the 'Student Employment Declaration' form. This would have identified that the work they were offering was in breach of his visa conditions, exceeding 20 hours per week, and for this reason they could not employ him.



- Mr C was employed as a kitchen porter as a casual worker in a college for 20 hours per week
- He held a Skilled Worker visa to work as a Research Assistant in a private research company

Consequence – Illegal employment of a Skilled Worker visa holder in breach of their visa conditions. Skilled Worker visa holders may only take additional work in job types which would be sponsorable under the Skilled Worker route, work as a kitchen porter is not sponsorable so is not permitted.

#### What should the college have done?

Checked, with advice from SIT if necessary, whether the work would normally be sponsorable under the Skilled Worker visa route, and as it isn't they should have explained to Mr C that his Skilled Worker visa does not permit this type of work to be undertaken as supplementary employment



- Mr D commenced employment on 6 January 2014 but a right to work check was not completed until March 2014
- The Home Office contact the University in 2017 to advise that according to their records Mr D does not have the right to work in the UK (they have the ability to cross reference information from NI contributions with visa status)
- It was found that Mr D had presented a fraudulent visa

Consequence – illegal employment of an individual with no right to work in the UK. No statutory excuse because a right to work check was not completed before work commenced.

#### What should the college have done?

Completed a right to work check before employment commenced. Had this been done, there would be no sanction against the University because the fraudulent document was not obvious.



## Consequences of non-compliance

- On-the-spot fines of up to £60,000 for each illegal worker
- Up to 2 year prison sentence and/or an unlimited fine
- Financial and reputational loss

A breach from a single college or department (including those who do not have any Skilled Worker or Tier 5 sponsored visa holders) = potentially serious consequences for entire Collegiate University.



## Sponsor licenses

The Collegiate University holds 'Premium Sponsor Status' with the Home Office and holds the following licenses

- Skilled Worker non UK employees to fill skilled roles (approx. 1,000 visa holders)
- Student Visa (formally Tier 4) students from overseas (approx. 5,000 students)
- Tier 5 supernumerary researchers and academics coming to collaborate (approx. 200 current sponsored visa holders)

Failure to comply with Right to Work check requirements poses a serious risk to these licences:

- Licences withdrawn all sponsored workers and students required to leave the University and UK
- Licences downgraded may retain current visa holders but not sponsor new visa holders
- Prevent the recruitment of international talent (students and employees)



## Questions?



## Who needs a right to work check?



## Who needs a RTW check?

#### Employees and casual workers

Right to Work check required	Right to Work check not required
Employees paid through payroll	Anybody working entirely overseas
Casual workers paid through payroll	Anybody employed continuously since before 27 January 1997
Tier 5 sponsored visa holders	Self-employed people
Anybody who receives a payslip	Agency workers
Anybody (over 16) on Work Experience	Workers supplied by the Temporary Staffing Service (RTW undertaken by TSS)
Unpaid workers	Volunteers
Examiners (in some circumstances)	
Out tutors arranged by department	



## Unpaid worker Vs Volunteering

#### Volunteering activities;

- Not fulfilling a role normally undertaken by paid staff
- No obligation on the individual to attend at particular times or have set hours engagement is informal
- No payment, only reimbursement for reasonable travel and meals expenses actually incurred

#### Consider:

What would happen if the individual didn't turn up for the engagement, would you have to find someone else to cover?

Answer Yes: <u>Unpaid Worker</u> – Undertake Right to Work check

Will the individual have defined hours, attend regular team meetings and receive extensive training?

Answer Yes: <u>Unpaid Worker</u> – Undertake Right to Work check



## Who needs an immigration check?

Visitors – where the department has facilitated their entry into the UK

Immigration check required	Immigration check not required
People from overseas who require a visa/immigration stamp to enter as an Academic Visitor	Visitors from within the UK
People from overseas who require a visa/immigration stamp to enter as a Business Visitor (unless coming for one day or less)	Non-EEA nationals who already have permission to be in the UK
People from overseas who require a visa/immigration stamp to enter as a Permitted Paid Engagement visitor	Business Visitors from overseas coming for one day or less

Immigration status check = check, copy, sign, date and retain copy of passport and visa/immigration stamp. Retain copies for duration of visit.



## Terminology



## List A and List B RTW

The Home Office split right to work checks into two types. Either List A or List B

#### List A:

- Permanent proof of right to work no repeat checks required during employment
- British/Irish passport and Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) and Settled status visa holders

#### List B:

- Time limited right to work a repeat check must be done for ALL List B's before
  the document expires if employment is expected to continue
- Work visa/ Biometric Residence Permit holders i.e. Global Talent, Skilled Worker, Tier 4, Student visa, Tier 5, dependant visa

See <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checklist/employers-right-to-work-checklist-accessible-version">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/right-to-work-checklist/employers-right-to-work-checklist-accessible-version</a>



# Biometric Residence Permits and vignettes – what's the difference?

#### Biometric Residence Permit

- Applicants applying inside the UK may be issued a
   Biometric Residence Permit card (BRP). If they did not
   have to attend a biometrics appointment they may
   instead only be issued an electronic visa status
- Overseas applicants applying for a visa for more than 6 months who attended a biometrics appointment:
  - Issued with a 90 day vignette to allow them to travel to the UK
  - Upon entry will need to collect their BRP from a designated Post Office



#### Vignette in passport

- Issued to all overseas applicants
- For those coming for more than six months the vignette will be valid for only 90 days – BRP must be collected when they arrive in the UK





## BRPs still issued to some but no longer accepted as proof of RTW

If new starter has a Home Office letter or email that states they will be issued a BRP and is unable to collect their BRP before commencing engagement:

- Can rely on the vignette as proof of right to work while waiting on BRP
- Advise individual to collect BRP within 10 days of arrival into the UK and <u>BEFORE</u> vignette expires
- BRP cannot be relied on as proof of right to work but they will need the BRP number to generate a 'share code' so you can carry out an online right to work check

Individuals with electronic immigration status, must provide a 'share code' and their date of birth for an employer check to be completed. Full details on <u>SIT website</u>. Also require evidence of their arrival date to UK – e.g travel ticket, boarding pass.



## Other terms

Permission to Enter/ Leave to Enter/ Entry Clearance	Home Office terms for individual granted <b>entry to the UK</b> , this will often have an end date specified
Permission to Stay/ Leave to Remain	Individual granted an extension to their <b>stay in the UK</b> for a specific period of time
Settlement/ Indefinite Leave to Remain/ Permanent residency	Individual granted permission to remain in the UK without any time limit on their stay  Permanent residency - EEA nationals and family members
Dependant	Partner or spouse (married/ civil partner/ cohabiting >2 years) or child of a visa holder, who are permitted to join or remain with the main visa holder
Naturalisation	Legal process of an individual obtaining British nationality



## Questions?



# How to complete a right to work check



## RTW method

Need to ask individual what RTW they wish to present, then decide if this will be a manual check or an online check.

Use online RTW portal if:	Copy and retain RTW documents if:
<ul> <li>EU/EEA and Swiss with Settled status</li> <li>EU/EEA and Swiss with Pre-Settled status</li> <li>EU/EEA and Swiss with a UK visa (and not issued a BRP card)</li> <li>EU/EEA and Swiss with a Frontier Worker Permit</li> <li>BN(O) visa issued electronically (Hong Kong visa)</li> <li>Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) card (from 6th April 2022)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>British Passport</li> <li>Irish Passport or passport card</li> <li>Birth Certificates</li> <li>Visa vignettes in current passports</li> <li>Certificate of British nationality</li> <li>Positive Verification Notice (PVN's)</li> <li>Current Immigration Status Documents or ARC cards</li> </ul>



## Online RTW portal process

1 3 4 5 Repeat RTW **Obtain Share** Retain Check the Update list of check Code & Access Evidence of RTW displayed List Bs Portal Check (List B's only)



# Step 1: Obtain the individuals 'share code' and 'date of birth'

The individual may provide the share code to you directly, or they may choose to send this to you via the service. If they choose to send it to you via the service, you will receive an email from:

right.to.work.service@notifications.service.gov.uk

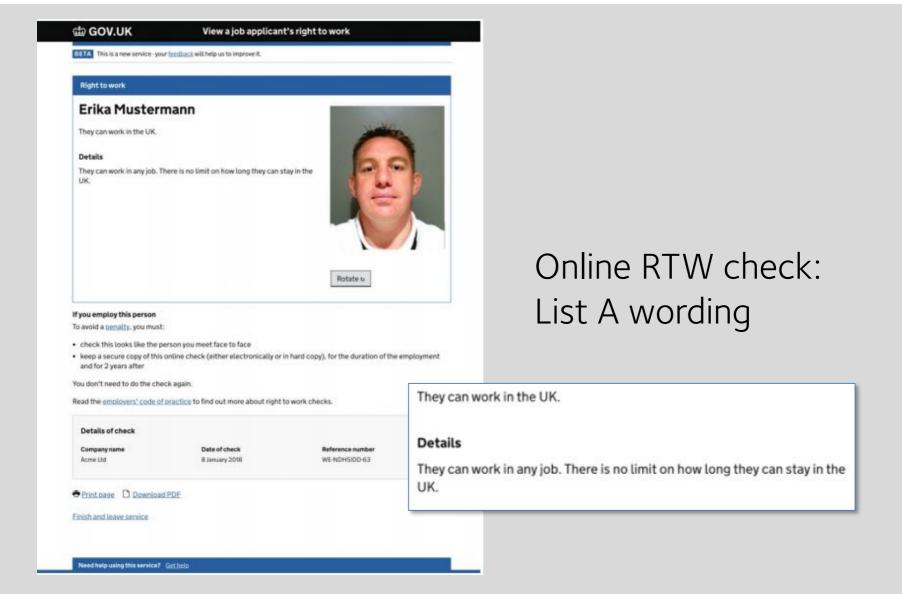
The response time to this process is very fast – little or no waiting

Then access the online RTW portal via <u>View a job applicant's right to work details - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

Enter the share code and date of birth

#### Staff Immigration Team







## Step 2: Check the RTW

In the presence of the individual (in person or via live video link), you must check that the photograph on the online right to work check is of the individual presenting themselves for work.

If the details do not refer to the right to work ending, then individual is List A and no further checks required.

If the details specify a date when the right to work is ending, then individual is List B, and their details added to your 'List of List Bs'.

If the details specify any restrictions on the work (limit of hours worked or type of work allowed), the check will indicate this. If you are not sure on the restrictions, please talk to SIT.



# Step 3: Retain Evidence of the Check

You must retain evidence of the online right to work check. For online checks, this should be the 'profile' page confirming the individual's right to work. This is the page that includes the individual's photo and date on which the check was conducted. You will have the option of printing the profile or saving it (select pdf option).

This should either be printed out and added to the individuals personnel file or saved electronically and stored with the individuals electronic personnel file.

These checks need to be retained for the length of employment plus two years.

After receiving the online RTW check – delete the share code and date of birth as information no longer needed.



## Step 4: update list of List B's

Update List of List B's



Only required if extending contract beyond expiry date of visa

Applies to those with 'List B' status

No repeat checks for those with List A status

#### Process:

- Identify those with List B status at least 3 months in advance of their visa expiring
- Maintain contact with a worker through the visa application process
- Undertake additional steps if the new visa is not obtained before their visa expires

#### Outcome:

- Ensures that a new visa is received/ worker is in the process of applying for a new visa before the existing visa expires
- Undertake right to work check on new visa
- Update list of List B's



3 months before visa expires, contact worker to check they plan to extend their visa or apply for ILR.

Ask them to keep you updated.

Complete RTW check on new visa (if available) following steps 1-4, and list of List B's.

Approx 2 weeks

before visa expires, if worker has not received new visa:

Seek and retain evidence application has been submitted:
 Home Office acknowledgement letter/email If they have not submitted a visa application – remind them they must apply before their visa expires



Visa expires If worker has not received new visa:

- Obtain Home Office acknowledgment letter/email
- extends permission to work for 28 days

If worker has made the application to the Home Office <u>after</u> their visa expired, they will not have the right to continue to work whilst the application is pending – contact SIT

21 days

after visa has expired, new visa still not received:

- Ensure you have copy of Home Office acknowledgement letter
   Case ID number will be required
- Submit request to the Employer Checking service to confirm pending application:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work



28 days

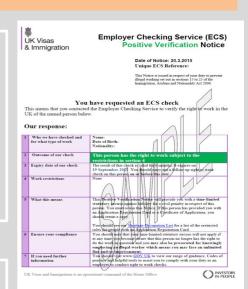
after expiry of visa receive from the Employer Checking Service (ECS):

**Positive verification** – right to work will continue for six months whilst awaiting new visa.

Negative verification – contact SIT immediately

6 months within 6 months of the positive ECS being obtained;

- Complete RTW check on new visa once received
- Update list of List B's with new information





# Step 5: repeat check (example)

Dr G's Skilled Worker visa expires on 1 January 2024 Action:

- Contact Dr G approx. 1 October 2023, she confirms she intends to apply for a visa extension in late November
- 2. In **early December** Dr G confirms she has submitted the visa application but has not received the outcome
- Dr G provides Home Office acknowledgement letter dated 29 November 2023. This is valid proof of right to work up to 28 January 2024.
- 4. On/shortly before **21 January 2024**, contact Dr G to check whether she has received her new visa. She still hasn't
- 5. Complete the Employers Checking Services form on the Home Office website (no later than 21 January 2020) and await response
- 6. On **27 January** a Positive Verification Notice is received from the Home Office. This is valid as proof of right to work until **27 July 2024**
- 7. Keep in regular contact with Dr G to check if she has received her new visa.
- 8. On **4 February 2024** Dr G confirms she has received her new visa and brings it in for the department to do a right to work check
- 9. The department completes the check and updates list of List Bs



# Questions?



### **BREAK**

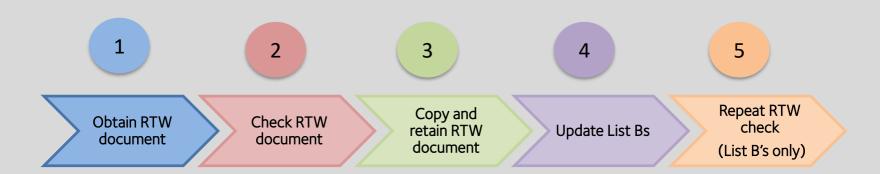
# The training will resume in approx. 5 minutes



# Making a 'manual' RTW check



# Right to work 'manual' process



Use the Right to Work Checklist to ensure you follow all of the required steps in full <a href="https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/how-to-complete-rtw-check">https://hr.admin.ox.ac.uk/how-to-complete-rtw-check</a>



## Step 1: obtain document(s)

- Undertake prior to employment commencing and complete correctly – you can't go back at a later date to rectify
- Only documents on List A or List B are acceptable
- Worker must present original document(s) in person photocopies and electronic copies not acceptable
- Those who work remotely should have an initial visit to Oxford to present their right to work documents
- In exceptional circumstances, a right to work check can be conducted via Skype/video link BUT the worker must send their original documents (passport, visa etc.) to the department before the right to work check via video link is conducted. This is not recommended



# Step 2: check document(s)

You are not expected to be an expert but should reject a document if it is "reasonably apparent" that it is not genuine/ does not belong to the holder:

#### Consider

- Photographs and DOB consistent across documents and inline with the appearance of the holder
- Has the document been tampered with;
  - Pages missing, or out of alignment
  - Substitution of photograph, personal details
- Does the print or paper quality look poor?





## Step 2: check document(s)

#### Check:

- ✓ Visa in date and permits work in question
   (Note student restrictions on hours, and Skilled Worker and Tier 5 restrictions on type of work)
- ✓ Passports must be current (in date & not cancelled) except:
  - For UK and Irish nationals
- ✓ Any difference in name ask for further original documentation (i.e. marriage/civil partnership certificate, deed poll)

Not sure? Ask SIT



## Step 3: copy and retain document(s)

- Passports copy all pages with photo, expiry date, nationality, DOB, signature, visa, biometric details
- All other documents, including BRP copy in full both sides
- Ensure copies are clear photograph and details are legible

Sign, print name and include this declaration to confirm originals seen:

#### "The date on which this right to work check was made [insert date]"

- Retain for duration of employment/engagement, plus two years after employment/engagement ends
- Data protection copies must be held securely
- Keep copy of right to work documents attached to inside front cover of Personnel files so that documentation can be found easily during an audit



# Step 4: update list of List B's

• Update List of List B's if required



• Follow same process as with an 'online check'



# Questions?



# Right to Work documents for manual check

- List A (permanent)
- List B (time-limited)



#### **British passport**

- NOTE there are 6 different types of British nationality but the only British passport accepted by itself is where Nationality is listed as 'British Citizen'
- Other types of British nationals (such as 'British National (Overseas)', 'British Subject', 'British Overseas Citizen' etc. do not have automatic rights to live and work in the UK and will need a visa to work (List B)
- Some can be endorsed with entitlement to Right of Abode in the UK but this must be in a valid passport (List A)



 Other types rarely seen but do come up so be careful to read Nationality & don't assume British passport = British citizenship & if unsure or have any doubts contact SIT



Irish Passport of Passport Card (current or expired)

Free to live and work in the UK without restriction.

If a card, copy both sides.







A <u>current</u> passport endorsed to show that the holder is exempt from immigration control, is allowed to stay indefinitely in the UK (ILR), has the right of abode in the UK, or has no time limit on their stay in the UK, or is a family member of an EEA national allowed to stay indefinitely:

- Must be in a valid passport
- Usually in the form of a sticker in the passport





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#### A birth or adoption certificate:

 issued in the UK, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or Ireland

together with an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and name

- Short birth certificates are valid for this purpose.
- Evidence of the National Insurance Number must be in the form of an official document (i.e. a National Insurance Card, letter from HMRC, P45 or P60)

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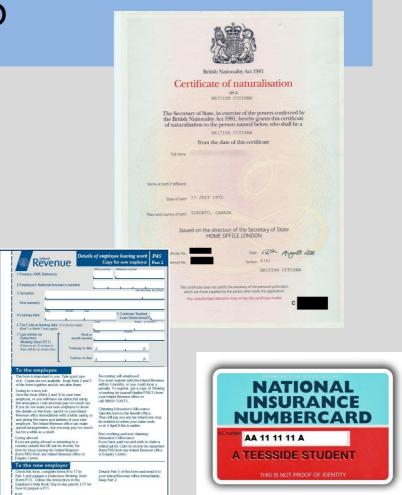
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13. Usual address (if different from that in 10 above)		
14. I certify that the particulars entered above are true to t	he best of my knowledge and belief	Signature of informant
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A certificate of Registration or
Naturalisation as a British citizen together
with an official document giving the
person's permanent National Insurance
number and their name issued by a
Government agency or a previous
employer:

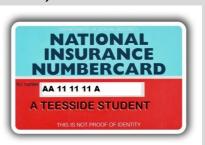
- A certificate of Registration is an A4 certificate describing the holder as a British Citizen
- Evidence of the National Insurance Number must be in the form of an official document (i.e. a National Insurance Card, letter from HMRC, P45 or P60.)





A <u>current</u> Immigration Status Document issued to the holder with an endorsement indicating that the named person is allowed to stay indefinitely in the UK or has no time limit on their stay, <u>together with</u> an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued by a Government agency or a previous employer:

- Rarely seen but still some in circulation
- Evidence of the National Insurance Number must be in the form of an official document (i.e. a National Insurance Card, letter from HMRC, P45 or P60.)



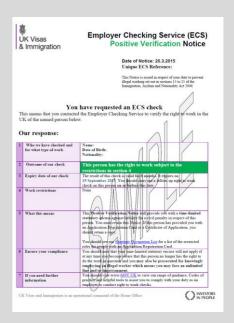


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3 Surname		_		(MI MS ME	is Ms Other
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A document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey, the Bailiwick of Guernsey or the Isle of Man showing that the holder has been granted unlimited leave to enter or <u>remain together</u> with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office.

EXPECTED TO BE VERY RARELY ENCOUNTERED – PLEASE TALK TO SIT





A <u>current</u> passport endorsed to show that the holder is allowed to stay in the UK and is currently allowed to do the type of work in question:

- Vignette (sticker) in the passport
- Some permits/visas contain restrictions on the type of work that the holder can do, and/or, the place that they are permitted to work (e.g. Skilled Worker and Tier 5)
- Some permits/visas contain restrictions on the number of hours the holder is permitted to work (e.g. Tier 4/Student Visa)
- Other types of visa include Global Talent, Tier 5
  YMS, Tier 4 DES, PBS dependant, spouse, UK
  Ancestry
- Passport and visa must be current







A Certificate of Application issued to an EEA/Swiss national or family member stating that the holder is permitted to take employment which is less than 6 months old together with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office.

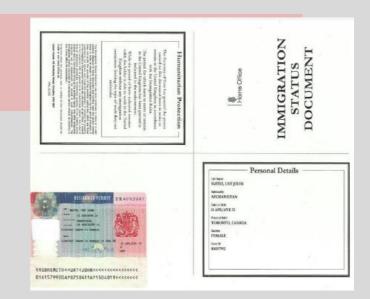
- EEA nationals or family member who have applied for Pre-Settled status before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 will still be able to work while the application is being considered.
- The Certificate of Application must be no more than six months old and must be verified by the Home Office 'Employers Checking Service' before the person can commence employment
- Employers checking service <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work</u>

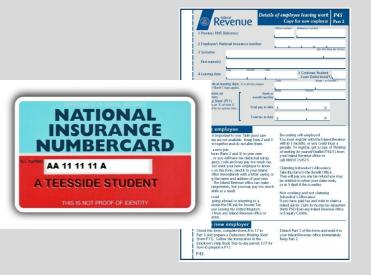




A <u>current</u> Immigration Status Document containing a photograph issued to the holder with a valid endorsement indicating that the named person may stay in the UK, and is allowed to do the type of work in question, <u>together with</u> an official document giving the person's permanent National Insurance number and their name issued:

- This is usually a paper document containing a vignette indicating the holder's immigration status
- These are no longer issued (since 2012) but some may still be in circulation
- Evidence of the National Insurance Number must be in the form of an official document (i.e. a National Insurance Card, letter from HMRC, P45 or P60.)







An Application Registration Card <u>stating that the</u>
<u>holder is permitted to take the employment in</u>
<u>question, together with a Positive Verification Notice</u>
from the Home Office:

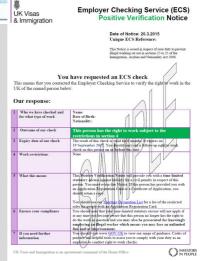
- Issued to Asylum applicants
- The holder may have restrictions on the type of work they can do and/or the number of hours they can work
- The ARC must be verified by the 'Employers Checking Service' before the person can commence employment

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work

BEFORE ENGAGEMENT -GET ADVICE FROM SIT



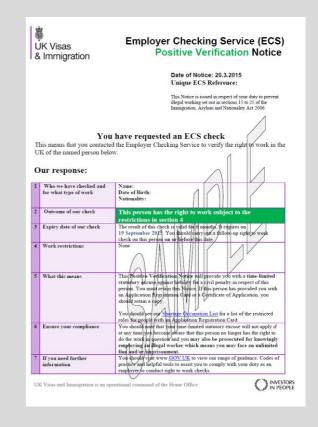






A <u>Positive Verification Notice</u> issued by the Home Office Employer Checking Service to the employer or prospective employer, which indicates that the named person may stay in the UK and is permitted to do the work in question:

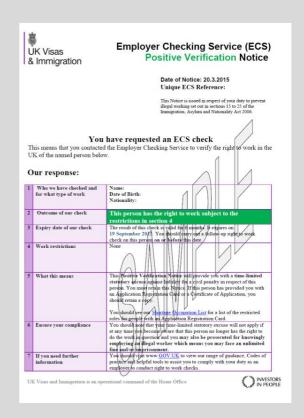
- Issued when an employer cannot re-check right to work of an existing worker because the person's passport and visa are with the Home Office in relation to an outstanding application or appeal
- Positive Verification Notice valid for six months
- Employers checking service
   https://www.gov.uk/government/publications
   /employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work





Either a document issued by the Bailiwick of Jersey, the Bailiwick of Guernsey or the Isle of Man showing that the holder has been granted limited leave to enter OR has made an application to leave to enter or remain AND ALSO with a Positive Verification Notice from the Home Office.

EXPECTED TO BE VERY RARELY ENCOUNTERED – PLEASE TALK TO SIT





# Validity of passports

- Expired British and Irish passports are acceptable
- All vignettes paper visas (including ILR, Global Talent, Skilled Worker, Tier 4/ Student) must be presented in a valid passport as proof of right to work.
- Those who have a visa in an expired passport must apply to have the visa transferred to a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) to then be able to provide a sharecode for an online RTW check



## Transferring a visa

- Those who have an Indefinite Leave to Remain visa in an old passport will need to apply using the 'NTL No Time Limit' application at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/transfer-visa">https://www.gov.uk/transfer-visa</a>
- Those who have a limited visa (such as Tier 4, Tier 1, dependant etc.) will need to apply using the 'TOC Transfer of Conditions' form at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/transfer-visa">https://www.gov.uk/transfer-visa</a>

Once they have applied to transfer their visa, use the Employers Checking Service form at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-checking-service-form-check-employees-right-to-work</a> to request a Positive Verification Notice as proof of right to work until their new visa arrives

- Must not employ until you have received and checked either the new visa or a
  Positive Verification Notice
- If relying on a Positive Verification Notice must complete a new right to work check on the new visa once received and before the PVN expires (usually six months)



Not sure?

Ask us!



# Questions?



## Tier 4/Student visa restrictions

#### Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught students:

Usually restricted to 20 hours per week during term time (no restrictions during vacations)

#### Graduate Research students:

- Have year round study commitments
- Generally should not work in excess of 20 hours per week
- Where a graduate student (who is a Tier 4/Student visa holder) wishes to work beyond 20 hours per week, they must provide written permission from their supervisor. Template supervisor permission letter at <a href="https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/graduate-student-visa-holder-employment-template-letter">https://staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/graduate-student-visa-holder-employment-template-letter</a>

**OR** evidence to show they have completed their studies, for example for Oxford DPhil student granted leave to supplicate

For non-Oxford PGR Tier 4/Student visa holders – check their terms of study (will need written permission from the HEI that they can work and that they are on vacation and have no study commitments if you want to employ them in excess of 20 hrs per week)



# RTW process for different employee / worker categories:

- Employing Oxford students
- Employing non Oxford students with Tier 4/Student Visas
- Skilled Worker/Tier 5 restrictions
- Joint appointments



For Colleges offering paid work to current Oxford students

<u>Before</u> the student begins work, ask the question:

'Has the student registered with the Right to Work Hub?'



#### YES

- Search the <u>Right to Work Hub</u> for the student.

If status is List B, ensure any visa restrictions are compatible with the work being offered.

Take a screenshot for your college records, you don't need to undertake your own right to work check.

Repeat the search if you engage the student to undertake further/additional work.

To request access to the Right to Work Hub – College Portal, email <a href="mailto:rtw@admin.ox.ac.uk">rtw@admin.ox.ac.uk</a> with your Oxford username.





- Ask the student to email <a href="mailto:rtw@admin.ox.ac.uk">rtw@admin.ox.ac.uk</a> providing:
- Full Name
- Student No or Oxford Username (SSO)
- College offering work
- Expected start date (if known)
- Answer to the following question:
- Are you a visa holder?
- If no, are you a EU national (or dependant) who has been granted Settled or Pre-Settled status?



Alternatively, you can refer the student on their behalf, copying them in.

The Right to Work Hub team will liaise with the student to carry out the right to work check. Once the check is complete, the student is registered with the Right to Work Hub and will display in your searches. Students are expected to inform colleges once their registration is complete.

For further information visit the **Staff Immigration website** 



### Student Visa Monitoring Service

If a Tier 4/Student Visa, you must also inform the Student Visa Monitoring Service of the engagement.

#### The Service will

- Identify when a student has multiple work engagements to prevent students from working more hours than permitted by their visa
- The service will also require Tier 4 students to complete a student employment declaration form and complete timesheets detailing exact hours worked.

For further details see: <u>staffimmigration.admin.ox.ac.uk/tier-4-monitoring-service-colleges</u>



## Employing non Oxford students with Tier 4 or Student Visas

Right to work check comprises two parts:

- 1. Use the Online Portal to conduct a RTW check
- 2. Seek and retain evidence of term and vacation dates (even if working under 20 hours) check whether they are currently on vacation (and can therefore work full time) or term time (and therefore they are restricted on the number of hours they can work per week). Different evidence required for UG/PGT and PGR

Note 1: Add your Tier 4/Student visa holder to your list of List B's

Note 2: Tier 4/Student visa holders can never be 'self employed'



### Evidence of term date (Tier 4/Student)

Evidence of term and vacation dates for **UG/PGT**:

- Printout from the student's education institution's website or other material published by the institution confirming its term and vacation dates for the student's course of study. You must also check the web link to confirm it is genuine, OR
- A letter or email addressed to the student from their education institution confirming term time dates for the student's course, OR
- A letter addressed to the college from the education institution confirming term time dates for the student's course

Evidence of term and vacation dates for PGR:

 For non-Oxford PGR Tier 4/Student visa holders – check their terms of study (will need written permission from the HEI that they can work and that they are on vacation and have no study commitments if you want to employ in excess of 20 hrs per week)



### **Junior Deans**

Guidance has been obtained from the Home Office concerning Junior Deans who are Tier 4 or Student visa holders

Hours 'on call' will not be counted as hours worked under the twenty hours maximum **if** the expected number of times called out to deal with welfare and disciplinary matters at night would not normally exceed once a week

Where the pattern of frequency of call out regularly exceeds this guidance, alternative arrangements to staffing Junior Dean posts should be made

For purposes of counting hours worked in a week, Tier 4 visa holders and Student visa holders working as Junior Deans should assume that this will take up five of the twenty hours permitted.



## Employing Skilled Worker visa holders in supplementary work

Skilled Worker visa holders may undertake supplementary work (in addition to the role for which their visa was issued) under strict Home Office rules. They must still be working in their main role; and the supplementary work must

 be in a type of work that would be sponsorable under the Skilled Worker visa route (salary thresholds don't apply it's just about the type of work)

consider whether you could normally apply for a Skilled Worker visa for the type of work, if yes it should be fine as supplementary employment – but administrative roles, bar work, kitchen porter etc. which are not sponsorable types of work are not permitted – if unsure ask SIT

- No more than 20 hours per week; and
- Is outside the working hours covered by CoS



## Employing Skilled Worker visa holders in supplementary work

Conduct an online RTW check for a Skilled Worker visa holder;

- 1. Check that the type of work you are offering is something which could be sponsored under a Skilled Worker visa
- 2. Check and confirm they are still working in their main role, and along with any other additional work they will not exceed the 20 hours/week limit
- 3. Retain a copy of the RTW check documents

Previously Skilled Worker visa holders could only undertake supplementary employment which was the same type of work as their main role, but following a 4 April 2024 rules change all types of work which could be sponsorable is permitted. So no need now to report teaching as an additional duty.

If in doubt, ask SIT!



## Employing Tier 5 visa holders in supplementary work

- Youth Mobility Scheme visa holders may work unrestricted
- For employment of all other Tier 5 categories, contact SIT as different rules may apply
- Tier 5 Sponsored Researchers can undertake 'supplementary employment' for up to 20 hours per week but for them the rules have not changes and this <u>must</u> be the same type of work as their main activities which is research & possibly some lectures/ teaching



## Employing Tier 5 visa holders in supplementary work

Conduct a manual or online RTW check for a Tier 5 Sponsored Researcher visa holder;

- 1. obtain a copy of the CoS, along with other RTW documents
- 2. Check the details of the CoS to ensure it is the same type of work, and confirm their research visit is continuing
- 3. Retain a copy of the CoS and RTW check documents
  Tier 5 Sponsored Researchers visiting the Collegiate University may teach for a
  department under the supplementary work condition <u>but only</u> if their CoS
  includes giving lectures on their research.

If lectures are not included, it can be added by SIT, but the request must come from their sponsoring department or college, their funder must agree, and must be for teaching to be undertaken within the Oxford collegiate university.

If in doubt, ask SIT!



### Joint appointments

- Right to work check is typically completed and held by the college/department/division with whom the majority contract is held BUT
- Communicate with department/division to agree who has responsibility for the initial right to work check and repeat checks (for List B's)
- Where the right to work check is held elsewhere (e.g. department/Divisional Office) seek a copy for your records



### Repeat engagements of casuals

#### List A:

 May rely on the previous right to work check if you retained copies of the previous right to work check and the check was carried out less than 15 months ago

#### List B:

- Must complete a new right to work check before each new engagement commences. This applies to all List B document holders (Global Talent, Skilled Worker, Tier 4, Student, Tier 5, dependant, spouse etc.)
- Some visas carry restrictions on hours/ types of work and you need to check that the new engagement does not breach those restrictions
- The visa holder's status may have changed (e.g. they may have changed from a dependant to a student in which case they will have new restrictions on their visa)



### Casuals - sharing right to work data

Departments and colleges can rely on each other's RTW checks for casual workers if the following conditions are met prior to undertaking work:

- The casual worker is List A
- The department/college which has a RTW of the casual worker sends a copy of the scanned RTW to the college engaging the worker (Note: an email with RTW information or confirmation of the RTW is not sufficient, and departments/college may not always agree to provide a copy)
- Check the details and keep the RTW copy on file along with details of where the original RTW check is held

RTW provided by a department, for a List A student working as an out tutor – college should add the graduate student details on to the Out tutors spreadsheet.

A college **cannot** use copies of RTW if:

- The casual worker has a List B visa. A right to work check must be completed for each engagement
- They are an employee a full right to work check is required



### Main problems encountered

- Time limited visas & ILR in expired passports
- Skilled Worker visa holders wanting to undertake casual work in a type of role which is not sponsorable
- Evidence of term & vacation dates not included in right to work documents for Tier 4 students
- Obtaining letters to show evidence of working outside of term dates for Tier 4 graduate research students
- Not keeping an up to date list of List B document holders



### Useful documents

- Immigration and Right to Work Roles and Responsibilities
- Right to Work checklist (use optional)
- Employer checking service guide
- Guidance on right to work checks for out tutors
- Visitors from overseas guide
- Overseas visitor communication leaflet
- Skilled Worker/5 visa holder communication leaflet

#### In relation to students:

- Tier 4 Student Employment Declaration
- Graduate Student template letter to confirm vacation period for a Tier 4 student



### Summary and process

- Right to work required for all employees, casuals and Tier 5 <u>before</u> work starts
- Raise with staff who take on casuals the importance of alerting HR before any work is agreed so that right to work checks can be arranged
- Immigration checks required for Academic, Business and PPE visitors before visit starts if college has facilitated entry
- Ensure demonstrable processes are is in place to record and monitor right to work
   the Home Office may expect to see this
- Keep an up to date list of List B document holders and expiry dates include Tier
   5s and casuals
- Be mindful of the significant risk to the collegiate University, sponsored students and colleagues of non compliance. Right to work is closely monitored by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee for this reason

Contact Staff Immigration Team with any questions



### Questions?