Meet Lisa, a former international student*

I told my supervisor that working extra hours put my visa at risk.

Lisa’s situation
• In my job, I was often asked to work extra hours on weekends.
• I had not told my supervisor that I was only allowed to work 40 hours every two weeks.

What happened next?
• Student services gave me advice on how to talk to my supervisor about my visa restrictions.
• They also referred me to the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) for more information about my workplace rights and protections.

How did Lisa address it?
• I told my supervisor that working extra hours put my visa at risk. She was surprised.
• She agreed to stop asking me to work extra hours.

Talk to your employer about your limits on work hours as an international student before starting work.

*This is a fictional case study, based on situations reported by international students who have experienced workplace exploitation. For information visit fairwork.gov.au/internationalstudents, or ato.gov.au. You can also contact the student support services at your education provider, or a community legal centre.