

19 February 2009

**IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND INSTRUCTIONS: Amendment Circular
No. 2009/02**

To: *All Manual Holders*

**AMENDMENTS TO THE IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND (INZ) OPERATIONAL
MANUAL – MARCH 2009 RELEASE**

Introduction

This circular outlines changes to Government immigration policy and Government residence policy in the INZ Operational Manual. A copy of the amended policies is attached to this circular.

All visa and immigration officers dealing with immigration applications should read the amendments and operate in accordance with the amended policies on and from 2 March 2009.

Note

The amendments described in this circular will be published in the INZ Operational Manual on 2 March 2009.

Any enquiries about these amendments should be directed to the Immigration Contact Centre on 0508 558 855 or 09 914 4100 (Auckland only).

Changes to Government immigration policy

WI4.1 The need to meet the requirements of Generic Temporary Entry policy

A provision has been added to the generic working holiday scheme (WHS) policy to clarify how a person applying under a scheme with an 'ordinarily resident' requirement may meet that requirement. A change has also been made to the generic WHS policy to clarify that WHS applicants must meet generic WHS requirements as well as generic temporary entry requirements and the requirements relating to the WHS they are applying under.

WI4.75 United Kingdom Working Holiday Scheme

The 'ordinarily resident' definition has been removed from the United Kingdom WHS policy as it has been clarified in the generic WHS policy.

WI4.20 France Working Holiday Scheme

Applicants for the France WHS may apply by using the online application system.

WI4.5 Canada Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.15 Denmark Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.35 Ireland Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.40 Italy Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.95 United States of America Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.105 Finland Working Holiday Scheme

WI4.110 Belgium Working Holiday Scheme

The annual quotas for the abovementioned WHSs have been removed.

WI4.155 Latvia Working Holiday Scheme

A Latvia WHS has been introduced. The scheme has 100 places available annually and applicants may apply using the online application system.

N3.15 Processing applications

Transit visa applicants will no longer require a security check.

Changes to Government residence policy

S1.10.35 Minimum income requirement

S1.40.35 Minimum income requirement

The minimum income requirement under the Samoan Quota Scheme and the Pacific Access Category has increased to \$29,939.52.

F4.1.1 Minimum income requirement for sponsors

F4.10.25.1 Evidence

The Family Category – Parent policy has been amended to clarify that the minimum income must be met by *personal* income.

F7.10 Pre-adoption information

The reference to the New Zealand Children, Young Persons and their Families Agency (CYPFA) has been updated to Child, Youth and Family (CYF).

Changes to Government immigration and residence policy

WI5.30 Special work permits for victims of domestic violence

S4.5 Residence policy for victims of domestic violence

The work policy and residence policy for victims of domestic violence have been amended to:

- recognise that domestic violence may have been perpetrated by anyone in a “domestic relationship” with the applicant (not just by their partner),
- allow the use of non-judicial forms of evidence of domestic violence, specifically a statutory declaration completed by the applicant and two further statutory declarations completed by appropriate persons in different professions, and
- remove the requirement that applicants be referred to INZ by a Child, Youth and Family approved referee.

The work policy for victims of domestic violence has been amended to:

- allow temporary work permits to be granted for up to nine months, and
- allow applicants to demonstrate only that domestic violence has occurred, rather than having to prove both domestic violence and their inability to return home (applicants for residence permits under the residence policy for victims of domestic violence will still have to prove their inability to return home).

The residence policy for victims of domestic violence has been amended to:

- include a policy objective statement, and
- broaden the criteria for gauging whether a person cannot be returned to their country of origin, so applicants need only show that if they returned they would either have no means of independent financial support from employment or other means, *or* be at risk of abuse or exclusion from their community because of stigma.

In addition, references to the terms ‘marriage’ and ‘relationship’ have been replaced with the term ‘partnership’ in both the work policy and residence policy provisions.

SM14.5 Recognition of qualifications

SM19.15 Effect on points for qualifications

References to ‘probationary’ registration for medical professions have been removed from the Skilled Migrant Category policy.

W2.10.1 Requirements for applicants

WR1.30 Making an application under the Talent (Accredited Employers) Work Policy

WR3.15 Making an application for a work visa or permit under the Long Term Skill Shortage List Work Policy

SM7.15 Additional requirements for skilled employment

SM14.20 Evidence

SM19.20 Effect on points for skilled employment

An explanatory note has been added to the abovementioned policies to clarify that ‘special purpose scope of practice’ for medical practitioners does not equate to full or provisional registration for the purposes of work to residence or residence applications.

Appendix 6 Long Term Skill Shortage List

Three occupations have been added to Appendix 6, including:

- Ambulance Paramedic (Advanced Life Support) (411112),
- Ambulance Paramedic (Intermediate Life Support) (411112), and
- Architect (232111).

The qualification requirements and/or the occupational specifications in order to claim bonus points for qualifications in an area of absolute skill shortage have been amended for the following occupations:

- Auditor (221213, 221214),
- Chef (351311), and
- Multimedia Designer (Film Animator) (232413).

Appendix 7 List of persons closely associated with Robert Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe, and the Zimbabwe government

Appendix 7 has been amended to:

- add 62 individuals,
- update the details of 26 individuals, and
- remove four individuals from the list.