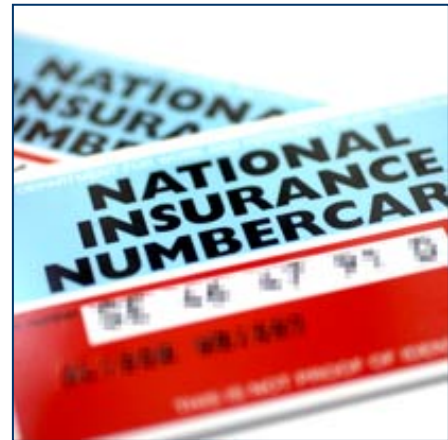




Getting a National Insurance Number (NI Number) in UK !

A National Insurance (NI) number is a unique number allocated to you to identify you while you are in the UK. It ensures that the HM Revenue & Customs and the Department of Work and Pensions are able to track the contributions you've made to the UK social security and state pension system.

Anyone who wants to work in the UK will need to get a National Insurance number. You will need to quote your NI number to every employer you have while in the UK and NI contributions will be taken each time you are paid. If you don't have an NI number, you will be required to contribute more than normal in NI payments so it's wise to get your NI number as soon after arriving in the UK as possible.



How To Apply :

If you want to apply for an NI number you need to call JobCentre Plus at 0845 600 0643 (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday). The phone line is often busy, so stick with it and you will get through eventually. Jobcentre Plus will arrange an Evidence of Identity (EOI) interview with you to confirm you are you you say you are and verify that you are eligible to work in the UK. When you call they they will give you a date and time for the interview and go over what you need to bring with you. Take as many identity documents with you as you have such as a passport, national identity card, drivers license, birth certificate, marriage certificate and so on. They will schedule your interview at your nearest JobCentre office.

Fast Track Your NI Number

People who are working and don't yet have a National Insurance number will be taxed at a much higher emergency rate. To avoid this, it makes sense to get your NI number as soon as possible after arriving. Unfortunately, the process can sometimes take many month and can be time-consuming. 1st Contact offer a National Insurance number fast track service for £20 which will get your NI number within three weeks rather than three months. This will mean you won't have to fork over emergency tax on too many of your new paycheques.