

VISA PAK ISSUE 637 — 15 AUGUST 2025

## CALCULATING MINIMUM INCOME REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPENDENTS OF ACCREDITED EMPLOYER WORK VISA (AEWV) HOLDERS

Accredited Employer Work Visa (AEWV) holders whose dependents apply for visitor or student visas must meet a minimum income threshold of \$55,844 gross per annum, as set out in [U8.20.6](#) and [V3.10.10](#).

That income threshold must be met and maintained wholly by the salary or wages of a parent or parents holding AEWV or Essential Skills Work Visa (ESWV). The minimum income threshold:

- Excludes employment related allowances
- Must be maintained for the duration of the dependent's visa
- Must be calculated on the basis of no more than 40 hours' work per week (see the note to [WA4.10.15](#)).

Both [U8.20.6\(c\)](#) and [V3.10.10\(c\)](#) state that evidence must be provided of the AEWV holder's current salary or wages. If the AEWV holder's salary or wages have increased, evidence of that increase must be provided.

Calculation of the AEWV holder's minimum income should be based on the minimum guaranteed hours of work as stated in their Employment Agreement (EA). In some cases, the AEWV holder may provide evidence that they regularly work more than the minimum number of hours guaranteed by their EA, however these hours should not be considered in minimum income calculations unless the guaranteed minimum hours specified in the EA are updated to reflect this.

This is consistent with a longstanding approach when assessing minimum income thresholds for dependents of work visas (as outlined in [Visa Pak 288](#)). Immigration officers should not base minimum income calculations on the average hours worked over a particular period or irregular hours, even when these are included in an AEWV holder's EA, unless it is stipulated in the EA that these additional hours are guaranteed, and the minimum contracted hours are amended in the EA.

Increased salary/wages, whether through a pay increase or changes to minimum guaranteed hours, should be evidenced by a new EA or a letter from the employer showing an increase in the guaranteed hours / wages and at least one of the following:

- bank statements showing salary payment in line with increased hours / wages
- IRD summary of income showing increase in income in line with increased hours / wages
- Payslips in line with increased hours / wages