

The Graduate Immigration Route

UK's new Post-Study Work Visa from summer 2021

- The UK Government has committed to the introduction of a **Graduate Route** post-study work visa from summer 2021. This will be an **un-sponsored** route;
- It will allow the majority of international students successfully completing their course at the University of Warwick to apply to **remain in the UK for a further period of 2-3 years** (depending on their level of study) **to work or look for work at any skill level**;
- This represents a **significant increase in flexibility for employers** when considering applications from international students who currently hold a Student Visa (previously known as Tier 4 visa).

Who will this apply to?

- Students of **any nationality** with a valid Student Visa, who successfully complete their course (at undergraduate level and above) in the summer of 2021 or later, at a UK Higher Education Institution with a “track record of compliance” (such as Warwick).
- The student will need to have spent a minimum amount of time studying physically in the UK, however concessions exist around Coronavirus, and **we would anticipate the vast majority of our students will meet this requirement.**

When & Where will students apply and how long may this visa be granted for?

- Students will apply **after successfully completing their course**, but **before their existing student visa expires**, and the length of this visa that may be granted to them depends on the level of their study. Students must apply for this visa in the UK. Whilst holding this visa, should a graduate go on to secure a qualifying position, they are able to switch to a Skilled Worker visa from within the UK.

	Undergraduate Students	Postgraduate Taught (e.g. Masters) Students	Postgraduate Research (PhD) Students
When will most students apply for this visa?	July – November in year of graduation	November – January in year of graduation	Any time of year
How long will this visa be?	2 years	2 years	3 years

What form of work is allowed?

- Unlike other visa routes, there will be **no minimum salary requirement or minimum number of hours**. Graduates holding this visa can work **full time, part time**, or on a **casual or fixed term** contract.

Where can I find further information?

- Immigration rules change are expected in March/April 2021. See policy statement (paragraph 93 – 98):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-points-based-immigration-system-further-details-statement>
- Further information can be found on the University's website:
https://warwick.ac.uk/study/international/immigration/othervisas/graduate_route_work_visa/