



29 July 2022

**IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND INSTRUCTIONS: Amendment Circular No. 2022-42**

**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 date.

**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](http://www.immigration.govt.nz).

## Description of changes

---

***E11.55 Requirements for participants in approved student exchange schemes***

***U3.10 Tuition fees***

***U3.15 Accommodation requirements for fee-paying foreign students***

***U3.20 Sufficient funds for maintenance while in New Zealand***

***U3.45 Insurance requirements for fee-paying foreign students***

***U4.15 Exchange students***

***U5.1 Status of education providers and programmes***

***U5.10 Primary and secondary schools (private)***

***U5.15 Private training establishments***

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

***U7.25 Temporary exemption from the requirement to live with a legal guardian in New Zealand***

***U14.20 Provider requirements***

***V2.1 Visitor visa requirements***

***V2.35 Short-term study in schools***

***WD2 Lodging an application under Post-Study work visa instructions***

***WD3.1 Determining and granting a Post-Study work visa***

***WI18.10 Evidential requirements***

As announced on 11 May 2022, changes have been made to immigration instructions to amend funds requirements for student visa and post-study work visa applicants, including:

- an increase in the living costs required from NZ\$15,000 per year for all students to NZ\$20,000 per year for tertiary and non-compulsory education, and NZ\$17,000 per year for compulsory education (years 1-13 at school) in *U3.20 Sufficient funds for maintenance while in New Zealand*,
- changes to *U3.10 Tuition fees* which confirm that applicants must provide evidence of full tuition fee payment and evidence of living costs for either one programme or one year of study, whichever is the shorter (if the student is undertaking a multi-year programme), and
- an amendment to *WD2 Lodging an application under Post-Study work visa instructions* and *WD3.1 Determining and granting a Post-Study work visa* increasing the minimum funds required for post-study work visa applications from NZ\$4,200 to NZ\$5,000.

References to the Education and Training Act 2020 and the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 throughout the Operational Manual have also been updated.

Amended immigration instructions are effective on and after 11.59pm on 31 July 2022.

## **Appendix 1: Amendments to Temporary Entry instructions effective on and after 11.59pm on 31 July 2022**

---

### E11.55 Requirements for participants in approved student exchange schemes

Participants in approved student exchange schemes may be granted student visas for the length of their exchange provided they:

- a. meet the requirements under Generic Temporary Entry instructions for lodging an application for a temporary entry visa as set out at [E4](#); and
- b. apply from outside of New Zealand; and
- c. are bona fide applicants as set out at [E5](#); and
- d. meet health and character requirements as set out at [A4](#) and A5.

#### E11.55.1 Evidence

Participants must provide evidence to show that:

- a. they have been accepted into an approved student exchange scheme by the scheme organiser; and
- b. they meet outward travel requirements.

**Note:** Evidence of the travel arrangements to leave New Zealand at the end of the intended stay is:

- actual travel tickets (confirmed or open-dated) out of New Zealand to a destination to which the applicant has right of entry; or
- a written guarantee from the New Zealand guarantor that they will ensure that participants (and any dependants) will have outward bookings at the end of their stay in New Zealand, regardless of whether they complete the full term of the exchange.

#### E11.55.5 Participants who arrive in New Zealand without a student visa

If participants arrive in New Zealand without a student visa, immigration officers may grant a student visa for the maximum period of stay for their scheme, provided that:

- a. there are special reasons why they have not obtained a visa; and
- b. they meet the requirements set out at E11.55.

#### E11.55.10 Partners and dependent children of student exchange scheme participants

- a. Partners and dependent children of student exchange scheme participants may be granted visas that are current for the same period as the participants' visas, provided they meet the requirements for the particular category of visa they are applying for.
- b. Immigration officers must be satisfied that the exchange scheme allows participants to be accompanied to New Zealand by their partner and dependent children.
- c. Participants' partners may apply for work visas after their arrival, but they are subject to work visa criteria.

#### E11.55.15 Extending the stay for tourist reasons

Participants who wish to remain in New Zealand for a further period as tourists may be granted visitor visas for a maximum of 3 months, provided that they meet the requirements and conditions for a visitor visa.

#### E11.55.20 Pastoral Care of International Students

- a. Attendance at a school that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) **Code of Practice 2021** is required where the student is studying under a school-to-school exchange scheme ([U4.15\(b\)\(i\)](#)).
- b. Attendance at a school that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) **Code of Practice 2021** is not required for:
  - i. school students studying under a reciprocal exchange scheme managed by an Exchange Programme Organisation (EPO) approved by the Ministry of Education (see [U4.15\(b\)\(ii\)](#)); and
  - ii. tertiary students on approved exchanges.

### U3.10 Tuition fees

- a. Applicants must provide evidence of full payment of tuition fees for one year or one programme, whichever is shorter.
- b. For applicants living outside New Zealand, evidence of payment is not required until after the application has been approved in principle.
- c. Despite (a) above, aviation students may provide evidence of full payment of the first term as set out under U6.35.5.
- d. Despite (a), the following students are not required to provide evidence of tuition fee payment if they can meet the required exemption and provide evidence as below:

	Exemption	Evidence required
i	Exempt from tuition fees	Confirmation that the programme of study is exempt from fees or that the student is exempt from paying any fees.
ii	Students participating in a Study Abroad or Non-award scheme under a study abroad partner agreement with a New Zealand Tertiary education institution	Confirmation from the New Zealand tertiary institution that tuition fees are being paid directly to them from a foreign tertiary institution or authorised third party provider on behalf of the foreign tertiary institution.
iii	Students holding a New Zealand scholarship administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Notice of the award of a full New Zealand scholarship.
iv	Home country government loan approval at a tertiary institution	Evidence that the loan has been applied for and confirmation from the tertiary institution that the fees will be paid directly to them.
v	Home country government loan approval at a private training establishment (PTE) for study at Bachelor's degree and above	Evidence that the loan has been applied for and confirmation from the PTE that the fees will be paid directly to them.
vi	Foreign government-supported student	Meet all requirements as applicable under U12.

### **U3.15 Accommodation requirements for fee-paying foreign students**

Fee-paying foreign students who are under the age of 18 must provide, with their student visa application, a statement from their education provider confirming that the student's accommodation is compliant with the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021.

## 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 or **non-compulsory education** 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. Students taking programmes of study lasting less than 36 weeks must provide evidence they have funds of:
  - i. at least NZ\$1,667 per month of study available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses) if they are undertaking tertiary or non-compulsory education study; or
  - ii. at least NZ\$1,417 per month of study available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses) if they are undertaking compulsory education study.
- 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\(c\)\(iv\)](#), 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).

- c. Despite (a)(ii) and (b) above, if the student is invited to apply for a student visa to undertake secondary study 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\(c\)\(vi\)](#), the student 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).

**Notes:**

- This evidence may be sighted after the application has been approved in principle.

- Compulsory education study is primary, intermediate, or secondary school study from years 1 to 13.

### **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:
- they have NZ\$20,000.00 per year available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses) if they are undertaking tertiary or non-compulsory education study; or
  - they have NZ\$17,000.00 per year available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses) if they are undertaking compulsory education study; or
  - 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. 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\(c\)\(iv\)](#), 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).
- c. Despite (a)(ii) and (b) above, if the student is invited to apply for a student visa to undertake secondary study 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\(c\)\(vi\)](#), they must have NZ\$15,000.00 per year available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand (less prepaid living expenses).

### **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:

- have funds of at least NZ\$9,000 available to pay for maternity health services; or
- 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
- have a guarantee of financial undertaking by a third party which covers maternity health services (see U3.20.10); or
- are eligible for publicly-funded maternity health services.



### U3.45 Insurance requirements for fee-paying foreign students

- a. Fee-paying foreign students must hold insurance as a condition of their visa (see [E3.20 \(f\)](#)) unless (d) below applies.
- b. A fee-paying foreign student must declare that they will arrange and hold insurance, which complies with the insurance requirements of the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice **2021** and is acceptable to the student's education provider, from the period of their enrolment until the expiry of their student visa.
- c. A student may be required to provide evidence that they held insurance from the time of their enrolment until the expiry of their student visa with any further visa application made.
- d. The requirement to hold insurance does not apply to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students or students holding New Zealand scholarships administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

#### U4.15 Exchange students

- a. Students studying under reciprocal exchange schemes approved by the Minister of Education are considered to be domestic students for the purposes of attending primary and secondary schools and are exempt from paying foreign tuition fees (see [U3.35.5](#)).
- b. There are two types of New Zealand student exchange schemes under which international students may be enrolled in New Zealand schools without paying international fees:
  - i. school-to-school student exchange schemes run by a school that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of [Tertiary and International Learners](#)) Code of Practice 2021 (see [E11.55.20](#)); and
  - ii. student exchange schemes run by approved exchange programme organisations (see [E11.55.20](#)).

---

**Note:** The general requirements for participants in approved student exchange schemes are set out at E11.55.

## U5.1 Status of education providers and programmes

- a. All education providers must certify in their offers of places to foreign students (see [U3.5](#)) that the programme of study or training scheme offered complies with foreign student requirements for different kinds of education providers (see [U5.5-U5.20](#)).
- b. All education providers offering places to foreign students must be signatories to the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021.
- c. Any queries on the status of programmes or training schemes offered by private training establishments should be referred to the Service Delivery Unit, Quality Assurance Division, New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), PO Box 160, Wellington.
- d. Students will not be granted a student visa to undertake a programme of study or training scheme offered at an education provider that holds a Category Four status under the NZQA's External Evaluation Review (EER) quality assurance system.
- e. Immigration New Zealand (INZ) may suspend the processing of applications for student visas for study at an education provider where at least one of the following applies:
  - i. the offered programme of study or training scheme does not comply with foreign student requirements as set out in [U5.5](#) to [U5.20](#);
  - ii. the education provider is not complying with its obligations under the Immigration Act, immigration regulations, or immigration instructions;
  - iii. INZ has been informed by education agencies that the education provider is not complying with its obligations under the Education Act and education regulations.
- f. Before a decision is made to suspend the processing of student visas, the following will be taken into account:
  - i. evidence of the non-compliance; and
  - ii. reasons for the non-compliance; and
  - iii. the duration, frequency, and severity of the non-compliance.
- g. INZ may resume the processing of student visas if it is satisfied that the education provider is complying with its obligations.

#### U5.10 Primary and secondary schools (private)

- a. Private schools registered under section 35A of the Education and Training Act 2020 may offer places to foreign students on a fee-paying basis and are not obliged to place other students first.
- b. Where foreign students are enrolled in a programme of study intended exclusively or mainly for foreign students that class or programme of study must be approved by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (see section 524 Education and Training Act 2020).

### U5.15 Private training establishments

- a. Private training establishments may offer programme of study places to international students provided the programme of study or training scheme meets the criteria for one in which an international student may be enrolled in accordance with the provisions of the Education and Training Act 2020 (see section 527).
- b. The definition of an international student is contained in section 10(1) of the Education and Training Act 2020.
- c. The primary requirements for satisfying section 527 of the Education and Training Act 2020, in respect of programme of study or training schemes are that:
  - i. the private training establishment providing the programme of study or training scheme has been registered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority, and
  - ii. the programme of study or training scheme is an approved programme of study or training scheme, and
  - iii. the private training establishment has been accredited to provide the programme of study.

**Note:** These requirements apply to all programmes of study and training schemes with the exception of those programmes of study or training scheme that are exempt as provided for in section 528 of the Education and Training Act 2020.

### 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 Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 (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.

#### **U7.25 Temporary exemption from the requirement to live with a legal guardian in New Zealand**

- a. Students enrolled in school years 1 to 8, and students aged 13 and under who are enrolled in any other provider (see [U3.30.5](#)), may apply for a variation of conditions to their student visa to temporarily exempt them from the requirement to live with their legal guardian in New Zealand as set out at [U3.30\(b\)](#).
- b. A variation of conditions will only be granted where an immigration officer is satisfied that an emergency exists that requires the legal guardian to temporarily return to their home country.
- c. The applicant must provide evidence that:
  - i. an emergency exists that requires the legal guardian to temporarily return to their home country; and
  - ii. the education provider has approved the alternative caregiving arrangements, consistent with its obligations under the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021; and
  - iii. the legal guardian has purchased a return travel ticket.
- d. The variation of conditions may be granted for the period of time required, up to a maximum of four weeks.
- e. Any failure of the legal guardian to return to New Zealand within the approved period may result in the student visa holder becoming liable for deportation (see [U7.10](#)).

## **U14.20 Provider requirements**

### **U14.20.1 Pathway pilot entry criteria**

To qualify for entry to the Pathway student visa pilot, an education provider must:

- a. be invited by Immigration New Zealand to be a pilot participant; and
- b. have signed the Pathway Student Visas - Pilot Participation Declaration agreeing to the requirements as set out at U14.20.10; and
- c. be either a school, a university or hold a Category One or Two rating under New Zealand Qualifications Authority's (NZQA) External Evaluation and Review framework; and
- d. have a minimum 90% student visa application approval rate over the 2014/15 financial year or 2016 calendar year (12 month period); and
- e. comply with the legislative requirements as set out under the Education and Training Act 2020 to offer programmes of study to foreign students ([U5.5](#) to [U5.20](#)); and
- f. be a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021.



## V2.1 Visitor visa requirements

To be granted a visitor visa applicants must:

- a. meet the requirements under Generic Temporary Entry 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; and
- b. meet the funds or sponsorship requirements (see [V2.20](#)); and
- c. meet the onward travel requirements, if relevant (see [V2.25](#)); and
- d. be coming to New Zealand for a lawful purpose.

### V2.1.1 Definition of 'lawful purpose' for visitors

For the purposes of applying the 'lawful purpose' test in the provision relating to bona fide applicants (see [E5.1](#)), visitors are considered to be coming to New Zealand for a lawful purpose if:

- a. they are coming for such purposes as:
  - o holidaying;
  - o sightseeing;
  - o family and social visits;
  - o amateur sport;
  - o business consultation (see [V3.5](#));
  - o medical treatment (see [V3.40](#)); or
  - o guest of government visits (guest of government status is granted by the Visits and Ceremonial Office, Department of Internal Affairs); or
- b. they are staying in New Zealand for the purpose of arranging travel to depart, where the applicant is unable to leave because of COVID-19 (see [V3.155](#)); and
- c. they are not intending to undertake employment (see [W2.2.1](#)) or a programme of study or training, with the exception of short-term study (see [V2.35](#) and [U2.5\(b\)](#)).

#### Note:

~ If the programme is offered by a private training establishment, the applicant must ensure that the primary requirements for satisfying sections 342, 343, 345 and 527 of the Education and Training Act 2020, in respect of programmes of study, are met (see U5.15).

~ All education providers offering places to international students must be signatories to the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 (see [U5.1\(b\)](#)).

## V2.35 Short-term study in schools

- a. Visitor visa holders can study without the need to obtain a student visa or a variation of conditions if they attend primary, intermediate, secondary, or composite school for a single period of study of up to three months per calendar year. The single period of study:
  - i. must start and finish within a calendar year; and
  - ii. must not be in term 1 if a visitor visa was held and a single period of study was undertaken in term 4 of the previous year.
- b. Visitor visa holders undertaking a single period of study in (a) above must attend a school that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021, if at least one of the following applies:
  - i. they attend for more than two weeks; or
  - ii. they are fee-paying foreign students.
- c. Despite (b)(i) above, attendance at a school that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021 is not required where the visitor visa holder is studying under a reciprocal exchange scheme managed by an Exchange Programme Organisation (EPO) approved by the Ministry of Education (see [U4.15](#)).

## WD2 Lodging an application under Post-Study work visa instructions

- a. Applicants must:
  - i. lodge their Post-Study work visa application in the prescribed manner (see [E4.50](#)); and
  - ii. provide evidence that they have completed a qualification in New Zealand that meets the requirements as set out at [WD3](#); and
  - iii. provide evidence that they have a minimum of NZ\$5,000 in funds available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand; and
  - iv. have held, or had made an application for, a student visa on or before 11 May 2022 or have been granted their visa as part of the border exception for 5,000 new and returning students.
- b. An offer of employment is not required.

**WD3 Requirements for a Post-Study work visa**

### WD3.1 Determining and granting a Post-Study work visa

Despite all other provisions set out in WD3 instructions, an application for a post-study work visa under WD3 instructions made on or after 11 May 2022 will be declined unless the application for a post-study work visa was made before 11 May 2025; and

- a. on 11 May 2022 the applicant either held a student visa based on a programme of study set out at [WD3.1.1\(a\)](#) or had made an application for a student visa based on a programme of study set out at [WD3.1.1\(a\)](#) that was subsequently approved, and in either case the applicant completed that programme of study; or
- b. the applicant was granted a student visa based on a programme of study set out at [WD3.1.1\(a\)](#), and that student visa was granted 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\(c\)\(vi\)](#).

#### WD3.1.1 Determining a Post-Study work visa application

Applicants may be granted a work visa if:

- a. they hold:
  - v. a qualification at level 7 to 10 on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework that has been studied full-time for at least 30 weeks in New Zealand; or
  - vi. a single qualification at level 4 to 6 that has been studied full-time for at least 60 weeks in New Zealand; or
  - vii. two qualifications at levels 4 to 6 that have been studied full-time for at least 60 weeks in New Zealand (including at least 30 weeks per qualification) and the second qualification is at a higher level than the first qualification; and
- b. they apply no later than three months after the end date of their student visa for that programme of study or qualification(s) or, if the qualification was a Doctoral Degree, no later than six months after the end date of their student visa; and
- c. they have successfully completed the qualification for which the student visa was granted; and
- d. they have met the requirements set out at U11.1(d) if their studies have been supported under the New Zealand scholarship programme administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; and
- e. they have NZ\$5,000 funds available to maintain themselves during their stay in New Zealand; and
- f. they have not previously been granted a Post-Study work visa unless:
  - i. they have undertaken and completed a second higher qualification that is either a New Zealand Bachelor's Degree or postgraduate qualification, and have studied that qualification full-time in New Zealand for at least 30 weeks; or
  - ii. they are working towards occupational registration and meet the requirements at WD3.1.15; or
  - iii. transitional provisions apply (see WD3.5).

### WI18.10 Evidential requirements

To be granted a work visa with study conditions under these instructions, primary sector trainees must:

- a. provide a completed work visa application form, fee, Immigration Levy and the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy; and
- b. provide a letter of support/funding arrangements from their home government; and
- c. provide an offer of place from a high quality education provider (see [WI18.5.1 \(b\)](#)) that is a signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of **Tertiary and International Learners**) Code of Practice 2021; and
- d. agree to hold medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance that will remain current throughout their stay in New Zealand.