

## Au Pair Information

### Are you entitled to work in the UK?

The UK immigration rules have changed since 2008, therefore, in order to come to the UK to work as an au pair you must be a citizen of the European Economic Area (EEA). Special rules apply to Bulgarian and Romanian citizens. (Please see UK Border website for information on Bulgaria and Romania). You can *also* work in the UK under the **Youth Mobility Scheme** as a citizen of Australia, Canada or New Zealand, Japan or you can be a British Overseas Citizen, British Overseas Territories Citizen, or British National (Overseas). Please see our link page for the UK border website for more information. We cannot help you come to the UK as an au-pair, nanny, or housekeeper, if you do not meet the criteria above. If you are from Turkey you will need a visa issued to you prior to the au pair scheme closing, in November 2008.

### European Union (EU) & European Economic Area (EEA) Countries

European Union (EU) countries are currently: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Irish Republic, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

European Economic Area (EEA) countries are currently the EU countries, plus: Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway.

Swiss nationals are also able to visit and work in the UK.

### Becoming An Au Pair

Read about the changes to UK Immigration taking place in November 2008. Please check the UK border website for the new **Youth Mobility Scheme**.

Becoming an au pair is a fantastic way to experience the culture of a foreign country, develop your language skills, meet new friends and see the world.

If you are interested in becoming an au pair in the UK, please complete the [Au Pair application form](#) and attach a "head and shoulders" photograph of yourself as the applicant. We shall also ask you to provide us with two contactable references: one who can give a character reference, e.g. a friend and 2<sup>nd</sup>, a professional reference, e.g. a teacher or an employer, etc. Once you have been selected by a family you will need to ask them for a **Letter of Invitation** inviting you as their au pair. The family must send this letter to you BEFORE you book and pay for your travel arrangements. If the family does not provide you with a letter of invitation, we recommend that you will not continue with that family.

### Rights of Citizens of the European Economic Area (EEA)

If you are a Citizen of the European Economic Area, including Romania and Bulgaria: You have a right of free movement as an EEA citizen. This means you are entitled to work in any member state (provided you do not have a deportation or exclusion order against you) and to reside for up to 3 months following arrival. If you want to live in a member state for longer than 3 (three) months you need to exercise a treaty right or have permission from the member state to reside there.

For the relevant forms, and for further information, please visit [UK Home Office website](#).

If you are from Romania and Bulgaria and wish to travel to the UK as au pairs you will need to complete form BR3 and obtain an **Accession worker card**, prior to starting work. If you do not meet all the above criteria, please note:

**YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN THE UK.**

**Very important!! Please read:**

### **SCAMS**

We are aware of scam emails inviting au pairs. Normally these will tell you that your profile matches the family's requirements. You may then be sent several official-looking documents and asked to submit a visa fee via Western Union, or similar, along with lots of personal information and a copy of your passport. We recommend that you never send any money. This should make you be very suspicious. As mentioned, please contact us if you receive any suspicious information.

Please feel free to forward any email that you receive, or to ask us any questions about anything of which you feel unsure.

We **CANNOT VERIFY A FAMILY'S EMAIL, OR GUARANTEE THEIR DETAILS**, but if we feel suspicious, we shall tell you. Please feel free to email us and allow us 24 business hours to respond. Normally we shall be back to you within just a few hours.