

Immigration New Zealand Queenstown Branch Update #6

5 October 2010

Greetings,

This edition includes the following information:

1. The Queenstown Team
2. Customer Service Model
3. Processing Timeframes
4. Immigration Policy Training Sessions
5. GST Increase
6. Essential Skills Policy
 - Overview/Purpose
 - ANZSCO Skill Level
 - Labour Market Test
 - Employer Supplementary Forms
 - Work and Income Advice
 - Complete Applications

We trust that this update will provide you with useful information to support you in the context of the work we do. Previous editions of this update can be found on our branch webpage:

<http://www.immigration.govt.nz/branch/QueenstownBranchHome>

If there is any particular information you would like included in the next edition, please email:

louise.stewart@dol.govt.nz

Regards,

The Queenstown Team

1. The Queenstown Team

There have been a number of staff changes over recent months, with two new permanent appointments to the Queenstown Team following staff departures. We are pleased to have welcomed **Anna Stewart** and **Steve Hutt** into our team, who both joined us in July.

Louise Stewart	Branch Manager	louise.stewart@dol.govt.nz
Dave Herring	Immigration Officer	david.herring@dol.govt.nz
Anna Stewart	Immigration Officer	anna.stewart@dol.govt.nz
Steve Hutt	Immigration Officer	steven.hutt@dol.govt.nz

2. Customer Service Model

Further site visits with employers are scheduled over the coming months to acquire business knowledge for a better understanding of our customers' needs and how we can work together towards positive outcomes for Queenstown and New Zealand.

To express your interest in hosting a site visit, please email: louise.stewart@dol.govt.nz

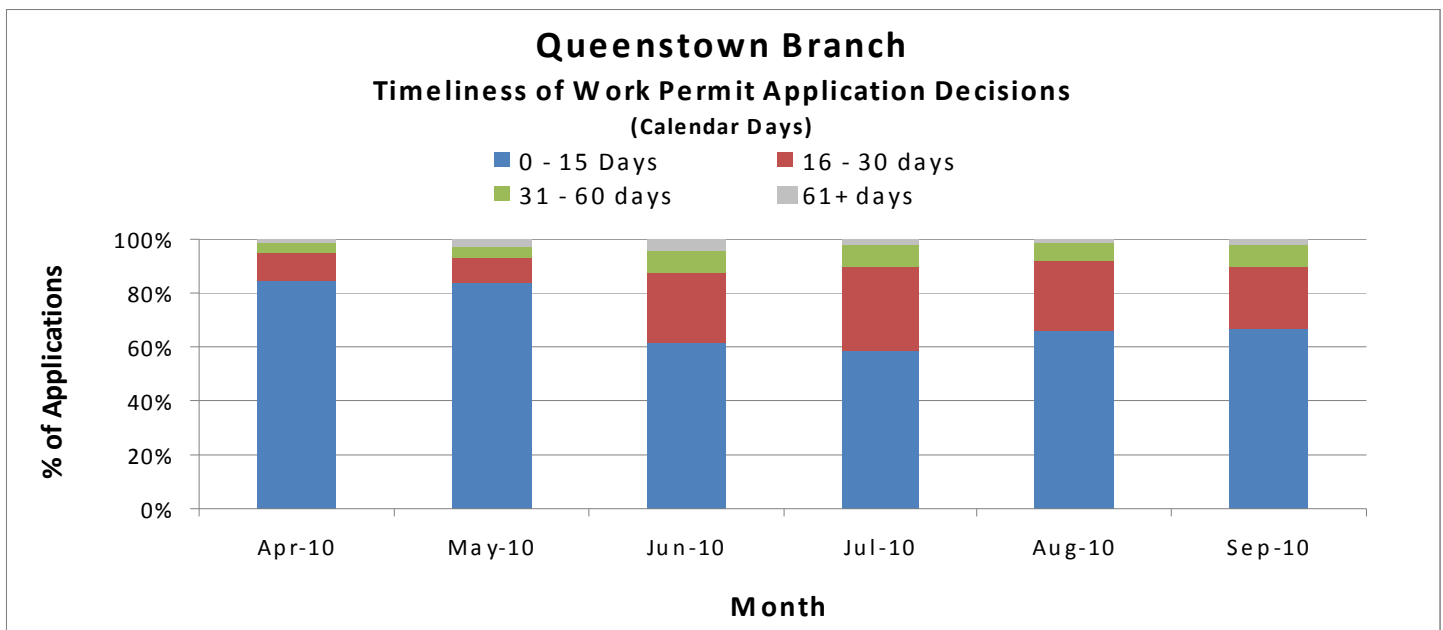
Industry segmented points of contact in Queenstown Branch have changed in conjunction with staffing changes.

Please note that your industry contact is a first point of call only, and will not be responsible for the processing of all individual applications within their industry catchments.

Industry	Business Type Examples	Branch Contact
Food and Beverage Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Restaurants ▪ Bars/Clubs ▪ Fast Food Service Providers 	Anna Stewart
Accommodation Providers Commercial Cleaners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hotels/Motels ▪ Holiday Parks/Camping Grounds ▪ Commercial Cleaning Services 	Steve Hutt
Adventure Tourism Retail Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adventure Tourism Service Providers ▪ Entertainment Service Providers ▪ Retail Outlets ▪ Supermarkets 	Dave Herring

3. Processing Times

The following graph depicts our timeliness achievements for the past six months:



We thank our customers for their patience where delays are experienced and continue to encourage the submission of applications at least 30 days before permit expiry.

To maximise the timely processing of applications, the submission of full and accurate documentation is required. Employers in particular are encouraged to refer to the Essential Skills Policy section of this publication to familiarise themselves with the evidential requirements of this labour market tested category.

If your application includes full and accurate documentation and there are no processing impediments arising (e.g. health referrals or labour market testing), we aim to achieve the following timeliness standards:

- Work permits/visas – 15 days
- Visitor visas/permits – 15 days
- Student visas/permits – 15 days
- Returning resident's visas – 10 days

4. Permanent Residence Immigration Policy Information Sessions

We are aware of the increasing interest in applying for permanent residence in New Zealand. To assist your staff with obtaining information regarding the various options, we would like to work together with employers to host Permanent Residence Immigration Policy Information Sessions. These sessions will provide attendees with an overview of the Skilled Migrant Category requirements to enable them to undertake a self assessment of their eligibility.

To register your interest in hosting a Permanent Residence Information Session for your staff, please email: louise.stewart@dol.govt.nz

5. GST Increase

The rise in GST by 2.5% to 15% will increase the majority of onshore visa and permit application fees with effect from 1 October 2010. The fee changes for temporary entry applications include:

Type of Application	Fee (NZ\$)	
	Until 30 September 2010	From 1 October 2010
VISITOR'S VISA/PERMIT		
Visitor's permit or visa	130.00	132.89
STUDENT VISA/PERMIT		
Student permit or visa - other	200.00	204.44
WORK VISA/PERMIT		
Work permit or visa- partnership	280.00	286.22
Work permit or visa – other	200.00	204.44
Working Holiday Scheme	120.00	120.00
Working Holidaymaker Extension Permit	120.00	122.67
TEMPORARY - OTHER		
Variation of Conditions	120.00	122.67
Transfer fee	80.00	81.78
RESIDENCE VISA/PERMIT		
Returning Resident's Visa	140.00	143.11

- **The preferred method of payment at Queenstown Branch is by Credit Card or EFTPOS** -

5. Essential Skills Policy

The Essential Skills work category is a labour market tested policy.

Objective

Essential Skills work policy contributes to the overall work policy objective (see [W1](#)) by:

- a. incentivising the development of a highly skilled workforce, high quality jobs and workplaces, and high value industries;
- b. helping New Zealand firms maintain capacity and supporting the provision of services meeting important social needs; while
- c. not displacing New Zealanders from employment opportunities or hindering improvements to wages or working conditions; and
- d. managing fiscal risks, settlement risks and public perceptions of migration; and ensuring the integrity of the immigration system and promoting the international reputation of New Zealand.

Work permits may only be granted under Essential Skills policy where a skill or labour “gap” is established through the application process.

- ANZSCO Skill Level

Immigration Officers refer to the Australia and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) when assessing applications under Essential Skills Category.

The ANZSCO allows for the determination of the skill level of an occupation and is a subsequent indicator to assist in the assessment of:

- Genuine attempts to recruit New Zealand workers
- Market wage/salary rates
- Level of qualifications and/or experience required to undertake the position

- Labour Market Test

The establishment of a labour market “gap” is a two tier process, requiring an Immigration Officer to be satisfied that:

1. A genuine attempt to recruit suitably qualified or experience New Zealand workers has been made **and**
2. There are no New Zealand workers available to do, or be trained to do, the position offered

For ANZSCO Skill Level 4 and 5 occupations, Immigration Officers **must** seek advice from Work and Income regarding the availability of New Zealand workers.

- Employer Supplementary Form

The Employer Supplementary Form is a critical element in the application assessment process.

The information declared by an employer in the Employer Supplementary Form provides the foundation evidence for the labour market test. Forms are required to detail the attempts made to recruit for the position offered and advise the outcome of those recruitment attempts.

- Work and Income Advice

The Queenstown branches of Immigration New Zealand and Work and Income have been working closely together to ensure the most relevant, up to date labour market advice is available for the consideration of work permit applications.

To ensure a common understanding between Work and Income, Immigration New Zealand and across industry, Work and Income advice relating to the availability of New Zealand workers, has been consolidated in consideration of:

- Work and Income advice being mandatory for ANZSCO Skill Level 4 and 5 positions only
- Alignment with ANZSCO classifications

Work and Income have confirmed an updated list of occupations for which they are unable to refer suitably qualified New Zealand Citizen or Resident workers as at 1 October 2010.

Please note that this advice applies to job vacancies in the Queenstown area only remains valid until further notice.

Occupation(s)	ANZSCO Reference(s)
Hospitality Workers	431xxx
Tour Guides	4514xx or 4522xx
Food Preparation Assistants	851xxx
Cleaners and Laundry Workers	811xxx
Sales Assistants (inc Supermarket)	621xxx or 631xxx
Receptionists	5421xx

- Complete Applications

To summarise, a full and complete application for consideration under Essential Skills Policy will include:

Documentation	Specifics
Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fully completed, signed and dated ▪ Passport photograph
Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Credit card or EFTPOS payment preferred
Employer Supplementary Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All sections fully completed including ANZSCO code ▪ Evidence to support declared information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruitment Attempts - Work and Income Engagement
Offer of Employment/ Employment Agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must meet New Zealand employment law requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Leave Entitlements - Public/Statutory Holidays ▪ Hours of work and wage/salary stipulated ▪ Job Title ▪ Position Duties
Applicant's qualifications and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Qualifications relevant to position offered ▪ Experience (references) relevant to the position offered ▪ Registration or pre-requisite requirements for the position offered (trade licences, manager's certificates etc)
Health and Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medical and Police Certificates as applicable to individual applicant

-Originals or Certified Copies of Relevant Work Experience and Qualifications are required -