

Overview

On 1 January 2021 the right of free movement between the UK and EU ended. Non-resident EEA nationals will no longer have an automatic right to work in the UK.

Provisions have been put in place for cross border workers from the EEA to allow them to continue to work in the UK from January 2021. If you are an EEA national who works for Queen Mary but you are not resident in the UK you will be able to apply for a Frontier Worker Permit. This will allow you to continue to work without the need for a visa.

Who is Eligible?

If you were employed by Queen Mary before 31 December 2020, then you will be may be eligible for the permit. You will need to meet all of the following criteria:

- you're from the EU, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein;
- you live outside of the UK;
- you have worked in the UK by 31 December 2020;
- you have kept working in the UK at least once every 12 months since you started working here.

Your work in the UK must also be 'genuine and effective'. This means it must be more than small, one-off tasks.

Who doesn't need to apply?

If you're an Irish citizen, you do not need to apply for a Frontier Worker permit but you can choose to do so.

You cannot apply if you're a British citizen (this includes dual citizenship).

If you want to work in the UK from 1 January 2021, and were not working here before, you'll need to apply for a visa.

What does the permit allows you to do?

You can use your permit to enter the UK as a frontier worker and show your right to:

- work
- rent
- access benefits and services, including NHS healthcare, if you meet the relevant eligibility requirements

Your family members will not be covered by your Frontier Worker permit

When do I need to apply?

The permit application process is now open. You can apply at any time but you will need to have the permit by 1 July 2021. Until then you will be able to enter the UK using your passport or national ID card.

How to apply?

The application is made [online](#). If you have a biometric passport you will be able to [use a smartphone app](#).

If you cannot use the app you will need to attend an appointment at a [visa application centre](#) or [UK Visa and Citizenship Application Services \(UKVCAS\) service point](#). You'll be told during your application if you need to attend an appointment.

Find out more

If you believe you are eligible for this route there is more detailed information on the [Government website](#).

Please also contact HR if you have any further questions about your eligibility for this route.