



15 February 2020

Immigration New Zealand Operational Manual: Amendment Circular No. 2020/03

To: All Manual Holders

AMENDMENTS TO THE IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND OPERATIONAL MANUAL

Introduction

This circular outlines changes to the Immigration New Zealand Operational Manual. A copy of the changes is attached.

All immigration officers dealing with immigration applications should read the amendments and operate in accordance with the amended instructions and instruments of delegation on and after their effective dates.

Note

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

Information about these changes is available on our website www.immigration.govt.nz.

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 *Border Entry instructions* effective on and after 11:59pm 16 February 2020.

Additions to immigration instructions are highlighted for ease of reference. Deletions have not been highlighted.

Description of changes

Implementing the New Zealand Government response to the novel coronavirus outbreak COVID-19

Immigration instructions contained in Appendix 1 state that entry permission must be denied to people who have been in, or transited through, mainland China within 14 days prior to boarding a commercial craft to New Zealand or upon arrival in New Zealand if travelling other than by commercial craft.

People excluded from this provision include:

- New Zealand citizens
- New Zealand resident and permanent resident visa holders
- The partner, dependent children or legal guardian travelling with a New Zealand citizen, resident or permanent resident visa holder
- Australian citizens and permanent resident visa holders whose primary place of residence is New Zealand
- People covered by regulation 25 of the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010.

These instructions are effective on and after 11:59pm 16 February 2020.

Appendix 1 – Amendments to Border Entry instructions effective on and after 11:59pm 16 February 2020

Y4.50 People who must be refused entry permission: novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 22 and 107.

- a. Entry permission must be refused to any person, except a person listed in Y4.50(b), who is not otherwise dealt with under Y4.1 and who has been present in, or transited through, mainland China within 14 days prior to:
- i. the boarding of a commercial craft for the purpose of travelling to New Zealand; or
 - ii. if arriving in New Zealand other than by a commercial craft, upon arrival in New Zealand.

Note: 'Commercial craft' and 'craft' have the same meaning as section 4 of the Immigration Act 2009.

- b. The following persons must be granted entry permission:
- Those listed in Y3.10(a)
 - The partner, legal guardian or any dependent children who are travelling with a New Zealand Citizen or a person listed at Y3.10(a)
 - Australian citizens or a person who holds a current permanent residence visa (including a resident return visa) issued by the Government of Australia, where New Zealand is their primary place of established residence.
- c. A person subject to (a) above may still be granted entry permission by an immigration officer as an exception to instructions (see [Y4.45](#)).
- d. These instructions are valid until 11:59pm 24 February 2020.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, New Zealand citizens and people subject to regulation 25 of the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 are not subject to this instruction.