

Information  
for  
International Students

September 2008

[www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie)

**1. I was granted student permission. What do I do when I arrive in Ireland?**

You will have to register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) within 90 days of arriving in Ireland. If your course takes place in Dublin you should register with the GNIB at 13/14 Burgh Quay, Dublin 2. If your course takes place outside of Dublin you should register with the Immigration Officer at the Garda District Headquarters.

**NOTE:** From autumn 2008 the GNIB will start electronic fingerprinting at registration.

**2. I have student permission. Am I entitled to work?**

If you have **stamp 2** you are entitled to work for 20 hours a week and 40 hours during holiday periods as long as your course is for one academic year and is recognised by the Department of Education and Science. Check the Internationalisation Register at: [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie). If you have **stamp 2A** you are not entitled to work.

**NOTE:** There are proposals to introduce work permit requirements for students. For more information contact Crosscare Migrant Project: [www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie).

**3. I have student permission for 4 years. I recently had a baby. Is she entitled to Irish citizenship?**

If you have student permission (stamp 2 or stamp 2A) and your child was born in Ireland your child will not be eligible for Irish citizenship unless the other parent is an Irish citizen or has reckonable residency in Ireland for three of the last four years before the birth of your child. **Time spent on student permission, time spent applying for asylum or periods of unlawful residency do not count as reckonable residency.** For more information in English see: [www.dfa.ie](http://www.dfa.ie)

**4. I have student permission. My 6 year old child is attending a public primary school in Ireland. I have to renew my student visa in September 2008. What should I do?**

There are new regulations for non-EEA students whose children are attending state schools. If you have not finished your course and your child was already attending the school for some of the 2007-2008 academic year, your child can remain in the school until your course is completed provided your course will be completed on or before July 2010. You cannot enrol in a new course or transfer between courses. For more information in English see: [www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)

**5. I am coming to Ireland on student permission. I heard there are new guidelines for students who have children. How does this affect me and my children?**

There are new regulations for children of non-EEA students attending state schools. If you are registering with the GNIB for the first time in autumn 2008 you will have to confirm that you are neither accompanied by your children nor do you intend to have your children join you later. For more information in English see: [www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)

**6. I have student permission. I would like to apply for a work permit. How do I do this?**

If you have student permission you can only apply for a work permit in Ireland through the graduate scheme. The graduate scheme allows students who, on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007, have acquired a primary, masters or doctorate degree from an Irish third level educational institution to remain in Ireland for the purpose of finding employment and applying for a Green Card or Work Permit. Your student permission must still be valid. You should go to the GNIB and request a 6 month extension of your stamp 2. This extension is non-renewable. For more information in English see: [www.entemp.ie](http://www.entemp.ie)

For information on employment rights contact the National Employment Rights Authority: [www.employmentrights.ie](http://www.employmentrights.ie)

**7. I have student permission. Can I apply for long term residency or Irish citizenship?**

Time spent on a student visa does **not** count as ‘reckonable residency’ for long term residency or Irish citizenship. For more information in English see: [www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie)

**8. My student permission is due for renewal. What do I do?**

Your student permission may be renewed if the Immigration Officer at registration is satisfied that you have provided evidence of your attendance record and evidence of your accommodation, your finances and medical insurance.

**9. I have student permission. I got married recently. My spouse is a work permit holder. Can I change my immigration status?**

It is possible. Contact Crosscare Migrant Project for further information.

**10. I have student permission. I got married recently. My spouse is an Irish citizen. Can I change my immigration status?**

It is possible. Contact Crosscare Migrant Project for further information.

**Crosscare Migrant Project**

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Text: 086 202 4301

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Web: [www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie)

**Disclaimer: This leaflet contains guidelines only. Official policy and legislation can change.**

**Check with the INIS, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the Department of Foreign Affairs for the latest information:**

[www.inis.gov.ie](http://www.inis.gov.ie), [www.entemp.ie](http://www.entemp.ie) and [www.dfa.ie](http://www.dfa.ie).