

Frequently asked questions

1. Will work shadowing harm my asylum application?

No. Work shadowing does not break any of the Home Office regulations you must adhere to. You will not be penalised for work shadowing.

2. Is it possible that my skills will be exploited?

No. All companies who apply to the Bridges Project are vetted before the placement is set up. We will not allow a placement to go ahead if there is a chance that you will be asked to work in an unsupervised capacity, or if we feel that you may be asked to do any work that would not be otherwise completed by the person you are shadowing in the course of their normal working day. Once a placement has started you will receive a visit at the halfway point and we will be in regular phone contact so that you can report on the work you are being asked to do.

3. Will I be paid?

No. Under current legislation no company is allowed to pay asylum seekers for their work. However, we do ask all companies to reimburse your travel fare and provide lunch. We will not allow your pockets to be empty because of your shadowing.

4. What level of English should I have?

We ask for you to be able to comfortably carry out a conversation in English. This would be equivalent to a pre-intermediate level of English. The reason we ask this is that we do not want you to feel uncomfortable or overwhelmed by your placement, simply due to your level of spoken English. If you do not feel comfortable carrying out a conversation in English, then we will do our best to ensure that you have access to an English class until your language improves.

5. How long will it take to get my placement started?

Unfortunately, the length of time between an initial application and a placement can vary wildly. In some vocations - for example teaching or general practice medicine - it may be possible for us to set up a placement for you within a month. In some other occupations it can take more than six months to find a company, which matches your skills. However, we will do our best to ensure your placement starts as soon as possible.

6. What will I get at the end of my placement?

At the end of your placement The Bridges Project, will give you a certificate to show you have satisfactorily completed your work shadowing. If you would like the company to give references, we will do our best to arrange it.

7. How do I apply?

You can download a PDF of the application form on '[how to register page](#)'. Once you have the application form then fill it in and return it to us. If for any reason you are not able to access these forms then please contact Patricia Kanyandekwe on (0141) 204 2848 and she will arrange to have a form sent to your home address. Once we have received your application form, we will ask you for a meeting to discuss your placement in greater depth.