

Who Can Work?

Generally the following categories of people can legally work in Ireland:

- EEA nationalsⁱ
- Swiss nationals
- Persons granted Refugee status
- Persons granted temporary leave to remain on humanitarian grounds
- Persons with specific immigration permission permitting them to workⁱⁱ
- Persons with Working Visa/Work Authorisation
- Spouses, civil partners or dependents of an Irish or EEA national with permission to remain
- Persons granted leave to remain as the parent of an Irish citizen

Persons not in the above categories require an employment permit to work in Ireland.

Working without a valid employment permit or employing someone without a valid employment permit is a criminal offence under the Employment Permits Acts 2003 & 2006.

NERA (the National Employment Rights Authority) carries out checks to ensure compliance with the Employment Permits Acts as part of their workplace inspections. Employers will be requested to provide proof of their compliance with the Employment Permits Acts (i.e. valid work permits, immigration permissions or other documentation)

ⁱ The EEA comprises the member states of the European Union, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein

ⁱⁱ Indicated by a stamp on their passports



NERA
National Employment Rights Authority

Did You Know?

- Having a PPS number doesn't automatically mean a foreign national can work in Ireland
- Working without a valid employment permit is a criminal offence for both the employer and employee
- Employment permits are only granted for certain categories of work
- People working illegally are more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse
- People applying for asylum seeker status cannot legally work while their application is under consideration
- A person cannot work while waiting for a work permit application to be processed

For information or to apply for an Employment Permit contact:

Employment Permits Section
Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation
Davitt House, 65a Adelaide Road, Dublin 2
Telephone: 01 417 5333, LoCall: 1890 201 616ⁱⁱⁱ
E-mail: employmentpermits@djei.ie, Website: www.djei.ie

For Information about employment rights contact:

NERA National Employment Rights Authority
Government Offices,
O'Brien Road, Carlow
Telephone: 05991 78800, LoCall: 1890 808090ⁱⁱⁱ
Website: www.workplacerelations.ie

ⁱⁱⁱ Note that the rates charged for the use of 1890 (LoCall) numbers may vary among different service providers.

