

VISA PAK ISSUE 512 — 01 JULY 2022

## **2021 RESIDENT VISA APPLICATIONS – LODGING WITH AN EXPIRED PASSPORT**

Since the opening of the 2021 Resident Visa (2021RV) Category, Immigration New Zealand (INZ) and the Immigration Contact Centre (ICC) have been receiving regular queries from immigration advisers and applicants about whether 2021RV applicants may submit an application without a current passport, given that there have been long waiting times for passport renewals in some countries due to COVID-related disruptions.

The online form for the 2021RV prevents potential applicants from entering anything but a current or future date in the 'expiry date' field for their passport. This is in line with the Immigration Regulations which require applications to be submitted with details of a valid passport.

Given the limited time remaining for people to apply for the 2021RV, it has been agreed that such applicants can use a paper form (INZ1365) instead of the online form if they do not have a current passport available. In accordance with the Regulations, applicants still have to provide, along with the paper form, identity documents (such as a full birth certificate) for the purposes of lodging their application.

For those applying in this manner, a special direction has been made allowing for copies of documents (including expired passports) to be submitted with the form, waiving the requirement for originals or certified copies to be provided. This approach is in line with the large majority of 2021RV applicants who apply online with copies of documents.

A PDF of the paper form will be available on the INZ website from Monday 4 July 2022 and the website (link below) will be updated to advise customers that INZ1365 can be used if their passport has expired.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa/one-off-residence-visa/2021-resident-visa-application-process>

Applicants will be able to email the form to NADO, who will confirm that the client is prevented from applying online due to eligibility screening questions or due to not having a current passport. NADO will then contact the client to obtain fee payment details as credit card details should not be emailed.

For the avoidance of doubt, the advice above only applies for 2021RV applicants.