

NATIONAL INSURANCE and PENSIONS:

NATIONAL INSURANCE:

National Insurance (NI) is automatically deducted from pay to cover protection in the event of sickness and injury, as well as to go towards a very basic national pensions scheme. You will need a NI number to work (sometimes called a NINO, for obvious reasons).

NATIONAL INSURANCE – SPECIMEN RATES and ALLOWANCES:

£ per week	2007-08	2008-09
Lower earnings limit, primary Class 1	£87	£90
Upper earnings limit, primary Class 1	£670	£770
Primary threshold	£100	£105
Secondary threshold	£100	£105
Employees' primary Class 1 rate between primary threshold and upper earnings limit	11%	11%
Employees' primary Class 1 rate above upper earnings limit	1%	1%
Employees' contracted-out rebate	1.6%	1.6%
Married women's reduced rate between primary threshold and upper earnings limit	4.85%	4.85%
Married women's rate above upper earnings limit	1%	1%

PENSIONS CONTRIBUTIONS:

You are unlikely to be forced to contribute to a pension but it is advised. If you contribute to the state pension scheme in the UK, if you leave the country you should be able to reclaim the contributions but the repayment will probably be made directly into a pension scheme and nowhere else.

NATIONAL INSURANCE and ACCESS to the NATIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM (NHS):

If you have a NINO you will be able to get free and unlimited NHS treatment in the event of illness. Any dependents with you; a spouse and/or children, will similarly be cared for free of charge.