

University of Plymouth – Working Restrictions Summary for Tier 4 and Student visa holders.

Programme Type	Teaching blocks (semester time)	Christmas/Easter vacations*	Summer Vacations*	Definition of when the course is complete (Final results may still be pending)
Undergraduate (foundation degree or degree – will be shown as RQF 6 on your CAS)	20 hours per week	Unrestricted	Unrestricted (Does not apply if academic engagement takes place over the summer i.e. placements)	Your programme is considered complete when all study sessions and other timetabled events are completed, and there are no further submissions of work required.
Postgraduate Taught (includes most MA/MSc degrees – will be shown as RQF7 on your CAS)	20 hours per week	Unrestricted	20 hours per week (for most postgraduate taught students the summer period is NOT a vacation, this is the dissertation period and therefore counts as semester time)	Your programme is considered complete when all study sessions and other timetabled events are completed, there are no further submissions of work required, and your dissertation deadline has passed.
Postgraduate Research (includes PhD, MPhil degrees – will be shown as RQF8 on your CAS)	20 hours per week throughout the whole calendar year . PhD students are expected to be studying throughout the whole year and are only permitted to work full time when a) the University is closed over Christmas, Easter and official Bank Holidays NOT the whole vacation period that other students have OR b) when on annual leave, only where that has been approved and recorded through GradBook in advance.			Your programme is considered complete when all supervisory meetings, viva, and other course events are completed, and you have uploaded your thesis to PEARL.
International Foundation Programme or any programme below degree level (if a standalone programme this will be shown as RQF3 on your CAS)	10 hours per week	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Your programme is considered complete when all study sessions and other timetabled events are completed, and there are no further submissions of work required.
Pre-sessional English Language course	10 hours per week throughout the duration of the programme . If you have a “Joint CAS” please check with International Student Advice, as the working conditions should be that of your follow-on degree programme. Once the pre-sessional is finished, your working conditions will be as those of any follow-on course.			Your programme is considered complete when all study sessions and other timetabled events are completed, and there are no further submissions of work required.
Any part-time course	None (the University does not participate in the part time Student route)			Not Applicable

*Only **official** University vacation dates as shown here: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/your-studies/term-dates> and UPIC dates as shown here <https://www.puic.navitas.com/important-dates>

This table also applies to University of Plymouth International College (UPIC) students. Please note that **University semester dates** apply to **UPIC Integrated Students**

Please ensure you are familiar with the working restrictions that apply to **your visa** and **your mode of your study**. These are not the same for everyone.

You should check your visa / BRP to ensure the working conditions printed on it are correct. If they are incorrect see an advisor in International Student Advice (ISA) immediately

If you are a **repeating** or **referred student**, semester time working restrictions apply to you, even in the summer period or the “wrap up” period at the end of the course.

If you have any other periods where you are not studying and these fall within the usual semester dates, **DO NOT** assume that these will be classed as a vacation – check with ISA first.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you work / volunteer only as per the conditions of your visa, and only undertake types of employment permitted under your Tier 4 or Student visa

If your MSc programme does not have a dissertation period, or does not follow the usual September to September duration, please check your working conditions with ISA.

