

Working in Australia – How the Fair Work Ombudsman Can Help

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The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) is an independent statutory office created by the Fair Work Act 2009 to promote harmonious, productive and cooperative workplaces and ensure compliance with Australian workplace laws.

Many international students get part-time or casual jobs when they're studying in Australia. Everyone working in Australia has basic rights at work and international students are entitled to minimum pay and conditions for the work they perform, no matter how long they stay in Australia.

FWO currently has two exciting programs to assist those coming from overseas understand their rights under Australian workplace laws and to help them find out about their workplace entitlements.

Through the Community Engagement Program, FWO is working together with a range of community organisations to identify suitable education programs and products for overseas workers, including international students. The FWO website contains a language assistance page with a range of information, including videos and fact sheets, to help overseas workers and students understand their workplace rights and obligations.

The FWO also has a dedicated team (the Overseas Workers Team), responsible for undertaking high profile investigations where allegations of contraventions of the Fair Work Act are made. The team also undertakes strategic enforcement activities to protect and enforce the workplace rights of overseas workers and students.

Key Words

International students

Workplace entitlements

Minimum pay and conditions

Language assistance website