

# FRAGOMEN



UCD Michael Smurfit  
Graduate Business School

## FAQ FOR EMPLOYERS

IN COLLABORATION WITH FRAGOMEN

'Stamp 1G Permission & Employment Permits  
for Graduate Students (non-EEA passport holders)  
@ Level 9 NFQ (master's level)'





UCD Michael Smurfit  
Graduate Business School

# AGENDA

## IMMIGRATION PERMISSIONS:

- Stamp 2 - Student Permission
- Internships on Stamp 2 Permission
- Stamp 1G - Graduate Permission
- Transition from Stamp 2 Permission to Stamp 1G Permission

## EMPLOYMENT PERMITS:

- General Employment Permit
- Critical Skills Employment Permit

## IMMIGRATION ROADMAP FOR UCD SMURFIT STUDENTS

## UCD SMURFIT SCHOOL CAREERS NETWORK RESOURCES

## SUMMARY OF UCD SMURFIT SCHOOL STUDENTS' PATHWAYS

# STAMP 2 (STUDENT PERMISSION)

## What is Stamp 2 - the Student Permission?

It is an immigration permission allowing the holder to study a full-time course on the official Interim List of Eligible Programmes (ILEP) for a specified period, subject to conditions.

## What are working rights on Stamp 2 permission?

**In term time working rights:** Students can work part time in term (up to 20 hours per week). Term time dates are defined as 1 October - 31 May.

**Out of term time working rights:** Students' working rights permission extends to full time (up to 40 hours per week). Out of term dates are defined as: 15 December – 15 January and 1 June – 30 September (all summer)

## What is the transition from Stamp 2 permission to Stamp 1G permission?

Students can apply for Stamp 1G permission while on a valid Stamp 2 permission.

The earliest our students can submit their Stamp 1G application is the last week of September (when their UCD Academic Transcript is released).

The application processing time is usually 3-5 weeks. Please note the mentioned time is based on currently available information [here](#) and may be subject to change.

Detailed info can be found [here](#)

# INTERNSHIPS ON STAMP 2 (STUDENT PERMISSION)

## Can students undertake internships during the academic programme?

Students can undertake internships during the programme, but it cannot impact their class attendance which is a priority.

Internships are an integral part of some of our programmes.

UCD Smurfit School Programmes are typically 12 months long with most classes finishing by the end of July.

## When can students on Stamp 2 permission undertake internships?

Paid internships are permitted provided they are an integral part of the academic programme, are accredited, and contribute to the student's final award. During term time, students are allowed to work part-time, up to 20 hours per week. However, they may work full-time, up to 40 hours per week, during the designated holiday periods of 15 December to 15 January and 1 June to 30 September.

## Are there any restrictions for students on Stamp 2 permission when undertaking internships?

Employment cannot be in a self-employed capacity.

Internships must be an integral part of a curriculum contributing to the final award.

Educational facilities must ensure that the placements are suited to the programme being pursued.

Internships cannot exceed 50% of the total duration of the academic programme. For instance, if you are completing a 4-year programme, you can complete up to 2 years of internship.

## Can Students on a Stamp 2 permission undertake an unpaid internship?

Students may undertake an unpaid internship; however, class attendance remains a priority and must not be affected. Internships form an integral part of certain programmes, particularly at UCD Smurfit School, where programmes typically run for 12 months, with most classes concluding by the end of July.

Detailed info can be found [here](#)



# INTERNSHIPS ON STAMP 2 (STUDENT PERMISSION)

## What is a Stamp 1G (Graduate Permission)?

The Stamp 1G Graduate Permission, also known as the Third Level Graduate Programme, allows international students who have completed a Level 8 or Level 9 award from a recognised Irish higher education institution to remain in Ireland after their studies.

Graduates with a Level 8 award may be granted Stamp 1G permission for 12 months, during which they have the right to live and work in Ireland without the need for an employment permit.

Graduates with a Level 9 award may initially receive 12 months of Stamp 1G permission and can apply for a further 12-month extension, provided they are not already on a sponsored employment permit by the end of the first year.

The purpose of this permission is to support recent graduates in gaining relevant work experience and to facilitate their progression towards securing a General Employment Permit or a Critical Skills Employment Permit.

## Who is eligible for Stamp 1G permission?

Non-EEA graduates of UCD may be eligible for the Stamp 1G Graduate Permission if they meet the following conditions:

- They have completed their degree in Ireland
- They hold a Level 9 qualification (Master's degree) awarded by a recognised Irish awarding body (e.g. UCD)
- They currently hold a valid Stamp 2 student immigration permission

## Does Stamp 1G require sponsorship from the employer?

No, there is no requirement from a prospective employer to be involved. Students have flexibility to change employers and to work in any sector.

## How long can our graduates avail of Stamp 1G permission?

Graduates may be granted **Stamp 1G permission for an initial period of 12 months.**

Those who have completed a **master's degree (Level 9 NFQ)** may be eligible to renew their permission for **an additional 12 months**, allowing for a maximum of **24 months in total** under the Stamp 1G Graduate Programme.

Detailed info can be found [here](#)



# TRANSITION FROM STAMP 2 PERMISSION TO STAMP 1G PERMISSION



AUTUMN



SPRING



SUMMER

UCD transcript  
issued end of September

=

Students apply  
Stamp 1G



UCD Smurfit School masters' programmes run from early  
September until end of August (12 months)

**END OF  
SEPTEMBER**

3 - 5 weeks Stamp  
1G processing

## Stamp 2

Part time working  
rights  
September – May

## Stamp 2

Full time working rights  
1 June – 30 Sept

## Stamp 2

Part time working rights  
from 1 October  
until Stamp 1G is **granted**  
**3-5 weeks later**

## Stamp 1G

Full time working  
rights  
granted after 3-5 weeks  
of processing of the  
Stamp 1G application

# GENERAL EMPLOYMENT PERMIT & CRITICAL SKILLS EMPLOYMENT PERMIT

## GENERAL EMPLOYMENT PERMIT

A General Employment Permit allows you to work in occupations where it's deemed that there is a labour shortage in Ireland.

**In order to meet the requirements for a General Employment Permit, the role must:**

- Pay a minimum of 34k yearly, based on a 39-hour working week. (Please note, should the working hours differ from 39 hours weekly, the minimum salary threshold adjusts to suit this. Minimum salary thresholds are subject to change yearly at the discretion of the DETE)
- Fit into a Standard Occupational Code (SOC) that does not appear on the ineligible list located [here](#).

**Points to note for GEP applications:**

- A Labour Market Needs Test is required on all GEP applications, unless they meet one of four exceptions.
- GEP's are issued for two years initially (unless the contract is less) and can then be renewed for a further three years.
- Dependent family members must wait 12 months before joining the applicant in Ireland.
- GEP holders are subject to the 9-month rule and must remain with their initial employer on their employment permit for 9 months before being eligible to change to an alternative employer.

Click [here](#) and [here](#) for further details on this permit

## CRITICAL SKILLS EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (CSEP)

A Critical Skills Employment Permit is designed for highly skilled roles that are not usually filled with applicants from Ireland or the EEA.

**To meet the requirements for a CSEP, the role must:**

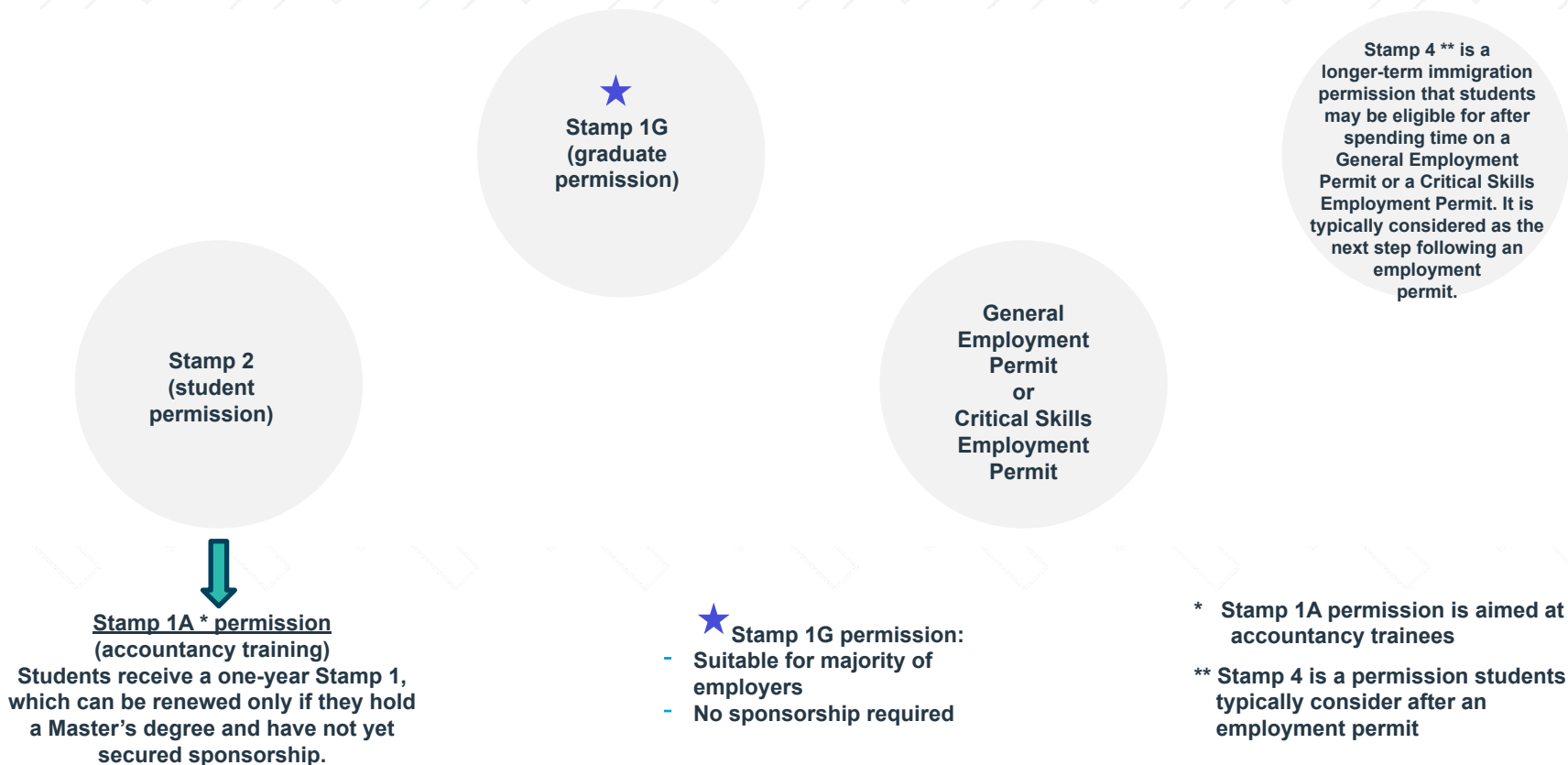
- Have a minimum contract of two years.
- Pay a minimum of 38k yearly based on a 39-hour working week.
- (please note, should the working hours differ from 39 hours weekly, the minimum salary threshold adjusts to suit this. Minimum salary thresholds are subject to change yearly at the discretion of the DETE)
- Fit into a Standard Occupational Code (SOC) that appears on the Critical Skills list, located [here](#). (if salary is under 64k). Should the salary be over 64k, the role can fit into any SOC, once not located on the ineligible list.

**Points to note for CSEP applications:**

- Applicants must hold a third level degree that is directly relevant to the role being applied for. (when the salary is below 64K)
- Issued for 2 years and renewals are not normally required as applicants can move towards a Stamp 4 IRP card after 2 years.
- Dependent family members can join the applicant immediately.
- Labour Market Needs Tests are not required.

Click [here](#) and [here](#) for further details on this permit

# IMMIGRATION ROADMAP FOR UCD SMURFIT SCHOOL STUDENT





# SUPPORT THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS LEADERS

We are inviting professionals from all industries to share their experience and insights with students at UCD Smurfit Business School.

Whether it's through offering internships, joining employer panels, mentoring, or business projects, your support can make a real difference.

Your involvement, big or small, can open doors and shape future careers.

## Interested in getting involved?

Please contact [louise.campbell@ucd.ie](mailto:louise.campbell@ucd.ie) to learn more.



University College Dublin  
Careers Network



# RESOURCES

## Government Information:

- [Department of Justice Stamp 1G permission Information](#)
- [Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment \(DETE\)](#)
- [Employment Permits Information](#)

## Citizen Information:

- [Citizens Information General Employment Permit](#)
- [Citizens Information Critical Skills Employment Permit](#)

## UCD Resources:

- [UCD Stamp 1G Permission Information](#)
- [UCD Working in Ireland Information](#)

## Immigration Support

- [Fragomen Dublin](#)



# SUMMARY OF THE UCD SMURFIT SCHOOL STUDENTS' PATHWAYS

PERMISSION	LENGTH	COST (€)	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Stamp 2	1 year	300	Student immigration permission. Allows part-time work (up to 20 hours/week) during term time and full-time work (up to 40 hours/week) between 1 June–30 September and 15 December–15 January.
Stamp 1G (Graduate Permission)	1 year initially + 1 year renewal (Master's graduates only)	300	Granted to graduates on Stamp 2 permission. No employer sponsorship required. Initially valid for 12 months, with a further 12-month extension available to Master's degree holders who have not yet secured a sponsored employment permit. Application is submitted by the student. Processing time: approx. 3–5 weeks.
Stamp 1A (Trainee Accountant Permission)	2 years	300	For students undergoing accountancy training. Once on Stamp 1A, students cannot switch to Stamp 1G. Application is submitted by the student.
General Employment Permit	3 months – 2 years (initially)	1,000	For roles with a minimum salary of €34,000. The employment offer must meet eligibility and labour market needs test requirements. Applicants cannot transfer to Stamp 1G once on this permit. Application can be made by either the employer or the applicant. Processing times and employer change guidelines apply.
Critical Skills Employment Permit	2 years	1,000	For highly skilled roles with a minimum salary of €38,000. Designed to lead to Stamp 4 after two years. Applicants cannot transfer to Stamp 1G once on this permit. Application can be submitted by the employer or applicant. Processing times and employer change guidelines apply.

# DISCLAIMER



UCD Michael Smurfit  
Graduate Business School

**Information compiled on:** July 2025

**Prepared by:** University College Dublin Smurfit School Careers Network

**Applicable to:** UCD Smurfit School students/graduates

The information is provided on an "AS IS" and "AS AVAILABLE" basis and may be subject to change as per government immigration policy. Further, this document only contains general immigration guidance it is not intended to provide professional advice and should not be considered to be such or relied or acted upon in that regard. If you need immigration advice in relation to a specific matter, you should consult a suitably qualified person or organisation.