*Working in the Netherlands after graduation requires a work permit. However, the government allows you to apply for an orientation year permit so you have time and legal space to find and start your job or start a start-up. After the orientation year, your employer or facilitator can apply for your residence & work or start-up permit.

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# Working in the Netherlands - for international UvA Students

## Explanation

<table>
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<th>Need</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>You need a work permit.</td>
<td>This permit is called a <strong>TWV</strong> (Tewerkstellingsvergunning). If you have a permit for study purposes you are allowed to live and study in the Netherlands but you are not allowed to work in the Netherlands. If you want to work for a company, this company will need to apply for a TWV work permit for you at the <strong>UWV</strong>. With this permit you are allowed to work alongside your studies for 10 hours per week (like a sidejob/working studentjob) or for 3 months during the summer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>You are still a student.</td>
<td>You need a <strong>permit</strong>. If you have graduated and want to search for employment <strong>OR</strong> start work for a company. If you are still a student you can apply for a <strong>start-up permit</strong> and if you work for more than 3 months, you will need Dutch basic health insurance. So if you have a (parttime) job (a zero hour (casual) contract will count as a job) you will need Dutch basic health insurance. In such cases, private student health insurance is not enough. If you do not have Dutch health insurance you risk a penalty of the total health insurance costs of the period worked plus 30% of these costs. In some cases, the Dutch government allows students to apply for <strong>health care benefits</strong>. It can take some time for this application to be reviewed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>You can apply for a graduate orientation year permit.</td>
<td>The orientation year permit for graduates in the Netherlands is a one-year permit that allows recent graduates to live and work in the Netherlands without a work permit for one year. You can apply for this one-year permit <strong>within 3 years of your graduation</strong>. It costs €622 to apply for this permit. It is important that you make sure you have obtained this permit by the time you start <strong>any activities</strong> after your official graduation that would require you to have a work permit. If you start working for an employer in the Netherlands after graduation without the orientation year permit, a work permit or combined residence &amp; work permit you will be working illegally. If you <strong>begin work without a work or orientation year permit you will be working illegally and risk losing your visa and your employer risks a penalty of €15,000.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You have graduated and want to search for employment OR start work for a company.</td>
<td>This permit is called a <strong>GVVA</strong> (Gecombineerde vergunning voor verblijf en arbeid). This only applies to you if your employer is willing to sponsor your permit immediately after your graduation and if you will work for longer than 3 months. If this is not the case, you can apply for an orientation year permit first. If you’ll be working for 3 months or less, you need a work permit (TWV). The company will need to apply for the <strong>GVVA or TWV</strong> permit for you at the IND (costs for company: around €881).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| You need a combined residence & work permit. | To start your own business you can apply for an orientation year permit followed by a start-up permit, or you can immediately apply for a start-up permit (costs: €311). In order to apply for the start-up permit you need to meet several requirements, including the following:  
  - Sufficient money to live in the Netherlands (up to €1700 per month).  
  - An innovative product/service and a plan to develop your idea into a business.  
  - Registration with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (KVK).  
  - Official support from an officially recognised startup facilitator. |
| You need a start-up permit. | Everyone who works in the Netherlands needs to have Dutch basic health insurance. So if you have a (parttime) job (a zero hour (casual) contract will count as a job) you will need Dutch basic health insurance. In such cases, private student health insurance is not enough. If you do not have Dutch health insurance you risk a penalty of the total health insurance costs of the period worked plus 30% of these costs. In some cases, the Dutch government allows students to apply for **health care benefits**. It can take some time for this application to be reviewed. |

## How to

| How to | Your employer can directly apply for this work permit via the following link:  
https://formulieren.uwv.nl/werkgever/formulier/nl-NL/Publiek/sc25219.aspx/fAanvraagTewerkstellingsvergunningInleiding  
Your employer needs to apply for this permit at the IND. For more information about this permit go to:  
You need to apply for this permit at the IND. Further details about the graduate orientation year permit can be found at:  
Your employer has to apply for the permit at the IND. For more information about this permit go to:  
Once you meet all the requirements, you can apply for your start-up permit with your facilitator. For more information about facilitators and other requirements, go to:  
You can find more information and how you can apply for Dutch basic health insurance online via the insurance company websites at:  
http://student.uva.nl/en/az/content/insurance/basic-health-insurance/basic-health-insurance.html |

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For more Information: please contact the UvA immigration desk at UvAstudentservices@uva.nl if you have more (specific) questions.