



**IMMIGRATION  
NEW ZEALAND**

PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

# Health Requirements

for entry to New Zealand



**This leaflet will give you information on the health requirements you must meet to be granted a visa to travel to New Zealand, or a permit to remain in New Zealand.**

## Acceptable standard of health

Applicants for visas and permits for New Zealand must have an acceptable standard of health. We consider you to have an acceptable standard of health if you are:

- unlikely to be a danger to public health
- unlikely to impose significant costs or demands on New Zealand's health services or special education services
- able to perform the functions for which you have been granted entry.

If you intend to give birth in New Zealand you are not considered to have an acceptable standard of health.

## Showing that you have an acceptable standard of health

To show that you have an acceptable standard of health, you may have to complete a medical certificate, and submit it with your application. There are two different medical certificates:

- *Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate (NZIS 1007)*
- *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate (NZIS 1096).*

What you have to provide depends on which category you are applying under, and how long you intend to stay in New Zealand.

### Residence visa/permit applications

If you are applying for residence, each family member included in your application must provide a *Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate* with the application. Children under 11 years of age and pregnant women are not required to have an X-ray, unless a special report is needed.



For further information on immigration visit [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)

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For most residence categories, your residence application is the first step, and you must provide your medical certificate(s) with the application.

However, if you apply under the Skilled Migrant Category, General (Active) Investor Category, Refugee Family Support Category, Samoan Quota, or Pacific Access Category, you have to submit an Expression of Interest or a registration before you provide a residence application. If you are invited to apply for residence, each family member included in the application must provide a *Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate* with the application.

### Long Term Business Visa Category and Work to Residence Category

If you are applying under one of these categories, each family member included in your application must submit a *Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate* with the initial application, and another when you later apply for residence.

### Temporary entry visa/permit applications

Temporary entry includes work, student, visitor's, working holiday, and limited purpose visa/permit applications.

Whether you need to provide a medical certificate depends on how long you intend to stay in New Zealand. If you are already in New Zealand, this includes time you have already spent here.

If you intend to be in New Zealand for **less than six months**, you are not required to submit a medical certificate with your application.

If you intend to stay in New Zealand for **more than 12 months**, you must complete a *Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate*. Children under 11 years of age and pregnant women are not required to have an X-ray, unless a special report is needed.

If you intend to be in New Zealand **for more than six months but not longer than 12 months**, you may need to provide a *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate*. Whether you need to provide this certificate depends on whether you are from a place that is not on the list below, or you have visited a place that is not on the list.

## COUNTRIES, AREAS, AND TERRITORIES WITH A LOW INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS (TB)

Andorra	Jamaica
Antigua and Barbuda	Jordan
Australia	Lebanon
Austria	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Barbados	Liechtenstein
Belgium	Luxembourg
Bermuda	Malta
British Virgin Islands	Monaco
Canada	Montserrat
Cayman Islands	Netherlands Antilles
Chile	Netherlands
Costa Rica	New Zealand
Cuba	Norway
Cyprus	Oman
Czech Republic	Puerto Rico
Denmark	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Dominica	Saint Lucia
Finland	San Marino
France	Slovenia
Germany	Sweden
Greece	Switzerland
Grenada	Trinidad and Tobago
Iceland	Turks and Caicos Islands
Ireland	United Arab Emirates
Israel (including the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and including East Jerusalem)	United Kingdom
Italy	United States of America
	United States Virgin Islands
	Vatican City

If you hold a passport from a place that is not on the list, you must provide a *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate*. (We may waive this requirement if you can satisfy an immigration or visa officer that you have never lived or spent time in that place.)

If you have lived in or visited a place/places not on the list above for a combined total of three months or more in the five years prior to your application, you must provide a *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate*.

**Example** *You hold a British passport and you live in the United Kingdom, which is on the list above. However, in the last five years, you spent five weeks in Thailand and eight weeks in Fiji.*

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*Thailand and Fiji are not on the list, therefore you have spent a total of at least three months in a place which is not on the list. You must complete a Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate.*

You do not have to provide a *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate* if:

- you normally live in one of the places on the list above, and
- you have not spent a total of three months or more in the past five years in a place/places not on the list above.

## **Where do I go for a medical examination?**

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If you are in New Zealand, any medical practitioner holding a current annual practising certificate issued by the New Zealand Medical Council may conduct the medical examination and complete the medical certificate.

In some countries outside New Zealand, we have a selected panel of medical practitioners or institutions which you must use for your medical examination. We call these 'panel doctors'. Contact your nearest Immigration New Zealand branch, New Zealand Embassy or High Commission to find out if you need to see a panel doctor for your examination, or visit our website [www.immigration.govt.nz/paneldoctors](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/paneldoctors).

## **How long are medical certificates valid for?**

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*A Medical and Chest X-ray Certificate* or a *Temporary Entry X-ray Certificate* (and associated reports) must be less than three months old at the time you lodge your application.

However, if you are applying for a temporary entry visa/permit, and you have lodged another application with us recently, and you provided a medical certificate with your previous application, you may not have to submit another certificate. The medical certificate that you previously provided must be less than two years old.

## **What will we do with information about your health?**

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When you have submitted your application, we will assess your health status. We use the information that you provide in your application form, and your medical certificates (where required) as the basis of our assessment. In some cases, an immigration or visa officer may refer medical certificates to an Immigration New Zealand Medical Assessor for advice.

We may request medical certificates from you after you have lodged your application if we need to establish whether you have an acceptable standard of health.

## People who do not have an acceptable standard of health

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If you or any family member included in your application does not have an acceptable standard of health, your application will be declined, unless we grant you a medical waiver.

For residence applications, we only consider medical waivers if you meet all of the other requirements for approval of your application.

For applications for temporary visas/permits, we only consider medical waivers if you meet all of the other requirements for approval of your application, and:

- you have a partner or a dependent child who is a New Zealand citizen or resident, or
- you have applied for a temporary visa/permit as a seconded businessperson, or
- you have applied for a temporary visa/permit on the basis of your refugee status claim.

We will also consider a specific medical waiver if you or your partner have applied for a temporary visa/permit, and have been assessed as not having an acceptable standard of health on the sole basis that you intend to give birth in New Zealand. To be eligible you or your partner must meet all of the other requirements for approval of your application, and:

- your partner must be a New Zealand citizen or resident, or
- you or your partner must be applying for a work to residence visa/permit, and you must intend to stay for longer than 24 months in total (including time you may have already spent here on another permit).

However, we cannot grant a medical waiver to you or any family member included in your application if that person:

- requires dialysis treatment, or
- has pulmonary tuberculosis (TB), or
- has severe haemophilia, or
- has a physical incapacity that requires full-time care, or

- is applying for residence under Family Category policy and was eligible to be included in an earlier application for residence, but was not declared on that earlier application.

If you or any family member included in your application were eligible to be included in an earlier successful application for residence and you/they were declared in that application but were not included, you/they will be assessed for the grant of a medical waiver as if you/they had been included in the earlier application and as if the sponsor was not resident in New Zealand.

## For more information

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Section A4 of our Operational Manual, available online at [www.immigration.govt.nz/manual](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/manual), contains comprehensive policy on health requirements.

If you have questions about any of the information in this guide:

- see our website [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)
- telephone our call centre on 0508 558 855 (within New Zealand)
- contact one of Immigration New Zealand's offices.

Immigration New Zealand has offices in Apia, Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Jakarta, London, Moscow, New Delhi, Nuku'alofa, Shanghai, Singapore, Suva, Sydney, Taipei, and The Hague.

Our New Zealand offices are located in Auckland, Henderson, Manukau, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

You can also contact your nearest New Zealand Embassy or New Zealand High Commission.



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[newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)