

WORK AND STUDY IN THE NEDERLANDS.

Anonymous, 19 July 2012.

For most students, studying abroad doesn't come cheap as a result students aspire to combine some sort of work along their studies to have some extra allowance by the side.

While most countries are straight forward with procedures involved with students and work, that's not the case with the Nederland. That's why as a student who had to go through this I decided to write this article so students coming don't have to waste valuable hours on end searching Dutch sites they can't understand and sites designed to mislead students searching such information.

For a start; most higher institutions in the Nederland will brandish the fake and at times "to real to be true" stories of students working whiling studying; well I came to discover for my school "*name withheld for legal reasons*" that those students were all Dutch nationals who needed no work permit, but this students were posting their wonderful 30hours a week work experiences whiling studying on the brochures aimed at international students.

The reality is as a student outside the EU you can only work 10hours a week and to do this you need a work permit, (*Aanvraagformulier tewerkstellingsvergunning werkstudent*), that only your employer can apply for at the employment office or acronym (**UWV**). That's not the worst of it; this permit takes five weeks to be ready; as written on the document. Now, tell me if this is not a polite way of telling one that you can't work in this country. A student visa takes 2weeks, extension for resident permit takes 4weeks, to open a bank account takes 2weeks, a background check to obtain a credit card takes max 3weeks; most likely 2weeks. **But to get a work permit for 10 hours a week work takes 5 weeks.**

Also it's worth noting that you can't have more than one employer apply for this at a time. So yeah you have to keep our fingers cross and hope who ever first applies for it success if not then u would have wasted 5weeks waiting before another employer can apply for a work permit for you.

To me this was clear enough that students from outside the EU are not allowed to work in the Nederland. But what made me more convinced was how the information was made available to the public. This info is unknown to most Netherland employers and work agencies and one has to have great determination to pursue the long search of the government site for work (https://www.werk.nl/werk_nl/werknemer/home). This site as is my understanding was designed for Netherlanders looking for work; so bearing that in mind look patiently for every lead till the end to find something about those from outside the EU.

The aim for this paper is to make aware the difficulties students have accessing relevant information to do with work and placements and the un-reasonable obstacles put in place by the institutions that be to make this process as hard and impossible as it can be. With this I believe you can better prepare psychologically before coming to the low lands of the Nederland; especially if you like me was looking forward to work part time while studying.
