

VISA PAK ISSUE 682 — 24 JULY 2026

UPDATE TO FILIPINO OPEN WORK VISA LETTER REQUIREMENT

Context

The guidance set out in this VisaPak supersedes previous guidance contained in VisaPak 395.

The Philippines Labour authorities have confirmed that Immigration New Zealand no longer needs to provide a separate letter for workers who arrived in New Zealand without an Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC), such as partners who subsequently gain work rights.

Individuals who obtain work rights after arriving in New Zealand can register and validate their New Zealand work visa via the Migrant Workers Office (MWO) New Zealand website; once the visa has been validated, they can apply online for an OEC, which is issued and recorded electronically. For further information, refer to: <https://mwo-newzealand.dmw.gov.ph/>

Effective immediately, staff are no longer required to issue any additional letter to Filipino nationals who are granted an open work visa. This applies to applications processed in both ADEPT and AMS.

Relevant SOPs will be updated in due course to reflect this change.