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## **EURES Jobcentre Plus - UK**

EURES is a network of Public Employment Services, drawn from each country of the European Economic Area. It was established by the European Commission, to encourage workers' mobility between the countries of the EEA. It provides free information about living and working, including job vacancies in each country. The jobs are from all sectors, and include those which are temporary, permanent, and part-time. There are trained advisers in each country, whose contact details can be found on the EURES website, <http://ec.europa.eu/eures/>.

Within the United Kingdom, the Public Employment Service is called Jobcentre Plus. All known current vacancies of all types are displayed on [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk), along with much government information on topics such as the British education, health, and social assistance system. The website can be searched using a name of a job, and the place where the jobseeker wishes to work, either the name of a city, region, or the whole of Great Britain. Then the jobseeker contacts the employer direct.

It is essential to speak, write, and understand English, to obtain even the most basic job.

Jobseekers can use the facilities at a British jobcentre, but the assistants cannot search the website or match the jobseeker with a job.

Candidates should prepare a curriculum vitae and letter of introduction in English. The cv should be no more than ½ sides A4, with personal contact details, full list of previous jobs, including names, addresses, and dates for each employer, then qualifications, the contact details of 2 previous employers as referees, then any other skills, and the date when available for work. The Europass cv is acceptable, if shortened. No photograph should be attached. The letter should briefly explain the aim of the jobseeker and how their skills match the job.

Stages/internships/work placements are not included on the website, and are not often part of the British work system. UK EURES advisers cannot supply these.

The most frequently requested workers are qualified, especially in medicine and dentistry, including doctors, nurses, dentists, and related therapists and professionals, such as pharmacologists. Also, some types of engineers, and teachers, especially in mathematics and the sciences. Jobs requiring no or lesser qualifications include the care of old or disabled people, and some service jobs in restaurants/hotels, especially chef/cooks. There is some seasonal work, but this is more difficult to obtain now there is an economic recession.

Other jobs now hard to get include construction work, architecture, surveying, financial/banking jobs, general driving and office administration, media and cultural jobs..