

Workers' rights, not wrongs

International Student Workers Rights

Student visa holders and their dependent family members have permission to work included in the visa. There are conditions which apply to these visas.

Please view the working conditions for student visa holders on the [Department of Home Affairs website](#).

As per the Department of Home Affairs in July 2019, students may not work until they have commenced their course in Australia. When course is in session, student visa holders are able to work a maximum of 40 hours per fortnight.

Work that is formally registered as part of a course is not included in the 40 hours per fortnight limitation.

Postgraduate research students may work unlimited hours in Australia after the commencement of the particular research degree. The 40 hours limitation applies to any preliminary courses undertaken.

All workers in Australia, including student visa holders have rights under Australian workplace law. View more information about those rights on the Fair Work Ombudsman website.

Student visa holders and their family members are permitted to join relevant trade unions for any workplace rights support, and are able to access support from the Fair Work Ombudsman.

As per the Fair Work Ombudsman in July 2019, they have made a deal with the Department of Home Affairs that a person's temporary visa will not be cancelled if they are actively assisting the Fair Work Ombudsman in an investigation into workplace exploitation and meet other obligations which can be found [on the website](#), even if they have broken their visa conditions.

If you need some support in this arena, you are welcome to make an appointment to see the PARSA Student Assistance Team who can be contacted on parsa.assistance@anu.edu.au or 02 6125 2603.

