

## KEY UPDATES

Here is a summary of recent key operational and policy updates about the immigration system. Please note this is not an exhaustive list of updates. For more information about any of the updates below, please visit the relevant page on Immigration New Zealand's (INZ's) website.

The primary role of the New Zealand immigration system is to facilitate the travel of visitors, students, workers, families and refugees to New Zealand, and protect New Zealand from immigration risk. Read more about [how the Immigration system works](#) on the INZ website.

You can also check out our announcements, media releases, stories, and common topics on our [News Centre](#).

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### 26 JUNE 2024

- › The Government has made [further changes to the Accredited Employer Work Visa \(AEWV\) scheme](#). From 26 June 2024, AEWV holders in Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) level 4 or 5 roles without a pathway to residence can no longer support work, student or visitor visa applications for their partners and children. Partners or workers and dependent children can still apply for work, student or visitor visas if they meet immigration instructions in their own right.
- › Use our [new online tool](#) to check if your employee can support a visa for their partner or dependent children.

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### 28 MAY 2024

- › In response to the recent events in New Caledonia and Vanuatu, INZ extended visas for RSE workers to enable them to stay in New Zealand lawfully and extended the visa entry dates for RSE workers waiting to travel to New Zealand from Vanuatu. Please refer to the [INZ website](#) for details on the kind of support that was provided.

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### 16 MAY 2024

- › As [signaled in April 2024](#), the franchisee accreditation category was removed on 16 June 2024. From 16 June onwards, franchisee employers can apply for either standard, high-volume or triangular employment, depending on their circumstances.

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### 8 MAY 2024

- › New guidance is now available to support employers with renewing their accreditation. The guidance covers who should renew their accreditation, the best time to apply, choosing the right accreditation type, the evidence to provide for faster processing and how to apply. [The INZ website](#) has further information and a link to [the guidance](#).

## KEY STATISTICS

Statistics about visa application processing and decisions for some of INZ's key visa categories are listed below, and are correct as at **26 June 2024** unless otherwise stated. Processing timeframes are based on applications decided in **May 2024**, unless otherwise stated.

### AEWV

- › INZ has received 40,352 employer accreditation applications since applications opened on 23 May 2022.
- › Job Check applications opened on 20 June 2022. INZ has received 74,634 applications, equating to 317,132 jobs. Of those, 69,685 Job Check applications have been approved, equating to 297,684 jobs.
- › INZ has received 135,527 work visa applications and approved 122,082 since applications opened on 4 July 2022.
- › [Our website](#) contains current processing estimates for all three AEWV gateways. 80% of visas and accreditations are

processed within these times. Your visa application, accreditation or job check may take longer than what is shown there.

- › You can read more about AEWV on the INZ website. We publish fortnightly statistics and information updates to this page: [Accredited Employer Work Visa \(AEWV\) | Immigration New Zealand](#)

## USEFUL LINKS

New links are added to the end of this section as they become available – see the end of this section for the latest links. **The latest links have a star\* next to the list bullet.**

- › Our [accreditation process web page](#) outlines the steps for hiring a migrant on an AEWV.
- › Our [Accredited Employer Work Visa resources web page](#) contains helpful checklists, information packages, communication tools, and other resources, including our [Job Advertisement Guide](#).
- › Our [median wage comparison calculator](#) helps to indicate what your employee's hourly pay rate may be and how it compares to the New Zealand median wage.
- › Our YouTube channel contains recorded webinars including a [playlist about AEWV](#) that contains webinars about accreditation requirements, requirements for franchisees and employers placing AEWV holders with controlling third parties, requirements for the Job Check and work visa, and common themes INZ has been seeing with Job Check applications.
- › Information about our online application systems can be found at our [Immigration Online web page](#). The latest version of our Enhancements to Immigration Online User Guide, which is updated regularly, can be found on our [Enhancements to Immigration Online web page](#).
- › Information on processing times is available on our [how long it takes to process a visa application web page](#).
- › Learn about your visa status by visiting our [check your visa application status web page](#).
- › A new calendar of country-wide seasonal working opportunities for those with a Working Holiday Visa has been launched and can be viewed here: [Travelling with a working holiday visa](#)
- › Information on Skilled Migrant Category EOI selections is available [on our website](#).
- › Information on the Parent Resident Visa EOI selection process is available [on our website](#), including a table of expected selection dates.
- › Our [Can I get a refund of my application fee?](#) web page includes our [Customer Refund Request Form](#).
- › Use [this form](#) to sign up to receive INZ's email updates.
- › The new [INZ News Centre](#) is a place where we publish immigration announcements and/or changes, media releases, stories about some of the people who work at INZ, and common topics. Common topics have information to help answer questions on visas and immigration processes.
- › You can now use our new tool to [check on the INZ website if an employer is accredited](#).
- › New online forms have been launched for [visa transfers](#) and [Parent Resident Visa expressions of interest](#).
- › With the launch of the new SMC, INZ held a webinar for immigration professionals on skilled residence pathways in New Zealand. You can [watch the webinar recording online](#).
- › Our [immigration scams page](#) now includes information in other languages. You can use our [Resource Library](#) to find social media resources on immigration scams.
- › Our [Skilled Migrant Category Resident Visa application guide](#) is a useful guide to help applicants plan and submit

their SMC application on time.

- › Our [webpage about the settlement information accredited employers must give workers on an AEWV](#) now has an optional template we have created that employers can use to provide this information.
- › We have a [new centralised process](#) to request priority allocation for urgent applications. This includes a web tool to [check if you can make an escalation request](#).
- › Our [webpage about the NZeTA](#) has now been updated with a decision tool that enables visitors to check their eligibility for an NZeTA.
- › We have recently put together [a new web page about AEWV post-accreditation checks](#). It has some useful tips on the kind of things we might ask employers to show us, and definitions of some of our common terms (like 'key people' or 'triangular employers').
- › Migrants who have been dismissed from their job while on a trial period can now apply for a [Dismissed Worker Visitor Visa](#). Applicants must have a current work visa and enough money to live on while they are in New Zealand.
- › The [Migrant Exploitation Protection Visa webpage](#) has been updated to contain all the important details regarding the visa process on the same page.
- › Please refer to [INZ's acceptable forms list](#) for a list of forms that are currently accepted by Immigration New Zealand offices. This list contains the date of the current version of each form.
- › Find out if you can support an employee to apply for their AEWV balance or resend an unused job token to another migrant by referring to [the INZ website](#).
- › Find out how an AEWV applicant can meet the English language requirement for the AEWV if they have been offered a role at ANZSCO Level 4 or 5 by referring to [the INZ website](#).
- › The form for employers to inform INZ that an AEWV holder has left their employment is now available on [the INZ website](#).
- › INZ hosted a webinar in April regarding AEWV changes. You can watch the recording for [Changes to the Accredited Employer Work Visa Webinar for Employers](#).
- › We have relaunched the [INZ Facebook page](#). Follow our page to keep up to date with news, information and announcements.
- › We have updated our [webpage](#) to provide guidance for people with transliterated names on their passports, along with guidance on English translations of supporting documents. The [guide to apply for a New Zealand visitor visa](#) online has also been updated to include guidance on mandatory translations.\*
- › We have updated [AEWV resources](#) to align with the April 2024 policy changes.\*
- › Our website now contains two videos about AEWV [information for employing migrants](#) as well as [information for migrant workers](#).\*
- › Our webpage with information about [working on a student visa](#) has been updated. Generally, students need to be studying full-time to be eligible for in-study work rights, however this does not apply if they are in their final semester of a programme of study in New Zealand, resulting in a New Zealand qualification at Level 4 or higher on the New Zealand Qualifications and Credentials Framework\*
- › Please refer to [our website](#) to check whether a migrant worker is suitably qualified.\*
- › Find out more about new English language requirements for AEWV by referring to [the INZ website](#).\*
- › Use our [new online tool](#) to check if your employee can support a visa for their partner or dependent children.\*

- › Our [webpage](#) containing the list of employers who have not complied with immigration law and who are stood down from supporting visas for migrants has been updated.\*

## UPLOADING DOCUMENTS IN THE ENHANCED IMMIGRATION ONLINE SYSTEM

→ If you are having trouble uploading documents in the enhanced Immigration Online system, please visit this link in your web browser for further help: [Enhanced Immigration Online - User Guide](#).

→ If you need to upload five or more documents, or documents larger than 10mbs, please go here for further help: [Enhanced Immigration Online – User Guide](#).

### I AM HAVING TROUBLE UPLOADING SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS THAT INZ REQUESTED. HOW DO I UPLOAD THEM?

→ When we request further information (RFI), the link provided with the RFI will only allow up to five documents to be uploaded with the maximum limit of 10mb per file. If you have more than five documents to upload in response to our request, you can follow the instructions here: [Enhanced Immigration Online - User Guide](#). Ensure any uploaded documents are within the maximum file limit (approximately 10mb). If you encounter errors when uploading, reduce the file size or split the document into multiple smaller documents.