

The Green List: Simplified applications and residence pathways

The Green List will make it easier for employers to hire and attract migrants for specified high-skilled, hard-to-fill occupations, with residency for eligible migrants.

The Green List only contains a small number of highly skilled roles that have been identified as being in high demand globally and in ongoing shortage in New Zealand.

These roles will have registration, qualification or experience requirements. For more detail on these go to [Green List occupations on the Immigration New Zealand website](#).

Employers will not need to provide proof of advertising for these occupations when progressing an Accredited Employer Work Visa job check application.

Eligible migrants working in these occupations will have clear pathways to residence, either through a straight to residence application or after working in New Zealand for 2 years, depending on the role. Their partners will have open work rights. Both residence pathways will be limited to migrants 55 years or younger, which is aligned with the Skilled Migrant Category requirements.

The Green List is about making it easier to attract globally in-demand workers, but it is not the only pathway to residence available. Other employers will still be able to access skilled migrants, and many of them will also have a pathway to residence through the Skilled Migrant Category.

The ‘Straight to Residence’ pathway

Eligible migrants employed in these occupations can come to New Zealand on a work visa from 4 July and apply for residence from September 2022. From September residence can also be applied for directly from offshore. Minimum salary requirements apply where specified, and these will be indexed to the median wage and change over time.

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| Construction Project Manager | Electronic Engineering Technician |
| Project Builder | Environmental Engineer |
| Quantity Surveyor | Geotechnical Engineer |
| Surveyor | Industrial Engineer |
| Chemical Engineer | Materials Engineer |
| Civil Engineering Technician | Mechanical Engineer |
| Civil Engineer | Production or Plant Engineer |
| Electrical Engineer | Structural Engineer |
| Electronics Engineer | Engineering Professionals (Not Elsewhere Classified) |
| Electrical Engineering Technician | |



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| Telecommunications Engineers | Resident Medical Officer |
| Telecommunications Network Engineers | Medical Laboratory Scientist |
| General Practitioner | Clinical Psychologists & Psychologists |
| Anaesthetist | Physicist (Medical) |
| Psychiatrist | Orthoptist |
| Specialist Physicians Not Elsewhere Classified | Veterinarian |
| Surgeons (Including General Surgeons | Other Spatial Scientist |
| Cardiothoracic Surgeon Neurosurgeon | Environmental Research Scientist |
| Orthopaedic Surgeon Otorhinolaryngologist | Food Technologist |
| Urologist And Vascular Surgeon) | ICT Managers (\$120,000) |
| Other Medical Practitioners (Including | Software Engineer (\$120,000) |
| Dermatologist Obstetrician And Gynaecologist | ICT Security Specialist (\$120,000) |
| Ophthalmologist Diagnostic And | Multimedia Specialists (\$95,000) |
| Interventional Radiologist And Radiation | |
| Oncologist) | |

The Work to Residence pathway

Eligible migrants in these occupations can apply for residence after 2 years:

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| Anaesthetic Technician | Midwife |
| Medical Laboratory Technician | Teachers - Secondary with specialisations and registered ECE |
| Medical Imaging Technologist | Automotive Electrician |
| Medical Radiation Therapist | Diesel Motor Mechanic (including Heavy Vehicle Inspector) |
| Occupational Therapist | Electrician (General) –registered |
| Sonographer | Plumber – registered |
| Podiatrist | Dairy Farm Managers |
| Audiologist | |
| All Registered Nurses (including but not limited to Aged Care) | |

Migrants paid at least twice the median wage in other roles can also apply for residence after 2 years.

Questions and Answers

Is the Green List the same as the current skills shortage lists?

The Green List is shorter and more focussed than the Regional Skills Shortage List. Many (but not all) of the roles on the Long-Term Skills Shortage List are on the Green List.



How do these changes relate to other residence pathways?

The Green List provides two pathways for residence – a straight to residence or work to residence path. Eligible migrants working in these occupations or who are paid twice the median wage will have clear pathways to residence.

A review is underway of the Skilled Migrant Category. This category will be reopened later in 2022 after applications for the 2021 Resident Visa close on 31 July.

What will happen to the existing skills shortage lists (the Long-Term Skill Shortage List, Regional Skills Shortage List, and Constructions and Infrastructure Skill Shortage List)?

The existing skills shortage lists will be replaced by the new Green List. This means any roles that are currently on a skills shortage list, but not on the Green List, will not be exempt from a labour market test unless they pay at least 200% of the median wage.