

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 guaranteed residence pathways for eligible people.

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, and more detail on these is [available on the Immigration New Zealand website](#).

Employers won't 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 direct to residence application or after working in New Zealand for two 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 Fast Tracked '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.

Construction Project Manager
Project Builder
Quantity Surveyor
Surveyor
Chemical Engineer
Civil Engineering Technician
Civil Engineer
Electrical Engineer
Electronics Engineer
Electrical Engineering Technician

Electronic Engineering Technician
Environmental Engineer
Geotechnical Engineer
Industrial Engineer
Materials Engineer
Mechanical Engineer
Production or Plant Engineer
Structural Engineer
Engineering Professionals (Not Elsewhere Classified)



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Telecommunications Engineers
Telecommunications Network Engineers
General Practitioner
Anaesthetist
Psychiatrist
Specialist Physicians Not Elsewhere Classified
Surgeons (Including General Surgeons
Cardiothoracic Surgeon Neurosurgeon
Orthopaedic Surgeon Otorhinolaryngologist
Urologist And Vascular Surgeon)
Other Medical Practitioners (Including
Dermatologist Obstetrician And Gynaecologist
Ophthalmologist Diagnostic And
Interventional Radiologist And Radiation
Oncologist)

Resident Medical Officer
Medical Laboratory Scientist
Clinical Psychologists & Psychologists
Physicist (Medical)
Orthoptist
Veterinarian
Other Spatial Scientist
Environmental Research Scientist
Food Technologist
ICT Managers (\$120,000)
Software Engineer (\$120,000)
ICT Security Specialist (\$120,000)
Multimedia Specialists (\$95,000)

The Work to Residence pathway

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

Anaesthetic Technician
Medical Laboratory Technician
Medical Imaging Technologist
Medical Radiation Therapist
Occupational Therapist
Sonographer
Podiatrist
Audiologist
All Registered Nurses (including but not
limited to Aged Care)

Midwife
Teachers - Secondary with specialisations and
registered ECE
Automotive Electrician
Diesel Motor Mechanic (including Heavy
Vehicle Inspector)
Electrician (General) –registered
Plumber – registered
Dairy Farm Managers

Migrants paid at least twice the median wage in other roles can also apply for residence after two 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 fast track 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 pathway 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 won't be exempt from a labour market test unless they pay at least 200% of the median wage.