



16 February 2021

IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND INSTRUCTIONS: Amendment Circular No. 2021-04

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 from the 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.

Description of changes

New class exception for 1,000 returning international students

H5.30 Definitions

U3.1 Summary

U3.20 Sufficient funds for maintenance while in New Zealand

U3.50 Payment of costs for Managed Isolation and Quarantine for students who are nominated individuals in COVID-19 Restricted Temporary Entry Immigration Instructions

U6.40 Conditions of student visas

Changes have been made to Restricted Temporary Entry and Temporary Entry immigration instructions for a new border exception of an approved class of individuals, which comprises 1,000 priority returning degree and post-graduate international students.

These instructions are effective on and after 11 February 2021.

Continued suspension of ability to apply for a temporary entry class visa from offshore

E2.10 Who may apply for a temporary visa

Temporary Entry instructions have been updated to reflect a regulations change which extended the suspension of the ability to apply for most temporary entry class visas from offshore, until 7 May 2021.

These instructions are effective on and after 8 February 2021.

Additions to immigration instructions are highlighted for ease of reference.

Appendix 1: Amendments to Restricted Temporary Entry instructions effective from 11 February 2021

H5.30 Definitions

H5.30.1 Critical health workers

- a. A critical health worker is a person who will work in New Zealand in a job or occupation described on the Immigration New Zealand website as a critical health worker.
- b. The jobs and occupations considered as critical health workers are agreed to by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.
- c. Any partners or dependent children (see [E4.1](#)) of critical health workers who have been granted a visa or a variation of conditions on the basis of this critical purpose, may be granted a visa to travel to New Zealand together with, or separately from, the critical health worker.

H5.30.5 Other critical workers

- a. An 'other critical worker' is a person who is required to come to New Zealand and:
 - i. has unique experience and technical or specialist skills that are not readily obtainable in New Zealand; or
 - ii. is undertaking a time-critical role:
 - o for the delivery of an approved major infrastructure project (as defined in H5.30.10); or a government approved event or a major government-approved programme (as defined in H5.30.15); or
 - o in support of an approved government-to-government agreement (as defined in H5.30.15); or
 - o for work which brings significant wider benefit to the national or regional economy; or
 - iii. meets the requirements of an approved class of worker listed at H5.30.20.
- b. Where H5.30.5(a) applies, the 'other critical worker' may be granted a visa or variation of conditions for up to six months.
- c. However, a visa or variation of condition as an 'other critical worker' may be granted for more than six months (up to a maximum of 12 months), if the person meets the criteria at H5.30.5 (a) (i) or (ii), and also:
 - i. earns at least twice the median salary (currently \$106,080 per annum); or
 - ii. has a role that is essential for the completion or continuation of a science programme under a government funded or partially government-funded contract, including research and development exchanges and partnerships, and has the support of MBIE Science, Innovation and International Branch to travel to New Zealand to carry out their work; or
 - iii. has an essential role for delivery or execution of an approved major infrastructure project (as defined in H5.30.10); or for a government approved event or a major government-approved programme (as defined in H5.30.15).
- d. Despite, (b) and (c) above, a person may be granted a visa or variation of conditions for less or more than six months, if the person is an 'other critical worker' approved on the basis of being part of a class of workers, and a maximum duration is specified at H5.30.20.
- e. When considering H5.30.5 (a)(i) and (ii), an immigration officer who is a National Manager in the Border and Visa Operations Branch will determine who is an 'other critical worker' and whether they are eligible for a visa of up to six months under H5.30.5 (a) (i) or (ii) or a visa of up to 12 months under H5.30.5 (c).
- f. Factors an immigration officer who is a National Manager in the Border and Visa Operations Branch may take into account when determining whether a person is an 'other critical worker' as defined in H5.30.5 (a)(i) and (ii), include:
 - i. why that person is needed to ensure the delivery, continuity or execution of the work or service, and the effect on the work or service if the person was unable to come; and
 - ii. why it is not possible to re-deploy workers already in New Zealand (this could include time constraints or the specific nature of the work or service to be done); and
 - iii. the situation of the staff (if any) currently performing the role(s), and whether they can remain or not in the roles; and
 - iv. the length of the visa required and the reason for that length of visa.
- g. Any partners or dependent children (see [E4.1](#)) of an 'other critical worker' who has been granted a visa or a variation of conditions on the basis of this critical purpose, may be granted a visa to travel to New Zealand

together with, or separately from, the 'other critical worker' (except where H5.30.20(c) states that partners and dependent children are not eligible to be included).

- h. When considering H5.30.5 (a)(i), the factors that an immigration officer may take into consideration when assessing:
- i. "unique experience and technical or specialist skills" include, but are not limited to, whether these skills or experience:
 - o have been gained in a specialist training institution or by working in a highly-specialist firm
 - o can be demonstrated through global experience
 - o are inherent to a person
 - ii. "not readily obtainable" include, but are not limited to, whether:
 - o there are no workers in the country who could perform the role, or
 - o there is a very limited pool of available workers who could perform the role and they are not available to the employer.
- i. When considering H5.30.5 (a)(i), applications for seasonal workers will generally not be approved under these instructions. The only exceptions will be if the nature of the work is highly skilled or uniquely specialised.
- j. "Time critical" in H5.30.5 (a)(ii) includes if the person does not come to New Zealand, the project, work or event will cease or be severely compromised, or significant costs will be incurred.

Notes:

- Examples of workers meeting this standard may include: some highly specialist veterinarians, vendor-appointed engineers required to install major equipment, or an actor in a key film role.
- For the absence of doubt, co-owners of America's Cup syndicates may be considered other critical workers under H5.30.5(a)(ii).

H5.30.5.1 Other critical worker requests received prior to 18 June 2020

- a. The Minister for Economic Development and the relevant portfolio Minister were responsible for determining whether a person was an 'other critical worker' before these instructions took effect on 18 June 2020.
- b. Despite H5.30.5, the determination that a person is an 'other critical worker' for requests from employers received before 18 June 2020, that were made by the Minister for Economic Development and the relevant portfolio Minister, on the advice of MBIE, mean that a person is an 'other critical worker' for visa applications and invitations to apply made on and after 18 June 2020.

H5.30.10 Approved major infrastructure projects

For the purposes of these instructions, approved major infrastructure projects, are:

	Column A: Infrastructure project name	Column B: Procuring Agency
a.	New Dunedin Hospital Campus - Southern DHB.	Ministry of Health
b.	City Centre to Mangere Light Rail Auckland.	New Zealand Transport Agency
c.	Central Interceptor Programme - Western Springs to Mangere.	Watercare
d.	Mill Road - Northern Southern and Papakura Sections.	New Zealand Transport Agency
e.	Elective Capacity and Inpatient Beds and Supporting Infrastructure - Waitemata DHB.	Ministry of Health
f.	Capability of Airfield Infrastructure.	New Zealand Defence Force
g.	Investment in Horizontal Infrastructure.	New Zealand Defence Force
h.	Redevelopment of Scott Base - Antarctica.	Antarctica New Zealand

	Column A: Infrastructure project name	Column B: Procuring Agency
i.	Auckland Metro Rail Network Programme - Accelerated Renewals.	KiwiRail
j.	North Auckland Line - Northland.	KiwiRail
k.	Rolling Stock Procurement Project - Stage 1 - Wagon Fleet.	KiwiRail
l.	Wellington Metro Rail Network Programme - Stage 4 - Network Capacity Improvements.	KiwiRail
m.	Manawatu Road Maintenance Programme.	Manawatu District Council
n.	Laboratory and Biocontainment Greenhouse New Build and Relocation - Tamaki.	Ministry for Primary Industries
o.	Low Cost Low Risk Road Improvements across New Zealand.	New Zealand Transport Agency
p.	Totara Road Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Renewal Upgrade.	Palmerston North City Council
q.	Adams Building Replacement Build and Precinct Enabler.	University of Otago
r.	Dental School Redevelopment.	University of Otago
s.	University of Otago - Christchurch Health Science Campus Redevelopment - Stage 1.	University of Otago
t.	Construction of New Gravity Tunnel - Whenuapai and Redhills.	Watercare
u.	Huia 1 and Nihotupu 1 Watermain Replacement.	Watercare
v.	New Watermain Connecting Woodlands Park Reservoirs to Greenhithe Bridge.	Watercare
w.	Pump Station and Rising Main Upgrade - Stanmore.	Watercare
x.	Upgrade of Huia Water Treatment Plant.	Watercare
y.	Upgrade of the Waiuku Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Servicing to Clarks Beach.	Watercare
z.	Wastewater Treatment Plant Reactor/Clarifiers and Ultra Violet Expansion - Rosedale.	Watercare
aa.	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade - Pukekohe.	Watercare
ab.	Cross Harbour Pipeline Construction - Wellington Eastern Suburbs to Waterloo.	Wellington Water

	Column A: Infrastructure project name	Column B: Procuring Agency
ac.	Peacocke River Bridge and Northern Arterials Construction - Hamilton.	Hamilton City Council
ad.	Hamilton Transport Network Renewals and Maintenance.	Hamilton City Council
ae.	Drury Rail Station Development.	New Zealand Transport Agency
af.	Wastewater Treatment Plant Membrane Bio-Reactor Upgrade - Waiuku.	Watercare
ag.	Wellington Metro Rail Network Programme - Stage 6 - Infrastructure Upgrades.	KiwiRail
ah.	Wellington Metro Rail Network Programme - Stage 7 - Automated Train Protection.	KiwiRail
ai.	New Aircraft Apron.	Wellington International Airport Limited
aj.	Marine Defences and Seawall Reconstruction.	Wellington International Airport Limited
ak.	Whau Recreation Centre - New Recreation Centre.	Auckland Council
al.	Facilities Infrastructure Remediation Programme - Stage 1 - Auckland DHB.	Ministry of Health
am.	SH1 Improvements - Papakura to Bombay.	New Zealand Transport Agency
an.	Modular Prison Build Programme - Stage 2.	Department of Corrections
ao.	Auckland Metro Rail Network Programme - Wiri to Quay Park Capacity Enhancements.	KiwiRail
ap.	Auckland Metro Rail Network Programme - Papakura to Pukekohe Electrification.	KiwiRail
aq.	High Voltage Direct Current Cable Replacement and Capacity Increase - Cook Strait.	Transpower
ar.	Voltage Management - Waikato and Upper North Island.	Transpower
as.	Taranaki Base Hospital Redevelopment - Project Maunga - Stage 2 - Taranaki DHB.	Ministry of Health
at.	State Highway Improvements - SH1 Papakura to Drury South.	New Zealand Transport Agency
au.	Tauranga Northern Link.	New Zealand Transport Agency

	Column A: Infrastructure project name	Column B: Procuring Agency
av.	Walking and Cycling Facilities - Northern Pathway including Seapath.	New Zealand Transport Agency
aw.	Penlink Road.	New Zealand Transport Agency
ax.	SH2 Te Puna to Omokoroa Improvements.	New Zealand Transport Agency
ay.	Melling Interchange Improvements.	New Zealand Transport Agency
az.	New Domestic and International Jet Terminal.	Wellington International Airport Limited
ba.	New State Highway Construction - Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatu Tararua Highway.	New Zealand Transport Agency
bb.	Waikeria Prison Build.	Department of Corrections
bc.	Interisland Ferry Replacement Project - Wellington and Picton.	KiwiRail
bd.	Main North Line Reinstatement Project - Christchurch to Picton.	KiwiRail
be.	SH1 Whangarei to Port Marsden Upgrade.	New Zealand Transport Agency
bf.	SH1 Otaki to North Levin Improvements.	New Zealand Transport Agency
bg.	Rolling Stock Procurement Project - Stage 2 - Locomotives.	KiwiRail
bh.	Rolling Stock Procurement Project - Stage 2 - Wagons.	KiwiRail
bi.	Te Pae - Christchurch Convention Centre.	Ōtākaro Limited
bj.	Metro Sports Facility – Christchurch.	Ōtākaro Limited
bk.	City Rail Link.	City Rail Link Limited

H5.30.15 Major government-approved programmes, government-approved events and government-to-government agreements

For the purposes of these instructions, major government-approved programmes, government-approved events, and government-to-government agreements are:

Column A: Major government-approved programmes	Column B: Government-approved events	Column C: Government-to-government agreements
Rocket Lab launches	BWF Junior World Championships (Badminton)	The Antarctic Programme

Column A: Major government-approved programmes	Column B: Government-approved events	Column C: Government-to-government agreements
Mutual Assistance Programme (Defence programme)	ICC Women's World Cup	
Pacific Leadership Development Programme (Defence programme)	New Zealand Golf Open	
Recruitment and personnel exchange programmes (Defence programme)	36th America's Cup	
Defence capability programmes (Defence programme)	ICF Junior and U23 Canoe Slalom World Championships	
<p>Replacement international fishing crew for foreign-flagged fishing vessels operating in international waters, who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Will transfer to the vessel as soon as reasonably practicable after arrival in New Zealand; and b. Will transfer to a vessel that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade confirms will operate in international waters within the framework of a regional or international agreement of which New Zealand is a member. <p>Entry to New Zealand to deliver this major government-approved programme is limited to up to 50 replacement international fishing crew in total (and not per fishing vessel) every six months.</p>	Crankworx Rotorua	
<p>Kāinga Ora build and urban development programme.</p> <p>Entry to deliver this major government-approved programme will be from March 2021.</p>	IronMan 70.3 World Championship 2020	
	The Pioneer	
	Winter Games	

Column A: Major government-approved programmes	Column B: Government-approved events	Column C: Government-to-government agreements
	Rugby World Cup (Womens)	
	WSL Challenger Series Piha Pro	
	XVI WSBC Men's Softball World Championship	
	Ocean Race 2022	
	FIFA Women's World Cup 2023	
	Bledisloe Cup	
	Taini Jamison Trophy	
	International West Indian Men's Cricket Tour of New Zealand	
	International Pakistan Men's Cricket Tour of New Zealand	
	The 'Summer of Cricket' series	
	The Constellation Cup	

H5.30.20 Approved classes of workers

- a. For the purpose of these instructions, the authorised government organisation, industry group, or relevant departmental agency, as specified in column F below, will liaise with relevant industries and employers and provide a list of nominated workers to Immigration New Zealand.
- b. An immigration officer will determine whether a person is part of an approved class of workers based on whether they are on a list of nominated workers provided by the authorised government organisation, industry group or relevant departmental agency, as specified in column F below.
- c. The classes of workers that have been approved by Cabinet are:

	Column A: Class of worker	Column B: Class details	Column C: Eligible to include partners and/or dependents	Column D: Maximum duration of visa	Column E: Last date of entry	Column F: Authorised government organisation, industry group, departmental agency	Column G: Number of workers in class
a.	Deepwater fishing crew	Workers must be employed by one of the following companies to work on any of the named deepwater fishing vessels: Company: Independent Fisheries Ltd	No			Ministry for Primary Industry (MPI)	Up to 570

Column A: Class of worker	Column B: Class details	Column C: Eligible to include partners and/or dependents	Column D: Maximum duration of visa	Column E: Last date of entry	Column F: Authorised government organisation, industry group, departmental agency	Column G: Number of workers in class
	<p>Vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent • Irvinga • Mainstream <p>Company: Maruha (N.Z.) Corporation Ltd</p> <p>Vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aleksey Slobodchikov • Te Raukura <p>Company: Sealord Charters Ltd</p> <p>Vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meridian • Professor Mykhaylo Aleksandrov <p>Company: Aurora Fisheries Ltd Vessel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tomi Maru 87 <p>Company: DW New Zealand Limited</p> <p>Vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dong Won 519 • Dong Won 530 <p>Company: Jaico Limited</p> <p>Vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fortunui • Pacinui 					
b.	Agricultural mobile plant operators	Workers with at least three seasons' experience as agricultural mobile plant operators and relevant vehicle licencing qualifications. Working under an approved contract agreement in a fulltime role with specified rural contract operators.	Yes	April 2021	MPI	Up to 210

	Column A: Class of worker	Column B: Class details	Column C: Eligible to include partners and/or dependents	Column D: Maximum duration of visa	Column E: Last date of entry	Column F: Authorised government organisation, industry group, departmental agency	Column G: Number of workers in class
c.	Mixed and large animal veterinarian	Veterinarians must hold the necessary qualifications and experience for them to be licensed and registered with the Veterinary Council of New Zealand.	Yes			MPI	Up to 30
d.	Shearers	Shearers contracted by or through a NZSCA approved employer, and with more than two years' shearing experience	No	-	31 March 2021	MPI	60
e.	Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) workers	Workers must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. have completed at least one season in New Zealand as an RSE worker; and b. be from a Pacific Island country who have committed to the repatriation of RSE workers, as confirmed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; and c. have an employment agreement with an RSE employer and the pay rate specified in the employment agreement is for no less than \$22.10 per hour. <p>The RSE employer offering employment to the RSE worker must have made an undertaking to INZ on the form approved for this purpose, committing to certain employment and pastoral care obligations.</p>	No			New Zealand Apples & Pears Incorporated	Up to 2000

H5.30.21 Approved classes of individuals

- a. For the purpose of these instructions, the authorised government organisation or relevant departmental agency, as specified in column F below, will liaise with relevant parties and provide a list of nominated individuals to Immigration New Zealand.

- b. An immigration officer will determine whether a person is part of an approved class of individuals based on whether they are on a list of nominated individuals provided by the authorised government organisation or relevant departmental agency, as specified in column F below.
- c. The classes of individuals that have been approved by Cabinet are:

	Column A: Class of individual	Column B: Class details	Column C: Eligible to include partners and/or dependent children	Column D: Maximum duration of visa	Column E: Last date of entry	Column F: Authorised government organisation or departmental agencies	Column G: Number of people in class	Column H: Relevant parties
i.	PhD and post-graduate students	Nominated PhD and postgraduate students who held or hold a visa to study in 2020 but have been unable to enter New Zealand due to COVID-19	Yes, if under current instructions they are able to apply for a temporary visa on the basis of their relationship to the nominated student	Up to a maximum of four years (U6.30(b))	N/A	Ministry of Education	Up to 250, not including partners or dependent children	Education providers, tertiary education sector groups
ii.	Essential travel to and from the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau and Tonga	Nominated individuals who are travelling to or from the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, or Tonga, for essential activities, but who may be required to enter New Zealand before onward travel	Yes	Up to a maximum of six months	N/A	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Up to 100 in the period 2 November 2020 - 2 May 2021	The governments of Cook Islands; Niue; Samoa; Tokelau; and Tonga
iii.	Priority returning international students studying for degree and post-graduate qualifications	Nominated returning students who: - had commenced studying for degree or post-graduate qualifications in New Zealand; and - hold or have held a valid visa to study in 2020 but have been unable to enter New Zealand to complete their qualification	Yes, if under current instructions they are able to apply for a temporary visa on the basis of their relationship to the nominated student	Up to a maximum of four years (U6.30(b))	N/A	Ministry of Education	Up to 1,000, not including partners or dependent children	Education providers, tertiary education sector groups

Column A: Class of individual	Column B: Class details	Column C: Eligible to include partners and/or dependent children	Column D: Maximum duration of visa	Column E: Last date of entry	Column F: Authorised government organisation or departmental agencies	Column G: Number of people in class	Column H: Relevant parties
	<p>due to COVID-19; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are nominated by the education provider they will continue studying with; and - have NZD\$20,000.00 per year (or \$1,667.00 per month) available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses); and - have sufficient funds available to pay for the costs of their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand, if subject to pay for these costs. 						

Notes:

- For the purposes of H5.30.21(c)(ii), essential activities can include, but are not limited to: activities related to key sectors vital for Pacific economies; critical relief and development activities; technical specialists to support good governance; and staff for diplomatic missions.

- For the purposes of Column B of H5.30.21(c)(iii), a nominated individual will be subject to pay the costs of their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, if subject to clause 6 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Managed Isolation and Quarantine Charges) Regulations 2020.

- For the purposes of Column C of H5.30.21(c)(i) and (iii), an eligible partner or dependent child needs to be included on the nominated student's request for travel made under H5.5(b)(i) and if that request is approved, will be invited to apply for a temporary visa on the basis of their relationship to the nominated student under H5.5(b)(ii).

H5.30.25 Humanitarian reasons

- a. Humanitarian reasons are exceptional circumstances of a humanitarian nature that make it strongly desirable for the applicant to travel and enter New Zealand.

- b. When considering whether a person has humanitarian reasons for travelling to New Zealand, immigration officers must consider the purpose of these instructions and the strong public interest in protecting the health of New Zealanders and supporting Government agencies' response to the risks posed by the COVID-19 situation.
- c. Relevant factors when considering if humanitarian reasons justify the grant of a visa under these instructions include:
 - i. the applicant's connection to New Zealand
 - ii. the applicant's connection to the place they are currently located
 - iii. whether New Zealand is their primary place of residence, and their period of absence from New Zealand
 - iv. whether the applicant has any alternative options
 - v. the impact of not granting a visa and entry permission to the applicant.

Note: Where a person is applying under the critical purpose of humanitarian reasons and are likely to require medical treatment in New Zealand, that person must have the support of the Ministry of Health or a District Health Board.

H5.30.30 Replacement cargo ship crew

- a. A replacement cargo ship crew member is a person travelling to New Zealand as a passenger on a commercial aircraft for the purpose of leaving New Zealand as crew on a cargo ship.
- b. After arriving in New Zealand, replacement cargo ship crew must transfer as soon as reasonably practicable to a cargo ship to depart New Zealand.
- c. 'Cargo ship' means a ship that is a commercial craft and that is carrying primarily cargo into or out of New Zealand.

Note: For the avoidance of doubt, crew subject to regulation 25 of the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010 are not subject to this instruction (namely cargo crew on a ship when arriving by sea in New Zealand).

H5.30.31 Replacement cargo ship crew servicing the Pacific

- a. Replacement cargo ship crew travelling to New Zealand as passengers on a commercial aircraft intending to join a cargo ship which is servicing the Pacific (as defined in (c) below), may enter New Zealand to complete 14 days in Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) before transferring to the ship to depart New Zealand.
- b. Approvals under this category are limited to 200 replacement cargo ship crew over 12 months from 1 February 2021.
- c. For the purposes of these instructions:
 - i. 'Pacific' includes the following countries and territories: American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia; Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna and Vanuatu.
 - ii. 'Cargo ship' means a ship that is a commercial craft and that is carrying primarily cargo into or out of New Zealand and which is servicing the Pacific.

Note: Replacement cargo ship crew are not compelled to come to New Zealand under this category and complete the required 14 days in MIQ. They may instead enter New Zealand under H5.30.30 if the vessel does not require the crew to enter MIQ for 14 days because the vessel is not servicing the Pacific.

H5.30.35 Essential Skills, Entrepreneur and Work to Residence visa holders who normally live in New Zealand

A principal applicant will be considered to have a critical purpose for travel to New Zealand (H5.25.15(j)) if they meet the following requirements:

- a. The principal applicant departed New Zealand between 1 December 2019 and 9 October 2020 (inclusive) and is currently outside of New Zealand.
- b. At the time of departing New Zealand, the principal applicant held either a current:
 - i. Work to Residence visa; or
 - ii. Entrepreneur work visa; or
 - iii. Essential Skills visa based on mid-skilled or higher-skilled employment, or based on employment assessed as being paid at or above the median wage.
- c. The visa held by the principal applicant at the time of departure from New Zealand has or had an expiry date of:
 - i. on or after 1 January 2021; or
 - ii. before 1 January 2021 and the principal applicant has:
 - o submitted a further visa application on or before 9 August 2020; and

- the further visa would, or if already granted does, allow the principal applicant to stay in New Zealand for at least 12 months; and
 - that visa would allow the principal applicant to work in the same position or operate the same business as referred to in H5.30.35(d); and
 - if the further visa is a temporary visa, that visa is approved.
- d. The principal applicant has retained their job or business in New Zealand in that they:
- i. were employed at the time of departing New Zealand in accordance with the conditions of their existing visa, are employed in the same position and have maintained their employment relationship continuously since departing New Zealand; or
 - ii. if the principal applicant held an Entrepreneur work visa at the time of departing New Zealand, they operated a business in New Zealand at the time of departing New Zealand in accordance with the conditions of their existing visa, and have continued to operate that same business since departing New Zealand.
- e. The principal applicant was in New Zealand for either:
- i. at least 273 days in each of the two 12 month periods immediately preceding the date of their departure from New Zealand; or
 - ii. at least 273 days in the 12 month period immediately preceding the date of their departure from New Zealand and meet one of the following:
 - if the principal applicant held an Entrepreneur work visa at the time of departing New Zealand, they operated a business at the time of departing New Zealand in accordance with the conditions of their visa, and have continued to operate the same business since departing New Zealand; or
 - had one or more dependent children with them in New Zealand for at least 6 months of that 12 month period; or
 - have parents or siblings who are 18 years or older, who are currently in, and who are ordinarily resident (E4.10) in, New Zealand; or
 - submitted an application for a resident visa on or before 9 August 2020.

Notes:

- Work to Residence visas include Talent (Accredited Employer), Talent (Arts, Culture and Sports), Long Term Skill Shortage List, Skilled Migrant Category Job Search, South Island Contribution and Global Impact visas.
- Partners and dependent children of the principal applicant may be eligible to be included (see H5.10). Invitations to apply will be given where any partner or dependent children (see E4.1) of the principal applicant included on the Expression of Interest:
 - have been born on or after 1 December 2019; or
 - currently hold, or held at the time of departing New Zealand, a visitor, work or student visa based on their relationship to the principal applicant.

Appendix 2: Amendments to Temporary Entry instructions effective from 11 February 2021

U3.1 Summary

See also Immigration Act 2009 s4

- a. Unless otherwise specified, to be granted a student visa to attend a programme of study of more than three months, applicants must:
 - i. have an offer of a place or, if returning to continue a programme of study, a confirmation of enrolment in an approved programme of study with an education provider in New Zealand that meets student visa requirements (see U3.5, U3.10, and U5.1); and
 - ii. be exempted from or have paid tuition fees; and
 - iii. if aged under 18, meet accommodation requirements (see U3.15); and
 - iv. have fulfilled the purpose and met the conditions for any previous or current temporary visas held as set out in E3.15 and E3.20; and
 - v. meet the conditions set out in E3.20; and
 - vi. not be the holder of a current visitor visa granted under Guardians accompanying students to New Zealand instructions (see V3.100.); and
 - vii. hold insurance (see U3.45), unless they are a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) student or a student holding a New Zealand scholarship administered through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- b. All applicants must meet the requirements under Generic Temporary Entry Class instructions for:
 - i. lodging an application for a temporary entry class visa 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](#).
- c. Applicants who have not completed, or will not be completing the programme of study endorsed on their student visa and who wish to change their programme of study and/or education provider must:
 - i. meet requirements (a) and (b) above; and
 - ii. meet the requirements set out at [U3.40](#).
- d. An applicant who is invited to apply for a student visa on the basis of having a critical purpose for travelling to New Zealand under H5.25.15(c) because they belong to a class of individuals that meets the requirements of H5.30.21(c)(iii), must also meet the requirement set out in U3.50 concerning the costs of Managed Isolation and Quarantine.

Note: Applicants who are progressing to further study, for example a student in Year 13 who is progressing to tertiary studies, will not need to meet [U3.40](#).

U3.20 Sufficient funds for maintenance while in New Zealand

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 48, 55

- a. Applicants must provide evidence to satisfy an immigration officer that they have sufficient funds available to maintain themselves throughout the period of their stay in New Zealand.
- b. Evidence may include but is not limited to:
 - i. a notice of the award of a full scholarship; or
 - ii. a completed *Sponsorship for Temporary Entry (INZ 1025)* form (see U3.20.5); or
 - iii. a completed *Financial Undertaking for a Student (INZ 1014)* form, which covers a stay in New Zealand for the length of the visa (see U3.20.10); or
 - iv. funds held by or on behalf of the student (see U3.20.20).

U3.20.5 Sponsorship

- a. A sponsor for a student visa application must be an acceptable sponsor (see E6.5) and be either:
 - i. a natural person who is a relative or a friend of the applicant; or
 - ii. an organisation or government agency (an individual must be nominated as the authorised contact).
- b. A sponsor for a fee-paying foreign tertiary student who is applying from within New Zealand must have sponsored that student's initial student visa.
- c. Sponsors must satisfy an immigration officer that they:
 - i. are bona fide (i.e. are genuinely intending to meet sponsorship obligations); and
 - ii. genuinely hold sufficient funds for each student they are sponsoring.

U3.20.10 Financial Undertaking

- a. Before the student's arrival in New Zealand, a financial undertaking may be provided by a third party.
- b. If the third party is a person, they must be a relative or a friend of the applicant.
- c. If the third party is not a person, they must nominate an individual as an authorised contact.
- d. The third party providing the financial undertaking must satisfy an immigration officer they:
 - i. are bona fide (i.e. are genuinely intending to meet their financial obligations as set out on the *Financial Undertaking for a Student (INZ 1014)* form); and
 - ii. genuinely hold sufficient funds for each student they are supporting.
- e. Where a third party wishes to continue providing a financial undertaking for the student's subsequent onshore student visa applications, they may do so if they continue to meet (d).

U3.20.15 Determining whether a sponsor or third party providing a financial undertaking is bona fide

To determine whether a sponsor or third party providing a financial undertaking is bona fide, immigration officers may consider:

- a. the relationship between the applicant and the sponsor or third party;
- b. any previous breaches of financial obligations set out in undertakings;
- c. the number of student visa applications they are currently supporting;
- d. the period of time for which funds have been held by the sponsor or third party; and
- e. the student's ability to access funds from the sponsor or third party while in New Zealand.

U3.20.20 Funds held by or on behalf of the student

- a. Where funds are held by or on behalf of the student, immigration officers must be satisfied that the funds are from a genuine source and are genuinely available for the purposes of the applicant's maintenance requirements.
- b. When determining whether a student has sufficient funds to maintain themselves throughout their stay in New Zealand, immigration officers may consider the period of time for which funds have been held by the student and the student's ability to access funds while in New Zealand.

U3.20.25 Funds required for students taking programmes of study lasting less than 36 weeks

- a. **Unless (b) applies, students** taking programmes of study lasting less than 36 weeks must provide evidence they have funds of at least NZ\$1,250 per month of study available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses).
- b. **If the student is invited to apply for a student visa on the basis of having a critical purpose for travelling to New Zealand under H5.25.15(c) because they belong to a class of individuals that meets the requirements of**

H5.30.21(c)(iii), the student must provide evidence they have funds of at least NZ\$1,667 per month of study available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses).

Notes:

- This evidence may be sighted after the application has been approved in principle.
- Funds for maintenance required under U3.20.25(b) do not include the costs for the student's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, and the student may need to prove they have additional funds for these costs (refer U3.50).

U3.20.30 Funds required for students taking programmes of study lasting 36 weeks or longer

- a. Students taking programmes of study lasting 36 weeks or longer must provide evidence to satisfy an immigration officer that:
 - i. they have NZ\$15,000.00 per year available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses); or
 - ii. if they are citizens of Samoa and Tonga a written guarantee of maintenance from a relative in New Zealand who is either a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.
- b. Despite (a)(i) above, if the student is invited to apply for a student visa on the basis of having a critical purpose for travelling to New Zealand under H5.25.15(c) because they belong to a class of individuals that meets the requirements of H5.30.21(c)(iii), they must have NZ\$20,000.00 per year available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses).

Note: Funds for maintenance required under U3.20.30(b) do not include the costs for the student's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, and the student may need to prove they have additional funds for these costs (refer U3.50).

U3.20.35 Sufficient funds for maternity health services

Pregnant applicants for a student visa who are due to give birth while in New Zealand must provide evidence that they:

- a. have funds of at least NZ\$9,000 available to pay for maternity health services; or
- b. have sponsorship by a person, an organisation or a Government agency which meets generic sponsorship requirements set out at E6.5, to cover maternity health services; or
- c. have a guarantee of financial undertaking by a third party which covers maternity health services (see U3.20.10); or
- d. are eligible for publicly-funded maternity health services.

U3.50 Payment of costs for Managed Isolation and Quarantine for students who are nominated individuals in COVID-19 Restricted Temporary Entry Immigration Instructions

- a. Applicants who are invited to apply for a student visa on the basis of having a critical purpose for travelling to New Zealand under H5.25.15(c) because they belong to a class of individuals that meets the requirements of H5.30.21(c)(iii), must (if applicable) provide evidence to satisfy an immigration officer that either:
 - i. they have sufficient funds available to pay for the costs for their stay, if any, in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand; or
 - ii. written confirmation from their education provider that the costs for the applicant's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, if any, will be paid in full or part by that education provider.
- b. Where (a)(ii) applies, but an education provider confirms they will pay only part of the costs for the applicant's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, the student is required to show evidence they have sufficient funds available to pay the remainder of the costs.
- c. Where the applicant must show they have sufficient funds for the purposes of (a)(i) or (b), they must do this by providing evidence of:
 - i. funds held by or on behalf of the applicant (refer U3.50.5 below) to cover the costs for their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand; or
 - ii. sponsorship by a person, an organisation or a Government agency which meets generic sponsorship requirements set out at E6.5, to cover the costs for the applicant's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand; or
 - iii. a guarantee of financial undertaking by a third party which covers the costs for the applicant's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand; or
 - iv. notice of the award of a full scholarship that will cover the costs for the applicant's stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand.
- d. For the avoidance of doubt, funds required for the costs for stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine in New Zealand are separate and additional to the funds required for maintenance under U3.20.25(b) or U3.20.30(b).

Note: An applicant will be subject to pay the costs of their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, unless exempted under clause 6 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Managed Isolation and Quarantine Charges) Regulations 2020.

U3.50.5 Funds held by or on behalf of the student

- a. Where funds are held by or on behalf of the applicant, immigration officers must be satisfied that the funds are from a genuine source and are genuinely available for the purposes of the person's requirement to pay for their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine.
- b. When determining whether an applicant has sufficient funds to pay for the costs of their stay in Managed Isolation and Quarantine, immigration officers may consider the period of time for which funds have been held by the applicant and the applicant's ability to access funds while in New Zealand.

U6.40 Conditions of student visas

- a. All visas for school students must state: 'primary or secondary school studies'.
- b. If the student has provided acceptable guarantees of funds and onward travel, the visa must state: 'Evidence of financial support not required' and 'return/onward ticket not required'.
- c. All student visas must allow multiple journeys.
- d. Two currency dates must be specified on student visas:
 - i. the date on which the visa expires; and
 - ii. the date on which the permission to travel expires.
- e. A student visa may be granted with conditions allowing the student to work (see [U13](#)).
- f. If the student is invited to apply for a student visa on the basis of having a critical purpose for travelling to New Zealand under H5.25.15(c), because they belong to a class of individuals that meets the requirements of H5.30.21(c)(iii), then any conditions allowing travel for a critical purpose must be effective no earlier than 1 April 2021.

Note: See also [E3.20](#) for further student visa conditions.

Appendix 3: Amendments to Temporary Entry instructions effective on and after 8 February 2021

E2.10 Who may apply for a temporary visa

See also Immigration Act 2009 ss 79, 401A

See also Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010, Reg 9A

- a. The following people may apply for a temporary visa:
 - i. a person (including a person to whom a visa waiver applies), who is outside New Zealand and who wishes to come to New Zealand for any purpose for which a temporary visa may be granted, unless (b) below applies; or
 - ii. a person arriving in New Zealand and to whom a visa waiver applies; or
 - iii. a person who is in New Zealand, is the holder of a temporary visa, and is either:
 - o a person to whom sections 150(1) and (2) of the Immigration Act 2009 do not apply; or
 - o a claimant to whom section 150(3) of the Immigration Act 2009 applies (see [E8.10.15](#)).
- b. Despite (a) above, a person may not apply for a temporary entry class visa where the ability to apply for that visa is suspended under Regulation 9A of the Immigration (Visa, Entry Permission, and Related Matters) Regulations 2010.
- c. The period of the suspension under this regulation starts on **8 February 2021** and ends at the close of **7 May 2021**.