

Permitted Paid Engagements by Business Visitors outwith the UK

Business Visitors from outwith the UK can undertake **Permitted Paid Engagements** on behalf of the University without sponsorship under the Points Based Immigration System (PBIS) run from the Home Office. The two types of **Permitted Paid Engagements** applicable to the University are:

1. **Examiners or assessors:** individuals who are highly qualified within their own area of expertise invited by the University of Strathclyde to examine students, or participate in and/or chair a selection panel as part of our quality assurance processes;
2. **Visiting Lecturers** individuals giving a one-off or a short-series of paid lectures in their field of expertise, at the invitation of the University of Strathclyde. Given the short term nature of this route, experts should be employed outside of the UK and should intend to return to their normal employment on completion of the engagement. Where an expert is fully retired and carries out a one-off lecture, this would not count as their full-time occupation and they must not be invited with the expectation of payment (expenses can of course be offered). However, an individual who is semi-retired, carrying out regular lectures and earning income from this, would qualify under this route. Visiting Lecturers are not permitted to give lectures which form part of a standard course or module as this would be considered as teaching and should be conducted under the relevant Tier of the PBS.

Entering the UK as a Business Visitor from Outwith the UK

Business Visitors may need to obtain a Visa prior to entering the UK (please check [if you require a visa](#)). If a Visa is required, you should apply for a [Permitted Paid Engagement visa](#).

Business Visitors must also:

- have a formal invitation to carry out a permitted paid engagement that has been arranged in advance; and the engagement relates to their expertise and/or qualifications and to their full-time occupation in their home country.
- be 18 or over;
- intend to visit the UK for no more than 1 month;
- intend to leave the UK at the end of their visit;
- not live in the UK for extended periods through frequent or successive visits, or make the UK their main home;
- have enough money to support and accommodate themselves without working or help from public funds, or they and any dependants will be supported and accommodated by relatives or friends; and
- meet the cost of the return or onward journey;

Departments wishing to engage individuals under this route are strongly advised to retain a copy of the invitation and any other relevant documentation that could be used for internal audit purposes.

On entering the UK, a Business Visitor may be required to:

- provide a copy of the invitation from the University of Strathclyde to give a pre-arranged lecture or series of lectures in their particular field of expertise.
- provide evidence that the engagement relates to their expertise and/or qualifications, and full-time profession overseas. For example, they may wish to provide sample publications, evidence of previous lectures given in that field of expertise, or a letter from their employer confirming where they work and their area of expertise.