



15 May 2018

Immigration New Zealand Instructions: Amendment Circular No. 2018/06

To: All Manual Holders

Amendments to the Immigration New Zealand Operational Manual

Introduction

This circular outlines changes to immigration instructions. A copy of the amended instructions is attached.

All immigration officers dealing with immigration applications should read the amendments and operate in accordance with the amended instructions on and after 21 May 2018.

Note

The amendments described in this circular will be published in the Immigration New Zealand Operational Manual in due course.

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

Summary of contents

This amendment circular details changes to Immigration New Zealand's Operational Manual, and contains the following:

- The *Description of changes* section contains a summary of the changes to immigration instructions.
- Appendix 1 contains amended immigration instructions effective on and after 21 May 2018. Changes to instructions have been highlighted for ease of reference.

Description of changes

Specify that a damaged travel document is not acceptable.

A2.5 Criteria for acceptable travel documents

Instructions have been amended so that passports damaged in ways that compromise their integrity may not be accepted.

Reflect the closure of the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub

WK2.1 Lodging an Essential Skills work visa application

WK3.10 Determining the availability of New Zealand citizens or residents

WK3.15 Requirements for employers

WK4.5 Conditions of Essential Skills Work Visas

Instructions have been updated to reflect the closure of the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub, which is closing on 29 June 2018 and will stop accepting new vacancies on 2 June 2018. The amended instructions allow applicants with offers of employment in Canterbury to provide either a Skills Match Report or a letter from the Hub if their job is ANZSCO skill level 4 or 5.

Expanding the use of electronic visas (eVisas) when transferring a residence class visa

R7.10 Procedure for confirming or transferring a residence class visa

Instructions have been amended to clarify that applicants can get electronic visas instead of physical labels when transferring their residence class visa to a new passport or travel document, and that no fee or immigration levy applies.

Update the requirements for Pharmacy Technicians under the Skilled Migrant Category

SM6.10 Skilled Employment

Instructions have been amended to update the qualifications Pharmacy Technicians must possess in order to gain points for skilled employment in New Zealand. Applicants must hold one of the following: a National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician), a New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) Level 4 or 5, or a New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Specialist Technician) Level 6.

Adjust the number of Specific Purpose or Event work visas allowed under specific circumstances

WS2.1 Who is eligible for a Specific Purpose or Event Work visa

Instructions have been amended to remove restrictions on the number of visas allowed for the following subcategories of Specific Purpose or Event work visas:

- senior or specialist business people on short-term secondments

- business people seconded to New Zealand as an intra-corporate transferee
- Investor 1 applicants
- Investor 2 applicants

The existing total maximum length of time allowed in New Zealand on Specific Purpose or Event work visas has not changed.

Other changes clarify SP work visa holders may apply for other types of visas, and correct minor grammatical and formatting errors.

Clarifying the duration English language students must study for to gain part-time work rights

U13.15 Work conditions for students enrolled at a tertiary institution or private training establishment

Instructions have been amended to clarify that English language students must study full-time for at least 24 teaching weeks in order to gain work rights. Previously, this requirement was 6 months.

Extending the pathway student visa pilot

U14 Pathway student visas pilot

U14.5 Requirements to be granted a pathway student visa

Update to instructions extending the pathway student visa pilot until 30 November 2018.

Amending the names of Cambridge English language tests

BE5.1 English language requirements

BF2.20 Acceptable English language test results

BF3.15 The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased by non-principal applicants

BJ5.35 English language ability

BJ6 Summary of points for the Investor 2 category

F4.15 English language requirements for the Parent Category

RW5.1 Minimum standard of English

RW5.40 The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased

SM4.5 Minimum standard of English language for principal applicants

SM4.10 English language requirements for non-principal applicants

SM4.20 Pre-purchase of ESOL tuition

WI2.30 China Working Holiday Scheme

WI2.120 Peru Working Holiday Scheme

WI2.122 Philippines Working Holiday Scheme

WI2.155 Thailand Working Holiday Scheme

WI2.157 Turkey Working Holiday Scheme

WI2.175 Vietnam Working Holiday Scheme

WI12 China Special Work Instructions

U13.15 Work conditions for students enrolled at a tertiary institution or private training establishment

Instructions have been updated to reflect changes to the names of tests produced by Cambridge Assessment English.

Other miscellaneous changes

Several other minor amendments have been made to correct or clarify immigration instructions and other parts of the Operational Manual as follows:

- Change wording in general work visa instructions to make it clear that if occupational registration is required it can be full or provisional (*W2.10 Generic work visa instructions*).
- Amend punctuation in Victims of People Trafficking residence instructions for clarity (*S4.15 Residence Category for victims of people trafficking*).
- Amend references to “Students Online” to “Provider Direct”, following a name change (*U6.35 Visas for the length of a programme of study*).
- Remove wording in visitor visa requirements explaining that the applicant is the partner of an Essential Skills work visa holder as this is already detailed in the overarching instructions (*V3.10 Partners and dependent children of student or work visa holders*).
- Amend references to the INZ offices that accept cash payments for fees and levies to reflect current practices (*R2.60 Payment of the fee and immigration levy*).
- Amend minor wording errors in instructions for declining residence applications (*R5.55 Declining an application*) and Essential Skills work visas (*WK3.20 Requirements for applicants*).
- Remove reference to Dubai office as it no longer processes visas (*R2.60 Payment of the fee and immigration levy*).

Appendix 1 - Amendments to immigration instructions effective on and after 21 May 2018

A2.5 Criteria for acceptable travel documents

Acceptable travel documents must be:

- a. authentic and not unofficially altered or tampered with; and
- b. not damaged in a way that compromises the integrity of the document; and
- c. valid in the country of issue; and
- d. issued by an official source recognised by the New Zealand Government; and
- e. valid for travel to and from New Zealand; and
- f. in the case of people coming to New Zealand permanently, valid for enough time to allow them to travel to New Zealand; and
- g. in the case of people coming to New Zealand temporarily, valid either:
 - i. for at least 3 months beyond the date they intend to depart; or
 - ii. for one month beyond the date they intend to depart, if the issuing government has consular representation in New Zealand that is able to issue and renew travel documents.

R2.60 Payment of the fee and immigration levy

See also Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010

- a. Principal applicants must pay the fee specified for that type of application at the time the application is lodged, unless:
 - i. the fee is waived by an officer with schedule 1-3 delegations, who has the authority to grant a special direction under section 395 (2) of the Immigration Act 2009; or
 - ii. the principal applicant is a citizen of a country with which New Zealand has a fee waiver agreement covering visas (see [A6.5](#)).
- b. Principal applicants must pay the immigration levy specified for that type of visa application at the time the application is lodged, unless:
 - i. the immigration levy is waived by an officer with schedule 1-3 delegations, who has the authority to grant a special direction under section 399(3A) of the Immigration Act 2009; or
 - ii. the principal applicant is exempt from paying the immigration levy (see [A6.11](#)).
- c. A receiving office is an INZ office or authorised New Zealand Visa Application Centre (VAC) or MFAT post designated for receiving applications from particular countries. Receiving Offices can be found on the INZ website.
- d. The fee payable for an application is determined by the principal applicant's country of citizenship.
- e. If a principal applicant is resident in a country other than their country of citizenship, they may lodge their application at the office designated for receiving applications from the country in which they are residing, but the fee payable will be determined by their country of citizenship.
- f. If the principal applicant is in New Zealand and lodges an application in New Zealand, the fee payable for the application is the fee payable for applications lodged in New Zealand, regardless of the principal applicant's citizenship.
- g. Fees and the immigration levy may be paid for by bank cheque, as well as by money order (from registered banks), credit card or EFTPOS, if these forms of payment are acceptable to the INZ office or VAC or MFAT office at which an application is lodged.
- h. Cash is not an acceptable form of payment, with the exception of the following INZ offices: Beijing, Jakarta, Moscow, and Shanghai.
- i. Bank cheques for applications lodged at INZ offices in New Zealand should be made out to 'Immigration New Zealand'.

R5.55 Declining an application

Where an application is being declined because:

- a. it does not meet residence instructions, refer to R5.55.1 and R5.55.5.
- b. a person included in the application is a person to whom sections 15 or 16 applies, refer to R5.55.15.

R5.55.1 Declining an application where it does not meet residence instructions

- a. Applications that do not meet residence instructions must be declined.
- b. If an application is declined, immigration officers must notify the principal applicant in writing, informing the principal applicant:
 - i. of the reasons why the application has been declined (giving the points total, if appropriate), and
 - ii. of their right to appeal to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal and how they should lodge the appeal.

Note: The form Immigration and Protection Tribunal - Residence Class Visa Appeal (Form 1) or a link to the form on the Ministry of Justice website must be included in the letter advising that the application has been declined.

- c. Immigration officers must record the date that any letter advising that the application has been declined is sent.

R5.55.5 Right of Appeal to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal

See also Immigration Act 2009 s 187

- a. Appeals must be lodged within 42 days after the date that an applicant is deemed to have received a letter advising that an application for a residence class visa has been declined.
- b. Appeals must be lodged on the form Immigration and Protection Tribunal - Residence Class Visa Appeal (Form 1) which contains information on:
 - i. how to lodge an appeal,
 - ii. the required fee,
 - iii. how the time limit for lodging an appeal is calculated.

Note: There is no right of appeal to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal for applicants who have been declined on the basis that sections 15 or 16 apply to them (see R5.55.15).

R5.55.15 Declining an application where it includes a person to whom sections 15 or 16 apply

- a. Pursuant to A5.20, any application including a person to whom sections 15 or 16 of the Immigration Act 2009 apply, must be declined unless covered by one of the exceptions identified at A5.20(a).
- b. If an application is declined, immigration officers must notify the principal applicant in writing, informing the principal applicant that the application has been declined as a person included in the application is prohibited by statute from entitlement or eligibility for the grant of a residence class visa by virtue of sections 15 or 16.

Note: An application declined on this basis shall not be assessed under residence instructions.

- c. Immigration officers must record the date that any letter advising that the application has been declined, is sent.

Note: An applicant to whom sections 15 or 16 apply who is included in an application declined on this basis has no right of appeal to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal, but other applicants included in that application to whom sections 15 or 16 do not apply, may appeal.

R7.10 Procedure for confirming or transferring a residence class visa

R7.10.1 Endorsement of residence status in passport or certificate of identity

See also Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010, reg 32

- a. Applicants applying to have their residence status endorsed in their passport or certificate of identity must make the application on the form Application for Transfer or Confirmation of a Visa (INZ 1023). The form must be given to an immigration officer together with:
 - i. the applicant's passport or certificate of identity; and
 - ii. if applicable, any previous or expired passport or certificate of identity; and
 - iii. evidence that the applicant holds or is deemed to hold a residence class visa; and
 - iv. the appropriate fee (if any).
- b. If applicants cannot provide proof of lawful residence, immigration officers must establish whether there is a file for the applicant in INZ records, and if so, they must check the file.

R7.10.5 eVisa transfer

- a. Applicants applying to transfer their visa to a new passport or certificate of identity may request an eVisa instead of a physical label. An eVisa is a visa issued without a physical visa label in a passport or certificate of identity. If granted an eVisa, a visa approval letter should be issued which includes the appropriate visa details.
- b. Applicants should provide the following:
 - i. a completed Application for Transfer or Confirmation of a Visa (INZ 1023) form; and
 - ii. a passport or certificate of identity (or a certified copy of either).
- c. No immigration fee or levy applies to replace a physical visa label with an eVisa or when transferring an eVisa from one passport or certificate of identity to another.

R7.10.10 Confirmation of residence status by letter

- a. Applicants who wish to have confirmation of the date their residence was originally granted in the form of a letter must make a written request to the appropriate INZ receiving office (see the INZ website).
- b. A letter confirming the date residence was originally granted must:
 - i. be on letterhead; and
 - ii. give the applicant's full name, date of birth and the date residence was granted; and
 - iii. be legibly signed and dated by an immigration officer; and

BE5.1 English language requirements

- a. Principal applicants who lodge applications under the Employees of Relocating Businesses category meet the minimum standards of English for that category if:
- i. they provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at BE5.1.1 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged); or
 - ii. they provide evidence that they have an English-speaking background (see [BF2.1](#)) which is accepted by a business immigration specialist as meeting the minimum standard of English; or
 - iii. they provide other evidence which satisfies a business immigration specialist that, taking account of that evidence and all the circumstances of the application, the person meets the minimum standard of English (see [BF2.5](#)).
- b. In any case under (a) (ii) or (iii), a business immigration specialist may require an applicant to provide an English language test result in terms of paragraph (a)(i). In such cases, the English language test result will be used to determine whether the applicant meets the minimum standard of English.

Note:

~ Full consideration must be given to all evidence of English language ability provided before a decision to request an English language test result under [BE5.1\(b\)](#) is made. If an English language test result is requested, the reason(s) behind the decision must be clearly documented and conveyed to the applicant.
 ~ The tests recognised by Immigration New Zealand as set out at BE5.1.1 provide an assessment of ability in English, including performance in listening, reading, writing and speaking.

BE5.1.1 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 31 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 29 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 142 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade D or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade D or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

BF2.20 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 31 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 29 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 142 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade D or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade D or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

BF3.15 The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased by non-principal applicants

- a. The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased is determined by the applicant's English language test results according to the following table.

Test	Overall score	Charge to be paid	ESOL entitlement
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	4.5 or more but less than 5.0	NZ\$1,735	NZ\$1,531.82
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	32 to 34		
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	30 to 35		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	147 to 153		
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	4.0 or more, but less than 4.5	NZ\$3,420	NZ\$3,063.64
TOEFL iBT	31		
PTE Academic	29		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	142 to 146		
OET	Grade D in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	3.5 or more, but less than 4.0	NZ\$5,110	NZ\$4,600.00
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Less than 3.5	NZ\$6,795	NZ\$6,131.82
TOEFL iBT	Less than 31		
PTE Academic	Less than 29		
B2 First (First Certificate in English)	Less than 142		

(formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)			
OET	Failed to achieve at least Grade D in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*		

* A score in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test

Note: No ESOL tuition is required to be pre-purchased if the applicant meets the English language requirements for the category they are applying under.

- b. The charge includes the applicant's ESOL tuition entitlement, as well as the INZ and TEC administration costs.
- c. If an applicant has not submitted an English language test result when requested, the maximum charge of NZ\$6,795 applies.

BJ5.35 English language ability

- a. Principal applicants must qualify for a minimum of 1 point for English language ability.
- b. English language ability qualifies for points as follows:

Test	Required Score	Points
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 3.0 or more but less than 4.0	1
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.0 or more but less than 5.0	4
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 31 to 34	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 29 to 35	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 142 to 153	
OET	Grade D or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 5.0 or more	10
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 35 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 36 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 154 or more	
OET	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 6.0 or more	13
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 60 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 50 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 169 or more	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 7.0 or more	
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 94 or more	17

PTE Academic	Overall score of 65 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 185 or more	
OET	Grade B or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 8.0 or more	20
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 110 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 79 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 200 or more	
OET	Grade A or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	

* A score in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade in this test.

BJ5.35.1 Evidence of English language ability

- a. Principal applicants claiming 1 to 17 points under BJ5.35(b) must provide English language test results (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged) with a score that qualifies for 1 to 17 points.
- b. Principal applicants claiming 20 points under BJ5.35(b) must provide one of the following:
 - i. English language test results (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged) with a score that qualifies for 20 points; or
 - ii. evidence that they have an English-speaking background (see BF2.1) which is accepted by a business immigration specialist as meeting the standard of English for which 10 points can be awarded; or
 - iii. other evidence which satisfies a business immigration specialist that, taking account of that evidence and all the circumstances of the application, the person meets the standard of English for which 20 points can be awarded. Evidence may include but is not limited to:
 - o the country in which the applicant currently resides;
 - o the country(ies) in which the applicant has previously resided;
 - o the duration of residence in each country;
 - o the nature of the applicant's current or previous employment (if any) and whether it required or was likely to have required skill in English language;
 - o the nature of the applicant's qualifications (if any) and whether the obtaining of those qualifications was likely to have required skill in English language.
- c. In any case under (b) (ii) or (iii), a business immigration specialist may require an applicant to provide English language test results in terms of paragraph (b)(i). In such cases, the English language test results will be used to determine whether the applicant can be awarded 10 points for English language ability.

Note: The tests recognised by Immigration New Zealand as set out at BJ5.35 provide an assessment of ability in English, including performance in listening, reading, writing and speaking.

BJ6 Summary of points for the Investor 2 category

Age	Points
60 - 65	0
50 - 59	5
40 - 49	10
30 - 39	15
Less than 30	20

Business Experience years	Points
3	9
4	12
5	15
6	18
7	21
8	24
9	27
10	30
11	33
12	36
13	39
14	42
15+	45

Test	Required Score	Points
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 3.0 or more but less than 4.0	1
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.0 or more but less than 5.0	4
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 31 to 34	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 29 to 35	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 142 to 153	
OET	Grade D or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 5.0 or more	10
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 35 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 36 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 154 or more	
OET	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 6.0 or more	13
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 60 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 50 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 169 or more	
OET	Grade B or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 7.0 or more	17
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 94 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 65 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 185 or more	

Cambridge English: First (FCE) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)		
OET	Grade B or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 8.0 or more	20
TOEFL iBT	Overall score of 110 or more	
PTE Academic	Overall score of 79 or more	
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 200 or more	
OET	Grade A or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*	

* A score in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade in this test.

Investment Amount (NZ\$M)	Points	Investment Amount (NZ\$M)	Points
\$3	10	\$6.5	80
\$3.25	15	\$6.75	85
\$3.5	20	\$7	90
\$3.75	25	\$7.25	95
\$4	30	\$7.5	100
\$4.25	35	\$7.75	105
\$4.5	40	\$8	110
\$4.75	45	\$8.25	115
\$5	50	\$8.5	120
\$5.25	55	\$8.75	125
\$5.5	60	\$9	130
\$5.75	65	\$9.25	135
\$6	70	\$9.5	140
\$6.25	75	\$9.75	145

Investment in Growth Investments	Bonus points
Investment of NZ\$750,000 or more in growth investments	20

F4.15 English language requirements for the Parent Category

F4.15.1 Minimum standard of English

- a. Applications under the Parent Category must be declined if any applicant included in the application has not met the minimum standard of English or the requirements to pre-purchase English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) tuition.
- b. Applicants under the Parent Category meet the minimum standard of English if they provide:
 - i. acceptable English language test results, as set out at F4.15.45 (no more than two years old at the time the application is lodged); or
 - ii. other evidence that satisfies an immigration officer that, taking account of that evidence and all the circumstances of the application, they are a competent user of English. These circumstances may include but are not limited to:
 - the country in which the applicant currently resides;
 - the country(ies) in which the applicant has previously resided;
 - the duration of residence in each country;
 - whether the applicant speaks any language other than English;
 - whether members of the applicant's family speak English;
 - whether members of the applicant's family speak any language other than English;
 - the nature of the applicant's current or previous employment (if any) and whether that is or was likely to require skill in English language;
 - the nature of the applicant's qualifications (if any) and whether the obtaining of those qualifications was likely to require skill in the English language; or
 - iii. evidence of one of the following:
 - completion of all primary education and at least 3 years of secondary education (that is, the equivalent of New Zealand Forms 3 to 5 or years 9 to 11) at schools using English as the language of instruction;
 - completion of at least 5 years of secondary education (that is, the equivalent of New Zealand Forms 3 to 7 or years 9 to 13) at schools using English as the language of instruction;
 - completion of a course of at least 3 years duration leading to the award of a tertiary qualification at institutions using English as the language of instruction;
 - that the applicant holds General Certificate of Education (GCE) "A" Levels from Britain or Singapore with a minimum C pass (the passes must specifically include the subjects English Language or Literature, or Use of English);
 - that the applicant holds International Baccalaureate – full Diploma in English Medium;
 - that the applicant holds Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English – minimum C pass;
 - that the applicant holds Hong Kong Advanced Level Examinations (HKALE) including a minimum C pass in Use of English;
 - that the applicant holds STPM 920 (Malaysia) – A or B pass in English Literature;
 - that the applicant holds University of Cambridge in collaboration with University of Malaya, General Certificate of English (GCE) "A" levels with a minimum C pass. The passes must specifically include the subjects English or General Paper;
 - that the applicant holds South African Matriculation Certificate, including a minimum D pass in English (Higher Grade);
 - that the applicant holds South African Senior Certificate, including a minimum D pass in English (Higher Grade), endorsed with the words 'matriculation exempt';
 - that the applicant holds a New Zealand Tertiary Entrance Qualification gained on completing the seventh form; or
 - iv. are citizens of Samoa who have applications assessed under the Parent Category at the Apia Immigration New Zealand (INZ) branch and, after an interview, satisfy an immigration officer that they have sufficient English language ability.
- c. When applying (b) (iv) above, the interviewing immigration officer determines if applicants meet the minimum English language requirement by assessing whether they are able to:
 - i. read English; and
 - ii. understand and respond to questions in English; and
 - iii. maintain an English language conversation about themselves, their family or their background.
- d. In any case, an immigration officer may require any or each applicant to provide an English language test result in terms of (b)(i) above. In such cases, the English language test result will be used to determine whether the applicant meets the minimum standard of English.

Note: Full consideration must be given to all evidence of English language ability provided before a decision to request an English language test result under F4.15.1 (d) is made. If an English language test result is requested, the reason(s) behind the decision must be clearly documented and conveyed to the applicant.

F4.15.5 Pre-purchase of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tuition

- a. Instead of meeting the minimum standard of English, any applicant may pre-purchase ESOL tuition. ESOL tuition must be pre-purchased from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) by paying the required charge to INZ (who collect this charge on behalf of TEC).
- b. Applicants must pay any ESOL charge due, sign the ESOL Agreement and return it to INZ within the time specified by INZ before a resident visa is able to be granted (see F4.15.20).

F4.15.10 The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased by applicants

For the purposes of the Parent Category, the amount of ESOL tuition to be paid is NZ\$1,735 per applicant, which gives an ESOL entitlement of NZ\$1,533.33 per applicant.

F4.15.15 TEC to arrange ESOL tuition

- a. The applicant is entitled to tuition to the value of the ESOL entitlement of the ESOL tuition charge. This does not include the INZ and TEC administration costs.
- b. TEC advises the applicant of the list of suitable ESOL tuition providers in New Zealand, from which the applicant may nominate one of their own choice.
- c. TEC will manage the contract between the ESOL tuition provider and the applicant.
- d. The applicant must advise TEC of their New Zealand address.

F4.15.20 Applicant's agreement with TEC

- a. Each applicant who pre-purchases ESOL tuition must sign an Agreement with TEC by which they agree, among other things, that they understand the rules for taking up ESOL tuition in New Zealand and the refund provisions.
- b. The content of the Agreement is determined by INZ and TEC.
- c. Included with the Agreement is a Schedule that sets out the personal details of the applicant and the amount of tuition to be purchased.

F4.15.25 Completion of Agreement

- a. When an application for a resident visa is approved in principle, applicants will be given two copies of the Agreement to complete for each person in the application undertaking ESOL tuition.
- b. After completion of the Agreement, one copy is retained by the applicant, and the other copy is returned to the relevant INZ processing office with the tuition fee(s).
- c. If the Agreement is not signed and returned to INZ within the time specified by INZ, the resident visa application must be declined.
- d. The INZ copy of the Agreement should be sent to the TEC.

F4.15.30 Failure to pre-purchase ESOL tuition

Any ESOL tuition fee must be paid before a resident visa may be granted. If the tuition fee is not paid to the INZ within the specified time, the resident visa application must be declined.

F4.15.35 Limited period to use ESOL tuition

- a. If ESOL tuition is purchased, the applicant must complete the tuition within five years from the date of payment.
- b. ESOL tuition will not be available without further payment, nor will refunds be given, to applicants who do not take up ESOL tuition within the time limits specified at F4.15.35 (a).

F4.15.40 Refund of ESOL tuition fees

- a. If ESOL tuition fees are paid but the applicant does not take up residence by being a residence class visa holder in New Zealand, a refund of the ESOL tuition fee may be granted upon request to INZ. The request must be made in writing.
- b. Requests for refunds must be declined if they are made more than six months after the expiry of the travel conditions allowing travel to New Zealand.
- c. Immigration officers considering requests for refunds must be satisfied that none of the applicants included in the application have:
 - i. entered New Zealand as residents; or
 - ii. hold resident visas with current travel conditions.
- d. The person who paid the ESOL tuition fee will only be refunded the ESOL entitlement. INZ and TEC administration costs will not be refunded.

F4.15.45 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	4.0 or more in at least two of the four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) Or An overall score of 5.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	At least two of the following skill scores: Listening: 2 or more Reading: 2 or more Writing: 11 or more Speaking: 11 or more Or An overall score of 35 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	29 or more in at least two of the four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) Or An overall score of 36 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	142 or more in at least two of the four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) Or An overall score of 154 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade D or higher in at least two of the four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) Or Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)

SM4.5 Minimum standard of English language for principal applicants

- a. Applications under the Skilled Migrant Category must be declined if the principal applicant has not met the minimum standard of English.
- b. Principal applicants under the Skilled Migrant Category meet the minimum standard of English if they provide acceptable English language test results no more than two years old at the time the application is lodged, as set out at SM4.5.5.
- c. Other evidence that a principal applicant meets the minimum standard of English is:
 - i. citizenship of Canada, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America, provided the applicant has spent at least five years in work or education in one or more of those countries or Australia or New Zealand; or
 - ii. a recognised qualification ([SM8](#)) comparable to a New Zealand level 7 bachelor's degree and gained in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America as a result of study undertaken for at least two academic years in one or more of those countries; or
 - iii. a recognised qualification ([SM8](#)) comparable to a New Zealand qualification at level 8 or above and gained in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America as a result of study undertaken for at least one academic year in one or more of those countries.
- d. In any case, an immigration officer may require a principal applicant to provide an English language test result in terms of paragraph SM4.5 (b). In such cases, the English language test result will be used to determine whether the principal applicant meets the minimum standard of English.

SM4.5.1 Decision to request English language test

Full consideration must be given to all evidence of English language ability provided before a decision to request an English language test under SM4.5 (d) is made. If an English language test result is requested the reason(s) behind the decision must be clearly documented and conveyed to the applicant.

SM4.5.5 Acceptable English language test results for principal applicants

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 6.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 79 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 58 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 176 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade B or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade B or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

SM4.10 English language requirements for non-principal applicants

- a. Unless [SM4.15](#) applies, partners and dependent children aged 16 and older who are included in a Skilled Migrant Category application must:
 - i. show that they meet a minimum standard of English to enable successful settlement in New Zealand; or
 - ii. pre-purchase ESOL tuition (see SM4.20).
- b. Non-principal applicants meet the minimum standard of English if they provide English language test results, no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged, as set out at SM4.10.5.
- c. Other evidence that a non-principal applicant meets the minimum standard of English is:
 - i. citizenship of Canada, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America, provided the applicant has spent at least five years in work or education in one or more of those countries or Australia or New Zealand; or
 - ii. a recognised qualification ([SM8](#)) comparable to a New Zealand level 7 bachelor's degree and gained in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America as a result of study undertaken for at least two academic years in one or more of those countries; or
 - iii. a recognised qualification ([SM8](#)) comparable to a New Zealand qualification at level 8 or above and gained in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom or the United States of America as a result of study undertaken for at least one academic year in one or more of those countries.
- d. In any case, an immigration officer may require a non-principal applicant to provide an English language test result in terms of paragraph SM4.10 (b). In such cases, the English language test result will be used to determine whether the applicant meets the minimum standard of English.

SM4.10.1 Decision to request English language test

Full consideration must be given to all evidence of English language ability provided before a decision to request an English language test under SM4.10 (d) is made. If an English language test result is requested, the reason(s) behind the decision must be clearly documented and conveyed to the applicant.

SM4.10.5 Acceptable English language test results for non-principal applicants

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 5.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 35 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 36 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 154 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

SM4.20 Pre-purchase of ESOL tuition

- a. Instead of meeting the minimum standard of English, non-principal applicants may pre-purchase ESOL tuition. ESOL tuition must be pre-purchased from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) by paying the required charge to Immigration New Zealand (INZ), who collect this charge on behalf of TEC.
- b. Applicants must pay any ESOL charge due, sign the ESOL Agreement and return it to INZ within the time specified by INZ before a resident visa is granted.

SM4.20.1 Amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased by non-principal applicants

- a. The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased is determined by the applicant's English language test results according to the following table.

Test	Overall score	Charge to be paid	ESOL entitlement
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	4.5 or more but less than 5.0	NZ\$1,735	NZ\$1,531.82
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	32 to 34		
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	30 to 35		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	147 to 153		
Occupational English Test (OET)	Not applicable (see SM4.10.5)		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	4.0 or more, but less than 4.5	NZ\$3,420	NZ\$3,063.64
TOEFL iBT	31		
PTE Academic	29		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	142 to 146		
OET	Failed to achieve Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking), but achieved at least Grade D in all four skills*		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	3.5 or more, but less than 4.0	NZ\$5,110	NZ\$4,600.00
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Less than 3.5	NZ\$6,795	NZ\$6,131.82
TOEFL iBT	Less than 31		

PTE Academic	Less than 29		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Less than 142		
OET	Failed to achieve at least Grade D in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*		

* A score in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

- b. The charge includes the applicant's ESOL tuition entitlement, as well as the INZ and TEC administration costs.
- c. If an applicant has not submitted English language test results when requested, the maximum charge of NZ\$6,795 applies.

SM4.20.5 TEC to arrange ESOL tuition

- a. The applicant is entitled to tuition to the value of the ESOL entitlement component of the ESOL tuition charge. This does not include the INZ and TEC administration costs.
- b. TEC will advise the applicant of the list of suitable ESOL tuition providers in New Zealand, from which the applicant may nominate one or more of their own choice.
- c. TEC will manage the contract between the ESOL tuition provider and the applicant.
- d. The applicant must advise TEC of a contact email address.

SM4.20.10 Applicant's agreement with TEC

- a. Each applicant who pre-purchases ESOL tuition must sign an Agreement with TEC by which they agree, among other things, that they understand the rules for taking up ESOL tuition in New Zealand and the refund provisions.
- b. The content of the Agreement is determined by INZ and TEC.
- c. Included with the Agreement is a Schedule that sets out the personal details of the applicant and the amount of tuition to be purchased.

SM4.20.15 Completion of Agreement

- a. When an application for a resident visa is approved in principle, applicants will be given two copies of the Agreement to complete for each person in the application undertaking the ESOL tuition.
- b. After completion of the Agreement, one copy is retained by the applicant, and the other copy is returned to INZ processing office with the tuition fee(s).
- c. If the Agreement is not signed and returned to INZ within the time specified by INZ, the resident visa application must be declined.
- d. The INZ copy of the Agreement should be sent to the TEC.

SM4.20.20 Failure to pre-purchase ESOL tuition

Any ESOL tuition charge due must be paid before the grant of a resident visa. If it is not paid to INZ within the specified time, the resident visa application will be declined.

SM4.20.25 Limited period to use ESOL tuition

- a. If ESOL tuition is purchased, the applicant must complete the tuition within five years from the date of payment.
- b. ESOL tuition will not be available without further payment, nor will refunds be given, to applicants who do not take up ESOL tuition within the five year time limit.

SM4.20.30 Refunds of ESOL tuition money

- a. If ESOL tuition money is paid but the principal applicant and partner and dependent children do not take up residence, a refund may be granted upon request to INZ. The request must be made in writing.
- b. Requests for refunds will be declined if they are made more than six months after the expiry of the travel conditions allowing travel to New Zealand.

- c. Immigration officers considering requests for refunds must be satisfied that the principal applicant and partner and dependent children included in the application:
 - i. have not entered New Zealand as residents; and
 - ii. do not hold resident visas with current travel conditions.
- d. The person who paid the fee will be refunded only the ESOL entitlement. INZ and TEC administration costs will not be refunded.

SM6.10 Skilled Employment

- a. Skilled employment is employment that meets a minimum remuneration threshold and requires specialist, technical or management expertise obtained through:
 - i. the completion of recognised relevant qualifications; or
 - ii. relevant work experience; or
 - iii. the completion of recognised relevant qualifications and/or work experience.
- b. Assessment of whether employment is skilled for the purposes of the Skilled Migrant Category is primarily based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) which associates skill levels with each occupation, and the level of remuneration for the employment.

Note: The ANZSCO is available at www.immigration.govt.nz/ANZSCO

SM6.10.5 Skilled employment in an occupation included in the ANZSCO

Current employment in New Zealand or an offer of employment in New Zealand will be assessed as skilled if:

- a. the occupation is described in the ANZSCO as:
 - i. a skill level 1, 2 or 3 occupation and the remuneration for that employment is \$24.29 per hour or above (or the equivalent annual salary); or
 - ii. a skill level 4 or 5 occupation and the remuneration for that employment is \$36.44 per hour or above (or the equivalent annual salary); and
- b. the principal applicant can demonstrate that their employment substantially matches the description for that occupation as set out in the ANZSCO (see SM6.10.5.1); and
- c. the employment is full-time (employment is full-time if it amounts to, on average, 30 hours per week over an agreed pay period); and
- d. the applicant is suitably qualified by training and/or experience for that occupation, as set out in SM6.10.20 or SM6.10.25; and
- e. an immigration officer is satisfied that the employment is:
 - i. genuine; and
 - ii. ongoing; and
 - iii. sustainable by the employer at the specified level of remuneration (see [SM6.30.10](#)).

SM6.10.5.1 Assessment of 'substantial match'

- a. For the purpose of SM6.10.5 (b) above, assessment of 'substantial match' involves a determination of whether the applicant's employment is substantially consistent with the ANZSCO 'Occupation' (6-digit) level description for that occupation and with the tasks listed at the ANZSCO 'Unit Group' (4-digit) level description for that occupational group, excluding any tasks which are not relevant to the 'Occupation' description.
- b. To be considered a substantial match to an occupation, the tasks that are relevant to the applicant's employment role must comprise most of that role.

For example: An applicant's employment in the occupation 'Disabilities service officer' (411712) is not required to include the task set out at the ANZSCO Unit Group (4-digit) classification level for 'Welfare support workers' of "supervising offenders on probation and parole". Other listed tasks that are relevant to the role of a "Disabilities services officer" must comprise most of their role.

Note: Where no description is stated at the ANZSCO Occupation (6-digit) level, an immigration officer should refer to the ANZSCO Unit Group (4-digit) description or higher ANZSCO group (3-digit or 2-digit) level as necessary to determine a substantial match with the stated occupation. Similarly, where no ANZSCO core tasks are listed at the ANZSCO Unit Group (4-digit) level, an immigration officer should refer to a higher ANZSCO group (3-digit or 2-digit) level as necessary to locate core tasks ANZSCO associates with the stated occupation.

Note: Determining whether an applicant's employment substantially matches an ANZSCO occupation description may require consideration of the scope and scale of the employer's organisation and operation (the size of the operation, the number of staff and managers, and whether management functions are centralised at a head office or undertaken by other managers).

SM6.10.15 Occupations not included in the ANZSCO

Where an immigration officer is satisfied that an applicant's employment has no corresponding description in the ANZSCO, the employment may be assessed as skilled if:

- a. the remuneration for that employment is \$36.44 per hour or above (or the equivalent annual salary); and

- b. the employment is full-time because it amounts to, on average, at least 30 hours per week over an agreed pay period; and
- c. the applicant is suitably qualified by training and/or experience for that occupation, as set out in SM6.10.25; and
- d. an immigration officer is satisfied that the employment is:
 - i. genuine; and
 - ii. ongoing; and
 - iii. sustainable by the employer at the specified level of remuneration (see [SM6.30.10](#)).

SM6.10.20 Suitably qualified by training and/or experience: skill level 1, 2 and 3 occupations

- a. Where the applicant's employment is in an occupation described in the ANZSCO as at skill level 1, 2 or 3 the applicant will be assessed as being suitably qualified by training and/or experience if:
 - i. they hold a relevant recognised qualification that is at, or above, the qualification level on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF) (see [SM8.10](#)) that corresponds to the indicative skill level described for their skill level 1, 2 or 3 occupation in the ANZSCO; or
 - ii. they have the relevant work experience that the ANZSCO indicates may substitute for the required qualification; or
 - iii. the employment is in an occupation included on the Long Term Skill Shortage List (LTSSL) (see [Appendix 4](#)) and the applicant meets the relevant requirements specified in column three of the LTSSL for that occupation; or
 - iv. the employment is in an occupation that requires New Zealand registration by law to be undertaken and is included at [SM10.5](#) and the applicant holds evidence of full or provisional registration in that occupation in New Zealand.
- b. Despite (a) (ii) above, applicants in skill level 1 occupations may substitute the required qualification with five years of relevant work experience.
- c. Despite (a)(i) and (ii) and (b) above, applicants employed as 'Pharmacy technicians' (ANZSCO 311215) will only be awarded points for skilled employment in New Zealand in that occupation if they hold the required New Zealand qualification (a National Certificate in Pharmacy (Technician), or the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Pharmacy Technician) Level 4 or 5 or the New Zealand Certificate in Pharmacy (Specialist Technician) Level 6), as required by the Director-General of Health.

SM6.10.25 Suitably qualified by training and/or experience: other occupations

Where the applicant's employment is in an occupation described in the ANZSCO as a skill level 4 or 5 occupation, or their employment is assessed under the provisions of SM6.10.15, they will be assessed as being suitably qualified by training and/or experience if:

- a. they hold a relevant recognised qualification which is at, or above, the level of a NZQF Level 4 Certificate (see [SM8.10](#)); or
- b. they hold a relevant recognised NZQF level 3 qualification included on the List of Qualifications Exempt from Assessment (see [Appendix 3](#)); or
- c. they have three years of relevant work experience; or
- d. the employment is in an occupation included on the LTSSL (see [Appendix 4](#)) and the applicant meets the relevant requirements specified in column three of the LTSSL for that occupation; or
- e. the employment is in an occupation that requires New Zealand registration by law to be undertaken and is included at [SM10.5](#) and the applicant holds evidence of full or provisional registration in that occupation in New Zealand.

RW5.1 Minimum standard of English

- a. Principal applicants under Religious Worker residence instructions and partners and dependent children aged 16 and older under all Residence from Work categories meet the minimum standard of English if:
- i. they provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at RW5.1.1 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged); or
 - ii. they provide evidence that they have an English-speaking background (see [RW5.5](#)) which is accepted by an immigration officer as meeting the minimum standard of English; or
 - iii. they provide other evidence which satisfies an immigration officer that, taking account of that evidence and all the circumstances of the application, the person meets the minimum standard of English. These circumstances may include but are not limited to:
 - o the country in which the applicant currently resides;
 - o the country(ies) in which the applicant has previously resided;
 - o the duration of residence in each country;
 - o whether the applicant speaks any language other than English;
 - o whether members of the applicant's family speak English;
 - o whether members of the applicant's family speak any language other than English;
 - o the nature of the applicant's current or previous employment (if any) and whether that is or was likely to require skill in English language;
 - o the nature of the applicant's qualifications (if any) and whether the obtaining of those qualifications was likely to require skill in English language.
- b. In any case under (a) (ii) or (iii), an immigration officer may require an applicant to provide an English language test result in terms of paragraph (a)(i). In such cases, the English language test result will be used to determine whether the applicant meets the minimum standard of English.

Note:

~ Full consideration must be given to all evidence of English language ability provided before a decision to request an English language test result under RW5.1(b) is made. If an English language test result is requested, the reason(s) behind the decision must be clearly documented and conveyed to the applicant.
 ~ The tests recognised by Immigration New Zealand as set out at RW5.1.1 provide an assessment of ability in English, including performance in listening, reading, writing and speaking.

RW5.1.1 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 5.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 35 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 36 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 154 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

RW5.40 The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased

- a. The amount of ESOL tuition to be pre-purchased is determined by the applicant's English language test results according to the following table.

Test	Overall score	Charge to be paid	ESOL entitlement
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	4.5 or more but less than 5.0	NZ\$1,735	NZ\$1,531.82
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	32 to 34		
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	30 to 35		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	147 to 153		
Occupational English Test (OET)	Not applicable (see RW5.1.1)		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	4.0 or more, but less than 4.5	NZ\$3,420	NZ\$3,063.64
TOEFL iBT	31		
PTE Academic	29		
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	142 to 146		
OET	Failed to achieve Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking), but achieved at least Grade D in all four skills*		
IELTS - General or Academic Module	3.5 or more, but less than 4.0	NZ\$5,110	NZ\$4,600.00
IELTS - General or Academic Module	Less than 3.5	NZ\$6,795	NZ\$6,131.82
TOEFL iBT	Less than 31		
PTE Academic	Less than 29		

<p>B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE))</p> <p>or</p> <p>B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)</p>	<p>Less than 142</p>		
<p>OET</p>	<p>Failed to achieve at least Grade D in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*</p>		

* A score in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

- b. The charge includes the applicant's ESOL tuition entitlement, as well as INZ and TEC administration costs.
- c. If an applicant has not submitted an English language test result when requested, the maximum charge of NZ\$6,795 applies.

S4.15 Residence Category for victims of people trafficking

S4.15.1 Objective

The objectives of the residence category for victims of people trafficking are to:

- a. enable victims of people trafficking to remain in New Zealand where they cannot return home because they will be endangered, at risk of being re-victimised or at risk of suffering significant social stigma and financial hardship as a result of being trafficked; and
- b. recognise New Zealand's international obligations, particularly to:
 - i. offer protection and assistance to victims of people trafficking who are likely to be suffering the effects of trauma and abuse; and
 - ii. enable trafficking offenders to be prosecuted.

S4.15.5 Who is eligible for a resident visa for victims of people trafficking

- a. Applicants in New Zealand may be granted a resident visa, if they:
 - i. hold a special temporary visa for victims of people trafficking (see WI16, U10.5 and V3.135); and
 - ii. have certification from the New Zealand Police (the Police) that they are believed to be a victim of people trafficking; and
 - iii. have certification from the Police that they have not obstructed the police investigation of their trafficking case during the validity of their special temporary visa; and
 - iv. are unable to return to their home country (see S4.15.10 below); and
 - v. meet health and character requirements (see A4 and A5).
- b. Despite (a) above, child applicants are exempt from providing a certification from the Police that they have not obstructed the police investigation.

Note:

- A child victim of people trafficking is a person who was under the age of 18 at the time they were identified as a victim of people trafficking.
- A child victim may be in New Zealand unaccompanied, or may be a victim of people trafficking together with their parent(s).

S4.15.10 Evidence of inability to return to the home country

- a. Applicants must provide evidence **either** in the form of documents, or information provided at an interview with an immigration officer, that if they returned to their home country they would be:
 - i. endangered; or
 - ii. at risk of being re-victimised; or
 - iii. at risk of suffering significant social stigma and financial hardshipas a consequence of being trafficked.
- b. INZ may refer to any relevant information when determining an applicant's ability to return to their home country.

S4.15.15 Making an application

- a. Applications must be made in the prescribed manner (see [R2.40](#)) but an appropriately delegated immigration officer may waive:
 - i. the application fee; and
 - ii. the requirement to provide police certificates, if these are not available from a particular country.
- b. Where police certificates are not available, the applicant must make and provide a separate statutory declaration, in line with instructions at [A5.10.1](#).

S4.15.20 Determination of applications

- a. Applications will be determined by immigration officers who have received specialist training on this category.
- b. Applications under this category will be given priority processing.
- c. Determination of an application by a child applicant should be based on 'best interest of the child' considerations. Establishing the 'best interest of the child' will be done on a case-by-case basis, with advice from Child Youth and Family.

V3.10 Partners and dependent children of student or work visa holders

Subject to the provisions of [E4.5](#):

- a. Partners (see [E4.1.20](#)) of student or work visa holders may be granted visitor visas if that type of visa is appropriate to their needs for the currency of the partner's visa.
- b. Dependent children (see [E4.1.10](#)) of student or work visa holders may be granted visitor visas if that type of visa is appropriate to their needs for the currency of the parent's visa.
- c. Despite (a) and (b) above, partners and dependent children of the following persons are not eligible for the grant of a visa under these instructions:
 - i. people granted an Essential Skills work visa where the employment has been assessed as lower-skilled ([WK3.5.1](#)), unless V3.10.1 below applies; or
 - ii. people granted a work visa under the instructions for Foreign Crew of Fishing Vessels (see [WJ](#)); or
 - iii. people granted a work visa under the instructions for Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) (see [WH1](#)); or
 - iv. people granted a work visa under the instructions for Supplementary Seasonal Employment (SSE) (see [WH3](#)); or
 - v. people granted a work visa under the Silver Fern Job Search Instructions ([WL2](#)); or
 - vi. people granted a work visa under the Skilled Migrant Category Job Search Instructions (see [WR5](#)); or
 - vii. people granted a work visa under a Working Holiday Scheme (see [WI2](#)); or
 - viii. people granted a work visa as a domestic staff member of diplomatic, consular or official staff (see [WI4](#)).
- d. Partners and dependent children of people granted work to residence visas must meet health and character requirements for residence class visa applications as set out at [A4](#) and [A5.15](#) to [A5.25](#).

V3.10.1 Holders of Essential Skills work visas for lower-skilled employment who are able to support visitor visas for their family members

- a. Partners and dependent children of an Essential Skills work visa holder whose employment has been assessed as lower-skilled may be granted a visitor visa under these instructions if:
 - i. the applicant held a visa on the basis of their relationship to the Essential Skills work visa holder on 28 August 2017; and
 - ii. the Essential Skills work visa holder has not been subject to a stand-down period (see [WK3.20.5](#)).
- b. The applicant (who is the partner of an Essential Skills work visa holder whose employment has been assessed as lower-skilled) may be granted a visitor visa under these instructions if the Essential Skills work visa holder:
 - i. previously held a student visa that made them eligible to support a partner for a work visa ([WF4.1](#)); and
 - ii. held a post-study work visa ([WD](#)) based on that student visa; and
 - iii. supported the applicant for a visa based on the relationship while holding a post-study work visa.
- c. The applicant (who is the dependent child of an Essential Skills work visa holder whose employment has been assessed as lower-skilled) may be granted a visitor visa under these instructions if the Essential Skills work visa holder parent:
 - i. previously held a student visa that made them eligible to support a child for a student visa ([U8.25](#)); and
 - ii. subsequently held a post-study work visa ([WD](#)) based on that student visa; and
 - iii. supported the applicant for a visa based on their relationship while holding a post-study work visa.

V3.10.5 Dependent children of Essential Skills work visa holders

- a. A dependent child of a holder of a work visa granted under the Essential Skills work instructions (WK) after 30 November 2009 will only be granted a visitor visa if the minimum income threshold is met.
- b. Despite (a) above, dependent children born in New Zealand after 30 November 2009 will not be tested against the threshold until their parent(s) next applies for an Essential Skills work visa.
- c. Despite (a) and (b) above, the minimum income threshold does not apply if the dependent child's parent(s):
 - i. have held any temporary work visa before 30 November 2009; and
 - ii. have remained on a valid visa from 30 November 2009 until the date of the dependent child's application under V3.10.

V3.10.10 Minimum income threshold

- a. The minimum income threshold is NZ\$37,090.68 gross per annum.
- b. The minimum income threshold must be met and maintained wholly by the salary or wages of a parent or parents holding an Essential Skills work visa.
- c. Evidence must be provided of the Essential Skills work visa holder's current salary or wages.

- d. Despite (a) above, if the dependent child is included in a Samoan Quota or Pacific Access Category application, the minimum income threshold is the amount specified in Samoan Quota or Pacific Access Category instructions.
- e. If a visa application is declined under these instructions and the dependent child becomes unlawful the parent(s) may become liable for deportation.
- f. If the parent(s) do not maintain the minimum income threshold for the duration of their or their dependent child's visa, both the child and the parent(s) may become liable for deportation.

Note: Where both parents hold Essential Skills work visas, their income may be combined to meet the minimum income threshold.

V3.10.15 Dependent children of work visa holders under Religious Worker instructions

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 56, 157

- a. Dependent children of a holder of a work visa under Religious Worker instructions ([WM](#)) will only be granted a visitor visa if:
 - i. the minimum income threshold of NZ\$37,090.68 gross per annum is met by the Religious Worker visa holder and their partner; or
 - ii. the religious organisation sponsoring the principal applicant agrees to sponsor the dependent children.
- b. Under (a)(i) above:
 - i. the minimum income threshold must be met and maintained by the salary, wages or a stipend received by the Religious Worker visa holder and their partner; and
 - ii. evidence must be provided of the current salary, wages or stipend of the Religious Worker visa holder and their partner; and
 - iii. if a visa application is declined under these instructions and the dependent child becomes unlawful the parents may become liable for deportation; and
 - iv. if the parents do not maintain the minimum income threshold for the duration of their visa or their dependent child's visa, both the child and the parents may become liable for deportation.

Note: The income of both parents may be combined to meet the minimum income threshold.

W2.10 Generic work visa instructions

Unless specifically stated otherwise elsewhere in work visa instructions the requirements set out below apply to all applicants for work visas and all employers wishing to employ them.

W2.10.1 Requirements for applicants

Unless specifically stated otherwise all applicants for work visas must:

- a. meet the requirements under Generic Temporary Entry instructions for:
 - i. lodging an application for temporary entry as set out at [E4](#); and
 - ii. bona fide applicants as set out at [E5](#); and
 - iii. health and character as set out at [A4](#) and [A5](#); and
- b. produce evidence to show that:
 - i. they are suitably qualified by training and experience to do the job they have been offered; and
 - ii. they can meet any of the necessary **requirements to obtain full or provisional** New Zealand registration (see [SM10](#) for the list of occupations requiring registration); or
 - iii. they have an offer of employment and evidence from the New Zealand Medical or Dental Council that they are eligible for registration subject only to attending a personal interview with a Council representative within one month of their arrival in New Zealand; and

Notes:

~ For medical practitioners, registration within a 'special purpose scope of practice' is not registration for the purpose of a residence or work to residence application.

~ Applicants who have been granted a visa in order to obtain registration as a nurse may only work in an occupation which is ANZSCO Skill Level 1 or 2.

- c. not have held a work visa as a Primary Sector Trainee ([WI18](#)) in the two years prior to their current work visa application.

W2.10.5 General requirements for employers

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 350, 351

- a. All employers wishing to employ non-New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holders to work in New Zealand must comply with all relevant employment and immigration law in force in New Zealand. Compliance with relevant New Zealand employment and immigration law includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. paying employees no less than the appropriate statutory minimum wage or other contracted industry standard; and
 - ii. meeting holiday and special leave requirements or other minimum statutory criteria, e.g. health and safety obligations; and
 - iii. only employing people who have authority to work in New Zealand (see W2.10.6 below); and
 - iv. meeting the requirements of W2.10.15.
- b. Evidence or confirmation of past and future compliance with employment and immigration law may include but is not limited to:
 - i. employment agreements with workers which demonstrate compliance, including, but not limited to, that all mandatory terms and conditions are included in the employment agreement, that any deductions are reasonable, and that any minimum standards included comply with employment legislation; and
 - ii. a recognised history with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment of past compliance.
- c. Immigration officers may also request other evidence or confirmation of the employer's past and future compliance with employment and immigration law.
- d. To ensure that the objective of work visa instructions at [W1\(b\)\(iii\)](#) is met, immigration officers may require employers to provide evidence that the rate of pay offered to non-New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder workers is not less than the market rate for New Zealand workers in that occupation.
- e. INZ will decline an application for a work visa or employer status (such as accreditation, recognised seasonal employer, agreement to recruit or approval in principle) where the employer does not have a history of compliance with employment law or where the employer is included on a list of non-compliant employers maintained by the Labour Inspectorate (see W2.10.15 and [Appendix 10](#)).

Notes:

~W2.10.5(d) applies regardless of whether a labour market test (including where an occupation is listed on the Essential Skills in Demand Lists (see [WK3.10](#))) has been met.

~INZ will decline an application for a work visa or entry permission where it considers that granting the work

visa or entry permission would undermine the integrity, credibility or reputation of the New Zealand immigration or employment relations systems.

W2.10.6 Duty of employers to only employ people who have authority to work in New Zealand

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 350, 351

- a. All employers wishing to employ non-New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holders have a duty to only employ people who are entitled to work in New Zealand. This duty includes employing people only in accordance with the employment-related conditions of their visas, if such conditions are imposed (such as a specific employer, a specific position, or remuneration above the threshold required for the holder's Essential Skills skill-band).
- b. Employers are liable for prosecution under section 350 of the Immigration Act 2009 if they:
 - i. allow or continue to allow any person to work in that employer's service, knowing that the person is not entitled under the Immigration Act 2009 to do that work (see also [D7.40](#)); or
 - ii. allow a person who is not entitled under the Immigration Act 2009 to work in the employer's service to do that work.
- c. It is not a defence to b(ii) above that the employer did not know that the person was not entitled to do that work, except where the employer has taken reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to ascertain a person's entitlement to do the work.
- d. An employer is treated as knowing that an employee is not entitled under the Immigration Act 2009 to do any particular work if, at any time in the preceding 12 months (whether before or after the commencement of section 350 of the Immigration Act 2009), the employer has been informed of that fact in writing by an immigration officer.
- e. Employers may ascertain an employee or potential employee's entitlement to work for them by:
 - i. sighting suitable documentation proving that person's entitlement to work in New Zealand; or
 - ii. utilising the online VisaView system (www.immigration.govt.nz/VisaView); or
 - iii. contacting the INZ Contact Centre; or
 - iv. any combination of the above.
- f. Suitable documentation for (e)(i) above includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. for non-New Zealand citizens:
 - o a passport with a valid work visa;
 - o a passport with a valid temporary-entry class visa (other than a work visa) with a variation of conditions to work;
 - o a passport with a valid residence class visa;
 - o an Australian passport;
 - o an eVisa allowing work (and evidence of the visa-holder's identity);
 - ii. for New Zealand citizens:
 - o a New Zealand passport;
 - o a New Zealand birth certificate confirming New Zealand citizenship, and photo identification;
 - o a New Zealand citizenship certificate and photo identification.
 - o a non-New Zealand passport with an INZ endorsement confirming New Zealand citizenship
- g. Where an employer takes reasonable precautions and exercises due diligence to ascertain an employee's entitlement to do that work, they should keep a record of the steps they took and evidence of the employee's entitlement to work for them.
- h. If an employee's entitlement to work is for a limited period, an employer is liable under (b) if the employment continues after the employee is no longer entitled to work.

Notes:

~ Suitable documentation may also include evidence of a permit allowing work, issued under the Immigration Act 1987.

~ The defence available under s 39(1B) of the Immigration Act 1987 of holding a tax code declaration (IRD form IR330) signed by a person before or when employment began, stating that this person is entitled to undertake employment in the employer's service, is no longer valid.

W2.10.10 Offers of Employment

All offers of employment must be genuine and sustainable. Unless specifically stated otherwise all offers of employment should contain the following information:

- a. name, address, telephone and/or fax number of the employer; and
- b. name and address of the person to whom the job is offered; and

- c. a full job description including:
 - i. the job title or designation; and
 - ii. the address of the place of employment if different from that in paragraph (a) above; and
 - iii. the type of work, duties and responsibilities involved; and
 - iv. details of pay and conditions of employment; and
 - v. the hours of work; and
 - vi. any qualifications, experience or training required; and
 - vii. the duration of the job; and
 - viii. how long the job offer is open.
- d. To determine whether an offer of employment is genuine and sustainable, and to ensure that the objective of work visa instructions at W1(b)(iii) is met, immigration officers may consider whether the salary or wages offered meet the New Zealand market rate.
- e. INZ will decline an application for a work visa where it considers that the employment was offered as a result of payment made or promised by the applicant (or their agent) to the employer (or their agent) in exchange for securing that offer of employment.

W2.10.15 Compliance with employment law

- a. An employer who supports a visa application, provides an offer of employment in support of a visa application, or applies for employer status must have a history of compliance with employment law.
- b. A history of compliance with employment law includes, but is not limited to, meeting the requirements of the following legislation:
 - o Accident Compensation Act 2001; and
 - o Employment Relations Act 2000; and
 - o Equal Pay Act 1972; and
 - o Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and
 - o Holidays Act 2003; and
 - o Minimum Wage Act 1983; and
 - o Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987; and
 - o Wages Protection Act 1983.
- c. Employers are considered to not have a history of compliance with employment law if they are included on a list of non-compliant employers maintained by the Labour Inspectorate. The rules for inclusion on the list are set out in Appendix 10.
- d. Where an employer has an investigation or case pending with the Labour Inspectorate, the Employment Relations Authority, or the New Zealand courts, an immigration officer should request further information to determine whether an employer is complying with the requirements of employment law.
- e. New employers may be considered to have a history of compliance if:
 - i. they do not appear on the list of non-compliant employers maintained by the Labour Inspectorate; and
 - ii. they can demonstrate they have sound human resources policies and practices; and
 - iii. there is no other information that indicates non-compliance, for example when a person who is on the stand-down list is able to influence employment agreements, practices and policies.
- f. Unless otherwise specified, a visa application or employer request will be declined if:
 - i. it is supported by, or includes a job offer based on employment with, an employer who is included on a list of non-compliant employers; or
 - ii. an immigration officer is otherwise not satisfied the employer meets the requirements of W2.10.15 (a-e) above.

Note: Breaches of employment standards which lead to inclusion on a list of non-compliant employers may still be considered when determining if an employer has a history of compliance with employment law, as required elsewhere in immigration instructions, even if the employer is no longer on the list.

WI2.30 China Working Holiday Scheme

See also *Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 reg 12, sch 1*

- a. This scheme is available to 1000 young citizens of the People's Republic of China annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be citizens of China, ordinarily resident in the People's Republic of China and actually resident there at the time of applying; and
 - ii. have a minimum of NZ\$4,200 available funds for their maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance that will remain current throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. have a senior high school qualification (gao zhong xue li) granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full-time study; and
 - v. show that they have a level of proficiency in English that is deemed to be at least functional, by providing acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI2.30.1 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged); and
 - vi. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\) and \(d\)](#).

Note: For the purposes of these instructions, the evidence required at WI2.30 (b)(iv) must be verified by the China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre (CDGDC) and such verification provided with the qualification

- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa which will allow first entry to New Zealand to be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding six months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).
- f. Further documentation must be lodged by the applicant no later than 30 days from the date of advice from INZ. If documentation is not received by the deadline, the application may be determined on the basis of the information available.

WI2.30.1 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score 5.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 46 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 42 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 162 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

WI2.120 Peru Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 100 young citizens of the Republic of Peru annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be a citizen of the Republic of Peru; and
 - ii. meet the available funds for maintenance requirement set out in WI2.120.1 below; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance to remain in force throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. provide evidence of having completed a minimum of three years' full time study towards a tertiary qualification; and
 - v. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\)](#).

Note: For the purposes of these instructions the evidence required at WI2.120 (b)(iv) must be verified by the Peru Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa with the following conditions:
 - i. if the applicant is outside New Zealand, first entry to New Zealand must be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival; or
 - ii. if the applicant is in New Zealand, the visa will allow work and multiple entry to New Zealand for 12 months.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding three months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).

WI2.120.1 Available funds for maintenance while in New Zealand

Applicants must have available funds for maintenance during the period of their stay in New Zealand of either:

- a. a minimum of NZ\$4,200 if they produce English language test results as follows:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	5.0 or more in Speaking and one other skill area (Listening, Reading, Writing)
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	14 or more in Speaking, and one of the following scores: Listening: 4 or more Reading: 4 or more Writing: 14 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	36 or more in Speaking and one other skill area (Listening, Reading, Writing)
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	154 or more in Speaking and one other skill area (Listening, Reading, Writing)
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in Speaking and one other skill area (Listening, Reading, Writing)

or

- b. a minimum of NZ\$7,000 if they do not meet the English language requirement above.

Note: The English language test results must be no more than two years old at the time the application is lodged.

WI2.122 Philippines Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 100 young citizens of the Republic of the Philippines annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines; and
 - ii. have a minimum of NZ\$4,200 available funds for their maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance to remain in force throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\)](#); and
 - v. have a tertiary qualification granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full-time university study; and
 - vi. have a level of proficiency in English that is assessed as at least functional (see WI2.122.1).
- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa with the following conditions:
 - i. if the applicant is outside New Zealand, first entry to New Zealand must be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival; or
 - ii. if the applicant is in New Zealand, the visa will allow work and multiple entry to New Zealand for 12 months.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding three months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).

WI2.122.1 Proficiency in English

For the purpose of these instructions an applicant's proficiency in English is deemed to be at least functional if:

- a. they provide evidence that their tertiary qualification was gained from an institution where all tuition was in English; or
- b. they provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI2.122.5 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged).

WI2.122.5 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall band score of 4.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 32 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 30 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score 147 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

WI2.155 Thailand Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 100 young citizens of the Kingdom of Thailand annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be a citizen of the Kingdom of Thailand; and
 - ii. have a minimum of NZ\$7,000 available funds for their maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance to remain in force throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\)](#); and
 - v. provide a letter of support from the Department of Children and Youth; and
 - vi. have a tertiary qualification granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full time study; and
 - vii. have a level of proficiency in English that is assessed as at least functional (see WI2.155.1).
- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa with the following conditions:
 - i. if the applicant is outside New Zealand, first entry to New Zealand must be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival; or
 - ii. if the applicant is in New Zealand, the visa will allow work and multiple entry to New Zealand for 12 months.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding three months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).

WI2.155.1 Proficiency in English

For the purpose of these instructions an applicant's proficiency in English is deemed to be at least functional if they:

- a. provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI2.155.5 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged); or
- b. produce evidence of having completed all primary and at least three years' secondary education where all instruction was in English; or
- c. produce evidence of having completed at least five years' secondary education where all instruction was in English; or
- d. produce evidence of having gained a post-secondary qualification that required at least two years' full-time study or training where all tuition was in English; or
- e. are assessed by way of an interview with an INZ immigration officer who speaks fluent English.

WI2.155.5 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 32 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 30 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 147 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

WI2.157 Turkey Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 100 young citizens of the Republic of Turkey annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be a citizen of the Republic of Turkey; and
 - ii. have a minimum of NZ\$7,000 available funds for their maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance that will remain current throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\)](#); and
 - v. have a tertiary qualification granted in respect of a minimum of four years' full time study; and
 - vi. have a level of proficiency in English that is assessed as at least functional (see WI2.157.1).
- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa with the following conditions:
 - i. if the applicant is outside New Zealand, first entry to New Zealand must be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival; or
 - ii. if the applicant is in New Zealand, the visa will allow work and multiple entry to New Zealand for 12 months.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding three months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).

WI2.157.1 Proficiency in English

- a. For the purpose of these instructions an applicant's proficiency in English is deemed to be at least functional if:
 - i. their tertiary qualification was gained from an institution where all tuition was in English; or
 - ii. they provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI2.157.5 (no more than two years old at the time the application is lodged).
- b. If the tertiary qualification was gained in Turkey, it must have been from one of the universities listed below. Evidence that the language of instruction for the qualification was English must be provided in order for English proficiency to be assessed as functional.
- c. Turkish universities offering instruction in the English language include:
 - i. Bilkent University, Ankara
 - ii. Cankaya University, Ankara
 - iii. Middle East Technical University (METU or ODTU), Ankara
 - iv. Bahcesehir University, Istanbul
 - v. Bogazici University, Istanbul
 - vi. Istanbul Sehir University
 - vii. Istanbul Bilgi University
 - viii. Istanbul Arel University
 - ix. Koc University, Istanbul
 - x. Ozyegin University, Istanbul
 - xi. Sabanci University, Istanbul
 - xii. Yeditepe University, Istanbul
 - xiii. Izmir Ekonomi University
 - xiv. Izmir Institute of Technology (Izmir Yuksek Teknoloji Enstitusu or IYTE)
 - xv. Yasar University, Izmir

WI2.157.5 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 32 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 30 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 147 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

WI2.175 Vietnam Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 100 young citizens of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam annually.
- b. To be eligible for a work visa under this scheme, applicants must:
 - i. be a citizen of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; and
 - ii. have a minimum of NZ\$4,200 available funds for their maintenance during the period of stay in New Zealand; and
 - iii. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance to remain in force throughout their stay in New Zealand; and
 - iv. meet the requirements at [WI2.1.1\(b\)](#); and
 - v. have a tertiary qualification granted in respect of a minimum of three years' full-time university study; and
 - vi. show that they have a level of proficiency in English that is deemed to be at least functional, by providing acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI2.175.1 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged).
- c. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa with the following conditions:
 - i. if the applicant is outside New Zealand, first entry to New Zealand must be made within 12 months of the visa being granted, and the visa will allow work and multiple entries to New Zealand for 12 months from first arrival; or
 - ii. if the applicant is in New Zealand, the visa will allow work and multiple entry to New Zealand for 12 months.
- d. Participants in this scheme must not work for the same employer for a period exceeding three months.
- e. Applicants under this scheme must lodge their application in the prescribed manner ([E4.50](#)).

WI2.175.1 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 4.5 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 32 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 30 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 147 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

WI12 China Special Work Instructions

- a. These instructions allow limited numbers of citizens of the People's Republic of China who are qualified in certain occupations, and who hold a full-time New Zealand job offer in that occupation, to be granted a work visa and entry permission.
- b. To be considered under these instructions the applicant must be one of the following:
 - i. a Chinese chef who has a Chinese Occupational Skills Testing Authority Certificate Level 3 in traditional cuisine; or
 - ii. a Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioner (including a TCM nurse) who has a higher education degree requiring at least three years' successful study in TCM from an institution recognised by the Chinese government; or
 - iii. a Mandarin teachers' aide who has a higher education degree requiring at least three years' successful study; or
 - iv. a Wushu Martial Arts coach with Wushu Grade 3-5 Certificate and a post-compulsory education qualification in either physical education or teaching requiring at least two years' successful study from an institution recognised by the Chinese government; or
 - v. a Wushu Martial Arts coach with Wushu Grade 6-9 Certificate and five years' teaching experience; or
 - vi. a Chinese tour guide who, at the time of application, holds a valid Tour Guide Licence in China, and can demonstrate knowledge of New Zealand and can provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at WI12.1 (no more than two years old at the time the application is lodged).
- c. At any one time, the number of Chinese nationals holding a visa granted for any occupation under these instructions must not exceed the following:
 - i. 200 Chinese chefs;
 - ii. 200 TCM practitioners (including TCM nurses);
 - iii. 150 Mandarin teachers' aides;
 - iv. 150 Chinese Wushu Martial Arts coaches; and
 - v. 100 Chinese tour guides.
- d. To be granted a work visa under these instructions, applicants must:
 - i. provide a completed work visa application form, fee and immigration levy; and
 - ii. have a full-time New Zealand job offer in one of the occupations listed above, which meets the requirements set out in [W2.10](#); and
 - iii. meet the specific qualifications and/or experience requirement for their occupation, as detailed in WI12(b) above; and
 - iv. meet health and character requirements set out in [A4](#) and [A5](#); and
 - v. meet the requirements for bona fide applicants set out in [E5](#).

Note: For the purpose of these instructions the job offer for a Mandarin teacher's aide may meet the requirements at [W2.10.5](#) and [W2.10.10](#) if the applicant presents a letter showing they have been nominated by the Ministries of Education in New Zealand and China.

- e. A labour market check is not required.
- f. Applications for a work visa under these instructions must be lodged in China unless WI12(h) or (j) applies.
- g. Successful applicants will be granted a work visa and entry permission with the following conditions:
 - i. first entry to New Zealand must be made within six months; and
 - ii. the work visa will be valid for multiple entries to New Zealand for a maximum of three years, depending on the length of their job offer.
- h. An application for an initial work visa under these instructions may be lodged by a person who is lawfully in New Zealand on a work or student visa, and who is a:
 - i. TCM practitioner;
 - ii. Mandarin teachers' aide;
 - iii. Wushu Martial Arts coach; or
 - iv. tour guide.
- i. Successful applicants who apply in New Zealand will be granted a work visa with multiple-entry travel conditions for a maximum of three years, depending on the length of their job offer.
- j. If the initial visa is valid for less than three years, a further visa may be granted onshore for the balance of the three-year period, as long as the applicant still meets all the requirements of these instructions.
- k. Work visas granted under these instructions must be endorsed with conditions that allow work only for a specified employer in a specified occupation.

- I. On completion of the three-year period, applicants must remain outside New Zealand for three years before applying for a further visa under these instructions.

Note: These instructions reflect New Zealand's international trade commitments (see [E9](#)).

WI12.1 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	5.0 or more in Listening and Speaking
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	4 or more in Listening and 14 or more in Speaking
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	36 or more in Listening and Speaking
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	154 or more in Listening and Speaking
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in Listening and Speaking

WK2.1 Lodging an Essential Skills work visa application

- a. Applicants for Essential Skills work visas must be lodged in the prescribed manner (see E4.50) and include an Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113) completed by the employer.
- b. Applicants who hold a work visa with remuneration as a condition of that visa (see WK4.5(d)), must include evidence of their remuneration payment, such as Inland Revenue income summaries and bank statements.
- c. Applicants must provide:
 - i. a copy of the proposed employment agreement; and
 - ii. a copy of the signed offer of employment (see [W2.10.10](#)).
- d. Applications made on the basis of an offer of employment in an ANZSCO skill level 4 or 5 occupation must include a valid Skills Match Report prepared by Work and Income, unless:
 - i. the employer holds valid approval in principle for the role identified; or
 - ii. the role is on an Essential Skills in Demand list and the applicant meets the qualification and/or experience requirements; or
 - iii. the role is in the Canterbury region ([WK3.10.20](#)) and evidence of the outcome of engagement with the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub has been included with the visa application; or
 - iv. Work and Income have advised Immigration New Zealand of a regional absolute labour shortage ([WK3.10.1 \(e\)\(i\)](#)); or
 - v. the role is included in a list of occupations published by Work and Income that are exempt from the Skills Match Report process, and meets any additional requirements of that list (e.g. region of employment).

Note: A Skills Match Report may be used to support more than one work visa application, as long as it remains valid. A copy of the Skills Match Report should be included with each visa application.

WK3.10 Determining the availability of New Zealand citizens or residents

- a. New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers are considered to be 'available' if, as a result of a labour market test (see WK3.10.1), an immigration officer establishes that there are:
 - i. suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers who can take up the work on offer (see WK3.10.10); or
 - ii. suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers who can readily be trained to do the work on offer (see WK3.10.15).
- b. Immigration officers will accept that no suitably qualified New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders are available where an occupation is included on the current Long Term Skill Shortage List, Immediate Skill Shortage List or (for employment in the Canterbury region only) Canterbury Skill Shortage List and the applicant's qualification and/or work experience meets the requirements on the list.
- c. It is not relevant to the determination of availability of New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers whether those New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder workers are prepared to do the work on the terms and conditions proposed by the employer.

Notes:

- The Essential Skills in Demand Lists are published on the immigration website at

<http://skillshortages.immigration.govt.nz/>.

- Employment is in the Canterbury region if the entire or principal place of work is within the territorial authorities of Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council or Waimakariri District Council.

WK3.10.1 Labour market tests

- a. When conducting a labour market test an immigration officer must be satisfied that:
 - i. the employer has made a genuine attempt to attract and recruit suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers (see WK3.10.5); and
 - ii. New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers are not available (WK3.10).
- b. Matters an immigration officer may take into account when determining whether or not a labour market test is satisfied include but are not limited to:
 - i. the employer's case in support of an individual worker's application; and
 - ii. evidence of a genuine attempt (see WK3.10.5) on the part of the employer to recruit New Zealand workers by way of advertising and/or use of other appropriate avenues of recruitment likely to attract New Zealand workers; and
 - iii. advice from Work and Income about the availability of New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers to do the work offered; and
 - iv. advice from relevant stakeholders within the particular industry, including unions.
- c. In any particular case an immigration officer may decide to:
 - i. determine the labour market test is satisfied by one or more of the above; or
 - ii. determine that the labour market test is not satisfied by one or more of the above; or
 - iii. make other inquiries.
- d. Despite (c) above, but subject to (e) below, when determining whether there are New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder workers available to undertake work in an ANZSCO Skill Level 4 or 5 occupation, immigration officers must consider advice from Work and Income about the availability of New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers to do the work offered.
- e. The requirement in (d) above does not apply:
 - i. for any period of time where Work and Income has advised INZ of a regional absolute labour shortage for a specified occupation or industry, and the work offered is both for that occupation or industry, and in the region specified; or
 - ii. where the role is included in a list of occupations published by Work and Income that are exempt from the Skills Match Report process, and meets any additional requirements of that list (e.g. region of employment).

WK3.10.5 Definition of 'genuine attempts'

- a. For the purpose of these instructions an employer is considered to have made genuine attempts to recruit suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers if:
 - i. any specifications or requirements stipulated in a job description and/or ideal person specification are restricted to those specifications or requirements necessary to perform the work on offer; and
 - ii. the terms and conditions specified for the work on offer are not less than those of the New Zealand market, including payment at the New Zealand market rate; and
 - iii. the extent and nature of advertising or use of other appropriate means of recruitment is such that any suitable New Zealand workers would apply or be likely to apply for the position(s), for example:
 - o listing the vacancy with Work and Income;
 - o advertising the vacancy in a national newspaper and/or website;
 - o contracting a recruitment company appropriate to the industry.

- b. For the purposes of these instructions an employer is not considered to have made genuine attempts to recruit suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders if:
 - i. the employer has advertised the work in such a way that no New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder will or is likely to apply (e.g. making foreign language skills a requirement when it is not necessary for the performance of the work); or
 - ii. an employer has advertised the work at terms and conditions that are less than terms and conditions New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders typically receive for equivalent work; or
 - iii. a Skills Match Report is required by [WK2.1\(d\)](#) and an immigration officer is satisfied the employer has not considered available New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders referred by Work and Income.

WK3.10.10 Definition of 'suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers who can take up the work on offer'

For the purpose of these instructions a 'suitable New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder worker who can take up the work on offer' is a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder worker who:

- a. has the relevant recognised qualification which is at, or above, the qualification that corresponds to the indicative skill level described for that occupation in the ANZSCO or has the relevant recognised work experience that the ANZSCO indicates may substitute the required qualification; and
- b. has qualifications, work experience or skills identified by the employer as being necessary to perform the role, but which are not listed in the indicative skill level described for that occupation in the ANZSCO, that are determined by an immigration officer to be reasonable; and
- c. has other competencies identified by the employer as necessary for the performance of the work that are determined by an immigration officer to be reasonable including (but not limited to):
 - i. having a driver licence or ability to get one, or
 - ii. being fit enough to do the work or not have any medical or other reasons why they cannot perform the work, especially for physical work, or
 - iii. being able to pass health, drug and criminal checks if required; and
- d. is located in the local region, or is willing and able to move to that region; and
- e. can practically make it to the workplace by having a suitable mode of transport; and
- f. is available for work at the hours required by the employer, noting that the position must be for full-time employment (see [W2.2.10](#)).

Notes:

- Local region is defined based on the regions used by Work and Income.
- At ANZSCO skill level 5, work experience and qualifications are not relevant.
- Where other prerequisites are needed to perform the role an employer must explain why and demonstrate that the remuneration offered reflects those requirements.

WK3.10.15 Definition of 'suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holder workers who can readily be trained to do the work on offer'

For the purpose of these instructions a 'suitable New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder worker who can readily be trained to do the work on offer' is a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder worker who:

- a. with on the job training could do the work on offer, despite not having:
 - i. the relevant recognised qualification which is at, or above, the qualification that corresponds to the indicative skill level described for that occupation in the ANZSCO or the relevant recognised work experience that the ANZSCO indicates may substitute the required qualification; and
 - ii. the qualifications, work experience or skills identified by the employer as being necessary to perform the role, but which are not listed in the indicative skill level described for that occupation in the ANZSCO, that are determined by Immigration New Zealand to be reasonable; and
- b. has other competencies identified by the employer as necessary for the performance of the work that are determined by an immigration officer to be reasonable including (but not limited to):
 - i. having a driver licence or ability to get one, or
 - ii. being fit enough to do the work or not have any medical or other reasons why they cannot perform the work, especially for physical work, or
 - iii. being able to pass health, drug and criminal checks if required; and
- c. is located in the local region, or is willing and able to move to that region; and
- d. can practically make it to the workplace by having a suitable mode of transport; and
- e. is available for work at the hours required by the employer, noting that the position must be for full-time employment (see [W2.2.10](#)).

Notes:

- Local region is defined based on the regions used by Work and Income.

- All positions at ANZSCO skill level 5 are positions which New Zealand citizens and residence class visa holder workers are considered able to 'readily be trained to do the work on offer'

WK3.10.20 Special instructions for labour market tests where the employment is in Canterbury

- a. In addition to the normal requirements of WK3.10.5, an employer requesting approval in principle based on an offer of employment in any occupation in the Canterbury region, or supporting an individual work visa application based on an offer of employment in an ANZSCO Skill Level 3, 4 or 5 occupation in the Canterbury region must provide evidence of the outcome of any engagement with the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub if:
 - i. the visa application or request for approval in principle was lodged on or before 1 June 2018; or
 - ii. the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub listed the vacancy prior to 30 June 2018.
- b. Immigration officers may take this engagement and any related evidence into account when determining whether or not a labour market test is satisfied.
- c. Engagement with the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub is not required if the occupation is included on the current Long Term Skill Shortage List, or Immediate Skill Shortage List or Canterbury Skill Shortage List and the applicant's qualification and/or work experience meets the requirements on the list.

Notes:

- For the purposes of WK3.10.1(b)(iii), advice from the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub is considered to be advice from Work and Income.
- Employment is in the Canterbury region if the entire or principal place of work is within the territorial authorities of Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council or Waimakariri District Council.

WK3.15 Requirements for employers

- a. To grant an Essential Skills work visa, an immigration officer must be satisfied that:
 - i. the employer is the direct employer, responsible for such things as:
 - o payment of salaries;
 - o PAYE tax instalments;
 - o conditions of employment;
 - o day-to-day supervision of the workplace and the employee; and
 - ii. the employer has previously complied and will comply in future with all relevant New Zealand employment and immigration law and immigration instructions; and
 - iii. the employer has previously paid any employees who were holders of an Essential Skills work visa the remuneration required by those employees' work visa conditions (see [WK4.5\(d\)](#)); and
 - iv. the employer meets the requirements set out at [W2.10.15](#) and is not included on a list of non-compliant employers maintained by the Labour Inspectorate (see [Appendix 10](#)).
- b. Where the job offer is in the construction sector in the Canterbury region and the employer is a labour hire company, the application must be declined unless the labour hire company holds accreditation (see [WK5](#)).

Note: Employment is in the Canterbury region if the entire or principal place of work is within the territorial authorities of Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council or Waimakariri District Council.

WK3.15.1 Evidence required from employers

- a. Employers requesting approval in principle to employ a non-New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder worker or supporting an individual work visa application must provide:
 - i. job offer(s) containing all the information specified in the generic work visa provisions at [W2.10.10](#); and
 - ii. confirmation of whether or not the worker requires occupational registration in New Zealand; and
 - iii. if more than one, the number of temporary workers sought; and
 - iv. the names of suitable applicants (if known); and
 - v. evidence of genuine attempts to recruit suitable New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders (see [WK3.10.5](#)), including the reasons why:
 - vi. any particular job specifications were considered necessary for the performance of the work; and
 - vii. any New Zealand applicants who applied were either not suitable, or refused to perform the work; and
 - viii. if requested by an immigration officer, evidence and/or confirmation of past compliance with employment and immigration law (see [W2.10.5](#)); and
 - ix. if the job offer(s) is in the construction sector in Canterbury region and the employer is a labour hire company, confirmation of the labour hire company's accreditation.

Note: Employment is in the Canterbury region if the entire or principal place of work is within the territorial authorities of Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council or Waimakariri District Council.

- b. Evidence and/or confirmation of past and future compliance with employment and immigration law may include but is not limited to:
 - i. employment agreements with workers which demonstrate compliance;
 - ii. tax records that show compliance with employment agreements and visa conditions;
 - iii. a history with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and WorkSafe New Zealand of past compliance.
- c. Employers who are included on a list of non-compliant employers maintained by the Labour Inspectorate are considered to not have a history of compliance with employment law (see [W2.10.15](#) and [Appendix 10](#)).
- d. Employers who have previously failed to pay any employee the remuneration required by the employee's visa conditions are considered to not have a history of compliance with immigration law.

WK3.20 Requirements for applicants

To grant an Essential Skills work visa, an immigration officer must be satisfied that the applicant:

- a. is suitably qualified by training and experience to do the work offered; and
- b. if the Essential Skills work visa is for lower-skilled employment ([WK3.5.1](#)), is not required to spend time outside New Zealand (referred to as an applicant who is subject to a 'stand-down period' – see [WK3.20.5](#)).

WK3.20.1 Determining that an applicant is suitably qualified

- a. When assessing whether an applicant is suitably qualified by training and experience to do the work offered, immigration officers will consider whether the qualifications and work experience required by the occupation described in the ANZSCO substantially matches the applicant's proposed employment.
- b. Immigration officers must consider whether:
 - i. the applicant holds a relevant qualification that is comparable to the qualification described for that occupation in the ANZSCO; or
 - ii. the applicant has the relevant work experience that the ANZSCO indicates may substitute for the required qualification; or
 - iii. the employment is in an occupation included on the Essential Skills in Demand Lists and the applicant meets the relevant requirements specified for that occupation.
- c. Immigration officers must be satisfied that the qualifications and/or work experience provided by the applicant are relevant to their proposed employment in New Zealand.

WK3.20.5 Applicants who are required to spend time outside New Zealand (subject to a 'stand-down period')

- a. An Essential Skills work visa holder may hold visas allowing work in lower-skilled employment (as defined in [WK3.5.1](#)) for a maximum period of 3 years before they are required to spend time outside New Zealand (subject to a stand-down period).
- b. Applicants subject to a stand-down period are not eligible for a further Essential Skills work visa for lower-skilled employment until they spend 12 consecutive months outside New Zealand.
- c. A person who has spent 12 consecutive months outside New Zealand is no longer subject to a stand-down period and may be granted further Essential Skills work visas for the duration allowed by [WK4.1\(a\)\(iii\)](#).
- d. Essential Skills work visas applied for before 28 August 2017 did not include an assessment of skill-band under [WK3.5.1](#) and are therefore not considered when calculating the 3 year maximum period.

WK3.20.10 Determining an Essential Skills work visa application where an applicant is awaiting a Skilled Migrant Category decision

- a. Despite [WK3.1 \(a\)\(ii\)](#), an applicant may be granted an Essential Skills work visa, valid for 1 year without an immigration officer being satisfied that there are no New Zealand citizens or residence class visa holders available to do the work offered if:
 - i. they currently hold a temporary work visa; and
 - ii. they have applied for an Essential Skills work visa to continue working in the role they currently hold; and
 - iii. they meet all other requirements of Essential Skills work visa instructions; and
 - iv. they have been issued an Invitation to Apply under the Skilled Migrant Category and retain the ability to apply (see [SM3.1](#)), or have made an application for residence under the Skilled Migrant Category and that application has not yet been completed; and
 - v. their Expression of Interest was selected in part on the basis of points claimed for skilled employment in the role they currently hold.
- b. One further Essential Skills work visa, valid for six months, may be granted in exceptional circumstances to an applicant who continues to meet the requirements of (a) above.

WK3.20.15 Determining an Essential skills work visa application for Filipino dairy workers who have provided false documents

- a. The intent of this section of Essential Skills instructions is:

- i. to recognise that the dairy industry is of particular importance to the New Zealand economy, particularly in regional and rural New Zealand;
 - ii. to acknowledge significant levels of false and misleading information have been identified in previous work visa applications to work in the dairy industry; and
 - iii. to acknowledge that declining a large number of work visa applications for failing to meet the requirement to be of good character would have a detrimental effect on the dairy industry.
- b. These instructions apply to people who:
- i. are nationals of the Philippines;
 - ii. are in New Zealand holding an Essential Skills work visa (or an interim visa based on holding an Essential Skills work visa at the time they made an application);
 - iii. are subject to [A5.45\(b\)](#) as an immigration officer has established that, on the balance of probabilities, in the course of applying for a New Zealand visa they provided any statement, information, evidence or submission that was false, misleading or forged;
 - iv. were granted an Essential Skills work visa to work on a dairy farm before 1 September 2015; and
 - v. are applying for a further Essential Skills work visa to work on a dairy farm.
- c. Despite the character requirement set out at [A5.45\(b\)](#) a person to whom (b) above applies may be granted an Essential Skills work visa if they:
- i. have not subsequently withheld information or provided further false information to INZ, in particular with regard to the application in which they originally supplied false information; and
 - ii. meet all other criteria for the grant of an Essential Skills visa.

WK3.20.20 Minimum income requirement for dependent children of Essential Skills work visa holders

See also Immigration Act 2009 s 49(1)(b)

- a. Essential Skills visa holders in lower skilled employment who **are** eligible to support their dependent child's visitor or student visa application (see [V3.10.1](#) or [U8.20.1](#)), must meet a minimum income threshold if they wish to support their dependent child's visa application. The visa holder's dependent child will be assessed against criteria set out in [V3.10.5](#) or [U8.20.5](#).
- b. Parents holding Essential Skills work visas may be liable for deportation if the dependent child's visa application is declined under these instructions and the dependent child becomes unlawful.
- c. It will be a condition of the dependent child's visa and the parent/s visa(s) that the parent/s must maintain the minimum income threshold for the duration of their dependent child's visa. If the threshold is not maintained the parent/s and child may be liable for deportation.

Note: Where both parents hold Essential Skills work visas, their incomes may be combined to meet the minimum income threshold.

The minimum income threshold excludes employment-related allowances (for example tool or uniform allowances) and must be calculated on the basis of no more than 40 hours' work per week

WK4.5 Conditions of Essential Skills Work Visas

Essential Skills work visas will be subject to conditions that the holder:

- a. may work only in a specified industry, trade, occupation or profession; and
- b. may work only for a specified employer; and
- c. may work only in a specified area or location; and
- d. must be paid at or above the level required by the skill-band of their employment; and
- e. must provide evidence of the payment of remuneration if requested by an immigration officer.

WS2.1 Who is eligible for a Specific Purpose or Event work visa

- a. Applicants may be granted a work visa and entry permission under specific purpose or event instructions, if an immigration officer is satisfied:
 - i. the applicant will be in New Zealand to complete a specific purpose or event described in Column A of the table at WS2.1.1; and
 - ii. the applicant has demonstrated they meet the work visa requirements set out in Column B of the table at WS2.1.1 by providing the evidence specified; and
 - iii. the work is time-bound (not open-ended or permanent); and
 - iv. the applicant is suitably qualified to undertake the work; and
 - v. the applicant meets health and character requirements as specified at [A4](#) and [A5](#).
- b. The currency of a specific purpose or event visa must be consistent with the time required for the holder to complete the specific purpose or event, up to the maximum duration indicated in Column C and **total stay (if any) indicated in Column D**.

Note: Where Column D refers to 'total stay' this includes the duration of the initial Specific Purpose or Event work visa.

- c. Applications for a further Specific Purpose or Event work visa by a person holding a Specific Purpose or Event work visa must be declined, unless:
 - i. a further Specific Purpose or Event visa is allowed for by Column D of WS2.1.1; and
 - ii. the immigration officer is satisfied that the grant of a further visa is necessary in order to complete the original specific purpose or event.
- d. Applications for work visas made under this category from applicants who currently hold a visitor visa granted under [V3.100](#) (Guardians accompanying students to New Zealand) must not be approved (see [V3.100.35](#)).

WS2.1.1 Acceptable specific purposes and events, evidence and maximum visa durations

	Column A: People who are considered to be undertaking a specific purpose or event	Column B: Evidence required	Column C: Initial visa duration that may be granted	Column D: Further visa duration that may be granted
a.	Senior or specialist business people on short-term secondments who have a job offer either in a substantial New Zealand company or a New Zealand subsidiary of an overseas company.	Evidence of a job offer that meets the requirements of W2.10.10 and W2.10.15 from the New Zealand company or subsidiary; and A completed Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113); and Evidence the applicant is senior manager or specialist personnel (see WS2.5); and Terms of the secondment, including duration; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	Up to 12 months	Further Specific Purpose or Event visas allowing a total stay of up to 24 months (inclusive of the duration of the initial visa granted under column C).

b.	A business person seconded to New Zealand as an intra-corporate transferee to take up a position in a multinational company as: an executive; or a senior manager; or specialist personnel	Evidence the applicant is a senior manager, executive or specialist personnel (see WS2.5); and Terms of the secondment, including duration; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	Up to 36 months	Further Specific Purpose or Event visas allowing a total stay of up to 72 months (inclusive of the duration of the initial visa granted under column C).
c.	Business people wishing to undertake business activities in New Zealand who can satisfy an immigration officer that they have genuine reasons to be in New Zealand for a period or periods exceeding 3 months in any one year.	Evidence of the amount of time the applicant needs to be in New Zealand; and Evidence of the applicant's business activities in New Zealand. Business activities are described in V3.5 Business Visitors.	Up to 12 months	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa
d.	Principal applicants under the Migrant investment instructions or the Parent Retirement Category who have been approved in principle and are investigating investment opportunities and making direct investments in New Zealand (see BJ7.40 and F3.25)	No additional evidence required	12 months	Further Specific Purpose or Event visas allowing a total stay of up to 24 months (inclusive of the duration of the initial visa granted under column C) for Investor 1 applicants; or Further Specific Purpose or Event visas allowing a total stay of up to 18 months (inclusive of the duration of the initial visa granted under column C) for Investor 2 applicants
e.	Referees or judges of sports events, shows, displays or exhibitions	Invitation, or schedule of events setting out the duration the applicant is required to be in New Zealand;	For the period of their engagement, not normally more than 6 months	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa

		and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15		
f.	Dance and music examiners of recognised international teaching institutions	Invitation, or schedule of events setting out the duration the applicant is required to be in New Zealand; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	For the period of their engagement, not normally more than 6 months.	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa
g.	Installers or servicers of specialised machinery or equipment supplied by an overseas company where installing or servicing the equipment in New Zealand is a condition of purchase.	Evidence that installing or servicing the equipment in New Zealand is a condition of the purchase of the machinery or equipment; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	Up to 3 months in any 12 month period	No subsequent Specific Purpose or Event visa within a 12 month period
h.	Sports players and professional sports coaches taking up a paid position in a New Zealand sports club	Evidence of a job offer that meets the requirements of W2.10.10 and W2.10.15 from the New Zealand club, if the applicant is professional player or coach; and A completed Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113); and Evidence of the terms of the engagement with the club, if the applicant is not a professional player; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	For the period of their job offer or engagement, up to: 12 months for players; or 36 months in the case of coaches employed at national or regional level	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa

i.	Entertainment industry sector workers (entertainers, performing artists, film and video production crew, and associated support personnel), who intend to engage in any form of private or public performance in New Zealand or work on any film or video production in New Zealand.	Evidence required by WS3 .	For the period of their engagement	Further Specific Purpose or Event visas can be granted for the period required if the engagement is extended.
j.	Philippines nurses seeking entry to obtain New Zealand occupational registration who have a job offer from a District Health Board and have been accepted for the Nursing Council's Competence Assessment Programme	Evidence of a job offer that meets the requirements of W2.10.10 and W2.10.15 from a District Health Board; and A completed Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113); and Evidence of acceptance for the Nursing Council's Competence Assessment Programme; and Evidence of funds as required by W2.15	3 months	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa
k.	Principal applicants for residence under the Entrepreneur Residence Visa Category instructions who currently hold a valid visa granted under the Entrepreneur Work Visa Category or Long Term Business Visa Category instructions (see BH8).	No additional evidence required	9 months	No further Specific Purpose or Event visa if applicant currently holds a Specific Purpose or Event visa
l.	People who need to come to New Zealand for any	Evidence of the specific purpose or event that	For the period of their engagement	Further Specific Purpose or Event visas can be granted

	<p>other specific purpose or event where they meet the objective of these instructions (WS1) and the circumstances justify the grant of a work visa.</p>	<p>the person will be undertaking in New Zealand; and</p> <p>Evidence that satisfies an immigration officer that the nature of the work or the circumstances surrounding the work are such that it is not possible and/or appropriate for a New Zealand citizen or resident to take up the work (see note 1 below); and</p> <p>Evidence of funds as required by W2.15; and</p> <p>If the person will be employed in New Zealand:</p> <p>Evidence of a job offer that meets the requirements of W2.10.10 and W2.10.15; and</p> <p>A completed Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113)</p>		<p>for the period required if the engagement is extended.</p>
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Note:

1. The factors an immigration officer may take into account in determining whether it would be possible and/or appropriate for New Zealand citizens or residents to take up the work include, but are not limited to, whether the work:

- requires a person to be primarily based in New Zealand on a long-term or permanent basis,
- will be for a New Zealand employer and be covered by a New Zealand employment agreement,
- requires attributes that automatically exclude New Zealand citizens or residents (for example, the requirement for foreign security clearance, or a special programme only offered to nationals of certain countries).

It is not relevant whether the employer has been unable to recruit New Zealanders to take up the work. If it is appropriate for a New Zealand citizen or resident to take up the work but the employer has not been able to find a suitable New Zealander, an application may be made under the Essential Skills ([WK](#)).

2. Provisions WS2.1.1 (a),(b),(c),(g), and (j) reflect New Zealand’s trade commitments with respect to immigration (see [E9](#)).

U6.35 Visas for the length of a programme of study

Students may be granted a student visa for the length of their programme of study, regardless of the period for which they have paid their tuition fees, as specified in:

- a. **Provider Direct – Student** (see U6.35.1); or
- b. Aviation students instructions (U6.35.5).

U6.35.1 **Provider Direct – Student**

Students may be granted a student visa for the length of their programme of study if:

- a. **the** student has an offer of a place with an education provider with which INZ has a Memorandum of Understanding for the **Provider Direct – Student that** allows for the grant of visas for the length of programme of study; and
- b. the** education provider supports the grant of a length of programme of study visa; **and**
- c. the student application is submitted through the Provider Direct – Student channel.**

U6.35.5 **Aviation students**

- a. Aviation students may be granted a student visa for the length of their programme of study if:
 - i. the student has an offer of place from an aviation training provider that is:
 - o certified by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand; and
 - o signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016 (see U3.5 and U5.1); and
 - ii. the aviation training provider supports the grant of a length of programme of study visa; and
 - iii. the full first term of tuition fees have been paid.
- b. Evidence of the aviation training provider's support to grant a length of a programme of study visa must be provided.
- c. Despite (a)(iii), evidence of tuition fee payment is not required where the aviation student is an Air New Zealand trainee and provides a guarantee from Air New Zealand.

U13.15 Work conditions for students enrolled at a tertiary institution or private training establishment

- a. For students enrolled at a tertiary institution or private training establishment, a student visa may be granted with conditions to allow the holder to work during the academic year, and during any scheduled vacations, including within the academic year.
- b. Students aged 16 or 17 years of age enrolled at a tertiary institution or private training establishment must have written permission from their education provider and written parental consent to be granted conditions allowing work.

U13.15.1 Work conditions for up to twenty hours in any given week

A student visa holder may be granted with conditions to work for up to 20 hours in any given week during the validity of the visa if the student is:

- a. undertaking a full-time programme of study (see [U6.1.1](#)) of at least two academic years' duration; or
- b. undertaking a full-time programme of study, culminating in a New Zealand qualification that would qualify for points under the Skilled Migrant Category (see [SM8](#)); or
- c. undertaking a full-time programme of study of at least one academic year's duration as part of an approved tertiary student exchange scheme (see [E11.45](#)); or
- d. engaged in a full-time programme of study of at least **24 teaching weeks** duration; and
 - i. an immigration officer is satisfied that the primary purpose of the programme of study is to develop English language skills; and
 - ii. the student can provide acceptable English language test results, as set out at U13.15.20 (no more than 2 years old at the time the application is lodged); or
- e. undertaking full-time English language study of at least 14 consecutive weeks' duration at an education provider that:
 - i. is a university; or
 - ii. holds Category One status under the NZQA EER quality assurance system; or

Note: When assessing eligibility for work rights under (e) for an applicant who holds a current student visa, all consecutive previous English language study undertaken on this and any previous student visa can be counted towards the 14 consecutive week period provided the programme of study the applicant is applying for:

- follows directly from their current study and
- is with the same provider as that on their current and any previous student visa.

- f. undertaking a full-time foundation programme that commenced on or before 28 February 2014 and that programme of study is of at least one academic year's duration at level four or higher on the New Zealand Qualification Framework at an education provider in Canterbury that:
 - i. is a university; or
 - ii. holds Category One status under the New Zealand Qualifications Authority's (NZQA) External Evaluation Review (EER) quality assurance system.

U13.15.5 Full time work rights during Christmas-New Year vacation period

A student visa may be granted with conditions to allow the holder to work full-time during the Christmas-New Year vacation (summer vacation) period provided that the student is:

- a. studying full-time (see [U6.1.1](#)); and
- b. enrolled in a programme of study that has a minimum duration of at least two semesters during a period of at least eight months.

U13.15.10 Full time work rights during scheduled vacations

- a. A student visa may be granted with conditions to allow the holder to work full-time during all scheduled vacations, if the student is undertaking a full-time programme of study (see [U6.1.1](#)); and of at least one academic year's duration.
- b. Despite (a) where scheduled vacations are more than one third of the programme of study duration for programmes of study offered by tertiary providers other than universities, full-time work rights may not be granted.

Note: An academic year means a programme of study of a minimum of 120 credits during a period of at least eight months (minimum of two semesters)

U13.15.15 Work conditions for masters by research or doctoral students

A student visa may be granted with conditions to allow the holder unlimited work rights if:

- a. the student is undertaking a Masters by Research or Doctoral degree, and
- b. the qualification is awarded by a New Zealand tertiary institution.

U13.15.20 Acceptable English language test results

The following English language test results are acceptable:

Test	Minimum score required
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - General or Academic Module	Overall score of 5.0 or more
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT)	Overall score of 35 or more
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	Overall score of 36 or more
B2 First (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE)) or B2 First for Schools (First Certificate in English) (formerly Cambridge English: First (FCE) for Schools)	Overall score of 154 or more
Occupational English Test (OET)	Grade C or higher in all four skills (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking)*

* A score of Grade C or higher in all four skills is required for the OET as there is no overall grade for this test.

U14 Pathway student visas pilot

- a. For the purposes of these instructions, a pathway is defined as a progression of up to three consecutive programmes of study, offered by qualifying education providers, either within their institution or in conjunction with other qualifying education providers.
- b. Pathway study can be undertaken on a single student visa.
- c. Any application for a pathway student visa made after **30 November** 2018 must be declined.

U14.5 Requirements to be granted a pathway student visa

To be granted a pathway student visa, an applicant must:

- a. be offered an eligible study pathway from a qualifying provider ([U14.20](#));
- b. meet the general requirements to be granted a student visa as set out at [U3.1](#);
- c. meet the additional evidential requirements for pathway student visa set out at U14.5.1;
- d. make an application for a student visa before **30 November** 2018.

U14.5.1 Evidence of meeting requirements

- a. In addition to meeting the general requirements to be granted a student visa as set out at [U3.1](#), when applying for a pathway student visa an applicant must provide:
 - i. Where there is more than one education provider, A joint covering letter from pathway education providers setting out the pathway programmes of study and start and end dates of each programme of study;
 - ii. An offer of place (or joint offer) for each programme of study that meets the requirements set out at [U3.5](#);
 - iii. Evidence that tuition fee requirements, as set out at [U3.10](#), for either the first programme of study or first year of study (whichever is shorter) have been met and satisfy an immigration officer that they have the ability to fund any remaining balance of the first programme of study and subsequent programmes of study on the intended pathway; and
 - iv. Evidence that the maintenance funds requirements set out in [U3.20](#) for the first year of study on the intended pathway have been met and satisfy an immigration officer that they have the ability to fund any remaining balance of the first programme of study and subsequent programmes of study on the intended pathway.
- b. Despite (a)(ii), second and subsequent offers of place for a pathway can be conditional on meeting pre-requisite programme of study entry criteria.
- c. First time pathway student visa applicants from a country with a student visa decline rate of more than 20 per cent who intend a study pathway commencing with an English language programme of study and culminating in a qualification at Levels 5 to 8 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework must:
 - i. submit an International English Language Testing System test (IELTS) (or equivalent internationally recognised test) at the time of application; and
 - ii. demonstrate that they only require an improvement of 0.5 of an IELTS overall band score (or equivalent) to meet the English language prerequisite for entry into the intended level 5 to 8 programme of study.

Note: The student visa decline rate for a country is based on statistics, generated over a calendar year (12 months), by Immigration New Zealand. The decline rate and the name of the country are published on the INZ website.

For the purpose of this instruction, the internationally recognised English language tests and corresponding IELTS equivalent test scores set out on the INZ website are considered acceptable.