

Note: The information in this Roundup covers from 17 December 2024 – 28 February 2025.

SPOTLIGHT ON:

Employer Accreditation Checklist

Use our new checklist to make sure you include everything required for when applying for or renewing a client's employer accreditation, helping us to process applications faster.

[Applying or renewing accreditation: employer checklist | Immigration New Zealand](#)

We have also improved the Accredited Employer Work Visa page to make it easier for customers to understand what they need to apply.

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.

20 FEBRUARY 2025

- › A number of [changes will be made to the AEWV in March 2025](#), including removing the median wage requirement, reducing the work experience requirement from three years to two, amending the requirement for employers to engage with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), increasing the visa duration for ANZSCO Level 4 and 5 AEWV holders to 3 years, increasing the income threshold for supporting dependent children, and recognising some roles at higher ANZSCO skill levels.
- › [Find out how](#) these changes may impact migrants and employers.
- › Updates will also be made [to the median wage](#) in February 2025.
- › In April, there will be further changes coming into effect regarding [work rights for people on interim visas](#) while they are awaiting the outcome of an AEWV application.

23 JANUARY 2025

- › Since 27 January 2025, employers and employees are [no longer required](#) to complete the Employment New Zealand online modules. Employers are still expected to provide employment and settlement information to migrant workers.
- › The domestic workforce threshold required for triangular employers hiring certain construction roles has [reduced from 35% to 15%](#) to align with the requirements for triangular firms in other sectors.
- › The 2025 reopening dates for capped Working Holiday Schemes (WHS) have now been confirmed and are available [on our website](#).

17 DECEMBER 2024

- › The Government has announced reforms to the AEWV. The changes will be implemented in 4 different stages over the course of 2025, beginning in January. Some of the main changes are removing the median wage threshold, reducing the experience requirement for migrants from three years to two, and increasing the visa duration for ANZSCO Level 4 or 5 AEWV holders to 3 years. You can [visit our website](#) to learn more about the changes and when they will be implemented.
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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 **24 February 2025** unless otherwise stated.

AEWV

So far in 2025:

- › INZ has received 3,186 Employer Accreditation applications, including 2,112 applications for reaccreditation. 3,205 Employer Accreditation applications have been decided in 2025 to date.
- › INZ has received 3,076 Job Check applications. 3,424 Job Check applications have been decided in 2025 to date, with 7,739 Job Tokens having been approved and 1,283 Job Tokens having been used for roles.
- › INZ has received 4,037 AEWV applications. 5,157 AEWV applications have been decided in 2025 to date.
- › [Our website](#) contains current processing estimates for all three AEWV gateways, **which has recently been updated to include wait times by ANZSCO level and sector, and for Green List roles.**
- › You can read more about AEWV on the INZ website. We publish regular statistics and information updates to this page: [Accredited Employer Work Visa \(AEWV\) | Immigration New Zealand](#)

SKILLED RESIDENCE

So far in 2025:

- › INZ has received 321 applications under the new Skilled Migrant Category (SMC). 340 new SMC applications have been decided in 2025 to date.
- › INZ has received 531 Green List Straight to Residence (StR) applications and 95 Green List Work to Residence (WtR) applications. 659 StR and 123 WtR applications have been decided in 2025 respectively.
- › Processing times for skilled residence categories [can be found on our website.](#)

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.**

AEWV Scheme:

- › Our [Accredited Employer Work Visa resources web page](#) contains helpful information packages, communication tools, and other resources, including our [Job Advertisement Guide](#).
- › You can now use our new tool to [check on the INZ website if an employer is accredited](#).
- › 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.
- › [Our web page about AEWV post-accreditation checks](#) 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').
- › Guidance has been published for [how to use ANZSCO](#), what to do [before you apply for a Job Check](#), and how to [advertise a role and engage with Work and Income](#).
- › A new Job Check checklist is now available for employers and advisers on [the INZ website](#). You can use this checklist to ensure you include everything required for an employer's Job Check application. *
- › A new [accreditation checklist](#) is now available to help you include everything required for when applying for or renewing a client's employer accreditation. We have also improved the [Accredited Employer Work Visa](#) page to make it easier for customers to understand what they need to apply. *

Visitor Visa:

- › 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.

- › The guide to applying for a visitor visa online in eight languages, as well as English, has been updated to include guidance on mandatory translations. [Hindi](#), [Tongan](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Fijian Hindi](#), [Tuvaluan](#), [Samoan](#), [Kiribati](#), [Fijian](#), and [English](#).

Skilled Residence:

- › Our [Skilled Migrant Category Resident Visa application guide](#) is a useful guide to help applicants plan and submit their SMC application on time.

Other/general:

- › Watch our recent [webinar on 2025 March AEWV changes for employers](#).
- › 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](#).
- › 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](#).
- › 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 [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.
- › We have a [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.
- › 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.
- › Follow our [INZ Facebook page](#) to keep up to date with news, information and announcements.
- › 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.
- › Our ["Changing the conditions of a work visa or applying for a Job Change"](#) page has a new section titled "You have been made redundant or affected by a restructure, liquidation or bankruptcy." This section mentions these situations and advises people to call our Customer Service Centre if they are affected. Similar information has also been added to [the page aimed at employers](#). It advises employers to get in contact with us if they are affected by a change in business circumstance, and that they should direct migrant employees to call us.
- › Our website has now been updated with [information that allows people to verify](#) the authenticity of a visa given to them without calling the Customer Service Centre.