

Work permit

Knowledge Centre for International Staff

Foreign nationals who wish to work in the Netherlands often need a work permit. It is the employer's responsibility and duty to apply for a work permit for its international employees who require one. Whether you need a work permit depends on your nationality and the purpose of your stay.

Nationals of the following EU/EEA countries do **not** need a work permit:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom (until 31 December 2020)

Apart from your nationality, the purpose of your stay in the Netherlands determines whether or not you need a work permit. You do **not** need a work permit if you:

1. Will be employed in the Netherlands as a non-EU/EEA scientific staff member or researcher and stay less than 3 months (this exemption is applicable for a maximum of three years)
2. Meet the criteria for 'highly-skilled migrant workers' and stay more than 3 months
3. Meet the criteria for 'scientific researchers' and stay more than 3 months
4. Are a partner of an employee mentioned under 2 or 3 above and also wish to work in the Netherlands.

Student assistants

Non-EU/EEA students who study at Maastricht University and have a residence permit for this purpose need a work permit if they want to work alongside their studies. The maximum number of hours they are allowed to work is 16 hours per week.

Ask your HR advisor to contact KCIS for information about work permits and assistance with the application. An application for a work permit takes at least 6 weeks.