

November 2009

### Temporary workers – charity workers

Potential volunteers who fall into the category of 'migrants' - essentially non-EU/EEA nationals - can apply to come to the UK to do voluntary work under Tier 5 'temporary worker' of the new UK points based immigration system (PBS).

Technically they enter the UK under the category of charity worker – "voluntary work for a charity, which is not paid work".

This category is for migrants to undertake unpaid voluntary work in the UK in line with the aims of the 'sponsor organisation'.

The potential volunteer must be assigned a certificate of sponsorship from a licensed sponsor. The licensed sponsor will be the host charity/voluntary organisation who must pre register with the Home Office/UK Border Agency.

### Sponsorship

Sponsorship guidance can be accessed at: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier5/charityworkers/sponsorship/>

The potential volunteer uses the certificate of sponsorship to achieve the points required (there are also maintenance requirements, i.e. the individual must have sufficient funds to support themselves) to obtain a visa and 'entry clearance' to volunteer in the UK.

### Students

A person with a genuine 'student visa' should not need permission to take part-time or holiday work, including volunteering. Some restrictions remain in place, including a limit of 20 hours per week

during term time, unless the college agrees otherwise. However, it is recommended that people who wish to volunteer in addition to the central purpose of their stay in the UK should check their own visa or entry clearance conditions

For further guidance please see:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/tier5/charityworkers/>