International Students and National Insurance Numbers (NINo)

Everyone who works in the UK needs to have a NINo. This includes international and EU students. The following section will help you obtain one.

What is a National Insurance Number?

A National Insurance number is a unique personal reference number that is used to collect your national insurance contributions. If you want to work part-time during your studies in the UK, then you will need to apply for one.

How do I obtain a National Insurance Number?

You must be actively looking for work or have started work in order to be eligible to get a National Insurance Number.

You need to telephone the National Insurance Number helpline to make an appointment on 0800 141 2075 between 8.00am and 6.00pm.

They will ask if you are already working or have started to look for work and can prove this. They will then take you through an application form over the telephone.

What happens next?

After the call you may be asked to make an appointment to come in. It will be in one of several local job centres in the area. If you are asked you may need to bring along some documents to the appointment. These will include:-

Your Passport

Evidence of where you live (such as a Tenancy agreement, or letters addressed to you) Your Student Card

Evidence that you are working (such as an Employment contract) or Evidence that you are looking for work (such as letters from Employers or if you have registered with Employment Agencies)

It is important that you read the letter they send you very carefully and ensure you take along all the necessary documents.

You can find out more here: https://www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number