



# MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

## Post Study Prospects in Bulgaria

According to the Embassy of India in Bulgaria the Post Study prospects in Bulgaria are as follows:

Several Universities/Colleges in Bulgaria provide education in English and enroll foreign students once admitted to an educational institution or program in Bulgaria, must obtain a type D visa from the Bulgarian embassy or consulate in their home country which can take several months. Upon arrival in Bulgaria with a valid visa, the students must also obtain a residence permit from the Migration Directorate ([link: Issue of Residence Permits to Third Country Nationals \(mvr.bg\)](http://mvr.bg)). The duration of the residence permit is aligned to the duration of the study programme. It is granted for a maximum of one year and is renewable. Once the study programme ends the residence permit will no longer be valid and one must return home.

**Change of studies: University or course is not permissible and needs new visa/residence permit.**

**Employment during studies:** A student can work without a work permit for 20 hours per week during the academic year and during official holidays of the educational institutions.

If a student wishes to work after completing their studies, they must apply for a work permit under the same conditions as other non-EU citizens. It is difficult to get such work permits. It needs Employer to prove to labour/immigration authorities that Bulgarian employees are not available for the purpose.

**Employment after studies:** After finishing the education, a student may look for work within 9 months. They may use brokerage employment services by submitting an application for registration to the Employment Agency within 7 business days.

**Work Permit:** Once a student has found a job, their future employer needs to submit the work permit application to the National Employment Agency on their behalf. The employer must demonstrate that it is impossible to hire a Bulgarian/EU/EEA national for the position. The application process takes up to one month. Once granted, the permit is valid for no longer than a year but can be renewed as long as the conditions are still met.

For more details, please see the following websites:

**Bulgaria - Student - European Commission ([europa.eu](http://europa.eu))**

**MFA :: Visa for Bulgaria ([www.mfa.bg/en/services-travel/consular-services/travel-bulgaria/visa-bulgaria](http://www.mfa.bg/en/services-travel/consular-services/travel-bulgaria/visa-bulgaria)).**

It is difficult for Indian students to get work permit to work in Bulgaria. Most of the students after completing their studies in Bulgaria also prefer to work outside Bulgaria as the emoluments in Bulgaria are relatively lower than other EU countries. As an international student outside of the EU, one can work part-time but only for a maximum of 20 hours a week with student permit. If one wish to stay and live in Bulgaria after studies then one need to obtain a work permit then switch to another residence permit to legally live and work in the country.

The access of third-country nationals to the Bulgarian labour market is regulated by **Labour Migration and Labour Mobility Act (ZTMTM)** and its regulations.

Under the general regime for authorising access to the labour market of a third-country national, it is necessary to have an employment contract with a local employer which requires the employer to demonstrate that it is impossible to hire a Bulgarian/EU/EEA national for the position.

Common working regime for third-country nationals in Bulgaria ([government.bg](http://government.bg))