



21 October 2024

IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND INSTRUCTIONS: Amendment Circular No. 2024-35

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.

Description of changes

WI2.175 Vietnam Working Holiday Scheme

Changes have been made to immigration instructions to operationalise an increase to the annual cap for the Vietnam Working Holiday Scheme from 100 to 200 places, effective from 24 October 2024, the opening date for this scheme.

Appendix 1: Amendments to Temporary Entry instructions effective on and after 24 October 2024

WI2.175 Vietnam Working Holiday Scheme

- a. This scheme is available to 200 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) obtained by sitting the test in person at a test centre (tests taken remotely outside of a test centre, including 'at home' tests, are not acceptable).
- 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.