

## **Point –Based System (PBS)**

### **Introduction**

The PBS system for the student Visa has just started this month. Other changes for other PBS visas like Tier1 (General) has also began.

### **Tier 1 (General)**

The Tier 1 (General) now replaces the former HSMP, which is a work permit. It is accessed based on what is called a point –based calculator. This calculator helps you to pre-assess yourself to see if you are qualified or not. It is required that applicants score **75 points** for it before considering applying. In addition to the categories in awarding points, there is some new addition which took effect from this month, and they are:

- ❖ All applicant must have an equivalent of a UK Masters degree before you can apply
- ❖ You must also have £20,000.00 per annum as salary. These are the new conditions that can give you points under qualification and earnings.

However, those applying for extension under the former **HSMP** are not affected by these changes; it is **only** for fresh applicants and those switching from another category to Tier 1 (General)

### **Tier 4**

That of the student Visa has also started this month. Some of the characteristics of the new student Visa are:

- ❖ It is transparent, because you score as you provide and proof that category
- ❖ So because of this , there is no Appeal for student Visa under the new scheme

### **Basic facts about it**

- ❖ You must ensure the school you are applying for is registered with home office
- ❖ You must ensure that you calculate your maintenance fund , with the provided formula so that you get the right figure to be provided in your bank statement
- ❖ You ensure that you advise your sponsor (if sponsor) to transfer that amount into your own account and it must be there for 28 days before you apply.

If you plan very well and do the right thing, I think there is more chance of getting you Visa under this new scheme.

**“Let him that have ear hears what the UKBA says about the new PBS.”**



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