



# Visa Services & Business Solutions New Zealand

**Seek Visa International Pty Ltd**  
[www.seekvisa.co.nz](http://www.seekvisa.co.nz), [www.seekvisa.com.au](http://www.seekvisa.com.au)



## SEEKVISA

# Focusing on your success

- Do you seek to expand your business into New Zealand?
- Are you an employer looking to second employees for a specific project?
- Do you need to visit New Zealand for short-term business purposes?

Seek Visa International (SVI) offers tailor made solutions that are specifically designed to support you and your business strategy.

We can assist your company in getting your staff to New Zealand quickly, efficiently and with minimum hassle so that you can focus on growing your business.

Depending on the circumstances, there are several potential work and business visa options for both employers and businesses, which are outlined on the following pages.

With ongoing changes to the Business Migration scheme in New Zealand, VL is able to offer our experience and expertise to deliver the best immigration advice and provide the most up-to-date visa solutions.

We take care of all the necessary immigration and visa needs on your behalf, and can provide strategic support to establish your business or investment in New Zealand as additional services if required.



## Table of contents

### **Doing Business in New Zealand**

- Employee of Relocating Business Category
- Long Term Business Visa Category
- Entrepreneur Category
- Entrepreneur Plus Category
- Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category)
- Investor (Investor 2 Category)
- Temporary Retirement Category

### **Working in New Zealand**

- Work to Residence Category
- Essential Skills Category
- Specific Purpose or Event
- Student/Trainees Category



# Doing Business in New Zealand

New Zealand Business visas are suitable for business owners, investors and business people who wish to buy or establish businesses or invest in them.

Depending on the individual's preferences and business plans there are several options within New Zealand's business migration categories which may be suitable:

- 1. Employee of Relocating Business Category**
- 2. Long Term Business Visa Category**
- 3. Entrepreneur Category**
- 4. Entrepreneur Plus Category**
- 5. Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category)**
- 6. Investor (Investor 2 Category)**
- 7. Temporary Retirement Category**



## Employees of a relocating business

The Employee of Relocating Business Category is a visa option for key employees in a business that is relocating to New Zealand. This category facilitates the granting of permanent residence to employees of a business relocating to New Zealand who do not qualify for permanent residence under any existing categories.

The application for permanent residence must first meet requirements for approval in principle, and the applicant will then be invited to apply for a temporary work visa that will allow them to come to New Zealand to make the relocation arrangements.



## Long Term Business Visa Category (LTBV)

The Long Term Business Visa Category (LTBV) is for business owners who are interested in being self-employed in their own business in New Zealand, and who may wish to apply for a permanent residence visa under the Entrepreneur category at a later time.

This visa category will enable the applicant to move to New Zealand to buy or establish their own business. It may then allow for permanent residence in New Zealand under the Entrepreneur categories.

Upon approval, a successful visa applicant will initially be given nine months to work and establish or buy a business in New Zealand. Within that nine months, or as soon as they have established their business, they can apply for a further work visa for the balance of three years.



## Entrepreneur Category

The Entrepreneur Category provides an option to business people who have successfully established or purchased a business in New Zealand and have been self employed in that business for at least 2 years.

Applicants under the entrepreneur category must have invested or purchased at least 25% or more of the share holding of the business.

To be considered self employed, an applicant must show evidence they have actively contributed to the management and operation of the established business.

This visa allows applicants to travel to New Zealand and remain indefinitely, provided they enter the country within 12 months.



## Entrepreneur Plus Category

The Entrepreneur Plus Category is for people who currently hold a Long Term Business Visa Category on the basis they bought or established a business in New Zealand, and allows them to apply for permanent residence more quickly.

Applicants under this category must have substantial investment in a business. This may mean they have purchased 25% or more of the share holding of a business.





## Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category)

The Investor Plus Category may be suitable where business people would like to invest at least \$NZ10 million in New Zealand, and would like to apply for New Zealand permanent residence.

Under this category an applicant can submit a permanent residence application directly.

To be eligible for this visa an applicant must show evidence that the funds/assets available:

- are owned by them or jointly by them, their partner and/or dependent children
- are unencumbered, i.e. not subject to any mortgage, lien, charge and/or encumbrance (whether equitable or otherwise) or any other creditor claims
- have been earned or acquired legally
- are transferable through the banking system, or a foreign exchange company that uses the banking system.



## Investor (Investor 2 Category)

This Investor Category may be an option for business people wishing to invest at least NZ\$1.5 million in New Zealand and would like to apply for New Zealand permanent residence.

Similar to the Investor Plus category, to be eligible for this visa an applicant must show evidence that the funds/assets available:

- are owned by them or jointly by them, their partner and/or dependent children
- are unencumbered, i.e. not subject to any mortgage, lien, charge and/or encumbrance (whether equitable or otherwise) or any other creditor claims
- have been earned or acquired legally
- are transferable through the banking system, or a foreign exchange company that uses the banking system



## Temporary Retirement Category

The Temporary Retirement Category is a special visitor category designed for those who wish to invest in New Zealand and stay longer than current visitor categories allow.

To be eligible for this visa an applicant must:

- be aged 66 years or over
- nominate funds and assets equivalent to at least NZ\$750,000 and undertake to invest them in New Zealand for two years
- nominate NZ\$0.5 million for maintenance funds
- show an annual income of NZ\$60,000 at the time of application.

Successful applicants will be issued with a multiple entry visitor visa that allows them to stay for two years and travel in and out of New Zealand during that time.



## Working in New Zealand

New Zealand Work visas are suitable for ongoing work that will contribute to developing New Zealand's human capability base.

Within the options to work in New Zealand, there are four broad categories for the entry of skilled people:

- 1. Work to Residence Category**
- 2. Essential Skills Category**
- 3. Specific Purpose or Event**
- 4. Student/Trainees Category**



## Work to Residence Category

For individuals wanting to work in New Zealand with the view of settling there permanently, the Work to Residence Category can be used as a step towards gaining permanent residence.

There are three pathways in the Work to Residence category:

- 1. Talent (Accredited Employers):** this pathway is suitable for accredited employers who wish to supplement their own New Zealand workforce through the recruitment of workers who are not New Zealand citizens or permanent residence class visa holders. Accreditation with Immigration New Zealand (INZ) has to be in place before skilled or talented people from overseas can be hired.
- 2. Long Term Skill Shortage List (LTSSL):** this pathway is suitable for those who are qualified in an occupation for which New Zealand has an ongoing skills shortage. Individuals applying for this must have an offer of employment.
- 3. Talent (Arts, Culture and Sports):** this pathway is suitable for sports persons, or people with exceptional talent in the arts or cultural fields. This visa requires sponsorship by a New Zealand organisation.



## Essential Skills Category

The Essential Skills Category facilitates the entry of people required on a temporary basis to fill shortages.

In order to be eligible for this visa, an individual must:

- prove their suitability for the position by showing evidence of qualifications, training or work experience
- meet health and character requirements of INZ

The New Zealand employer must also be able to show that there are no suitable New Zealand workers available for the position to be filled.

Essential Skills Category visas will usually be issued with a maximum duration of three years depending upon the classification of the job offer by INZ.



## Specific Purpose or Event Category

The Specific Purpose or Event Category is available for:

- business people wishing to undertake business activities in New Zealand
- installers or servicers of specialised machinery or equipment
- people who need to come to New Zealand for any other specific purpose or event where the circumstances justify the grant of this visa
- displays or exhibitions
- people with a written invitation to referee sports events or judge shows

Applications under this visa category can be done outside or inside New Zealand.



## The Student/Trainees Category

The Student/Trainees Category facilitates the entry of students and trainees who would like to gain practical work experience or to train as part of their studies.

Visa applicants under this category may include:

- students studying in their home country or lawfully in any other country who wish to fulfil a course requirements by undertaking practical work experience in New Zealand that is directly related to their course of study
- medical or dental trainees who wish to fulfil compulsory training requirement by undertaking practical training in New Zealand.

Visa applicants may apply outside or inside New Zealand.



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