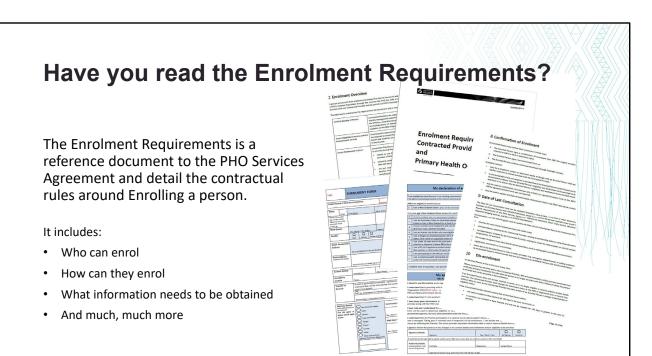
Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand

Eligibility & Entitlement for Enrolment

& More



I'm sure everyone has heard of the Enrolment Requirements for Contracted Providers and Primary Health Organisations (V4.1).

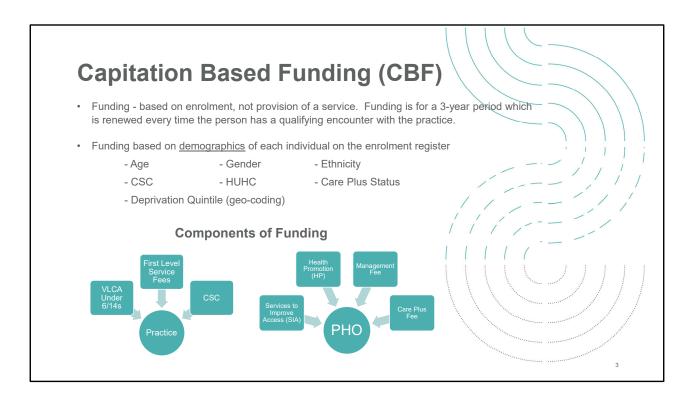
But I can almost guarantee that not many of you have gone through them in detail, if at all. The Enrolment Requirements are a reference document to the PHO Services Agreement and detail the contractual rules around Enrolling a person.

It details who can enrol, how they can enrol or re-enrol, the mandatory information that needs to be collected, what happens if patients change practices, or practices change PHOs, it contains a generic enrolment form showing the mandatory fields and declarations, and so on, and so on.

If you've never read these rules, then I urge you to do so. It is the enrolling of a person and obtaining a properly completed enrolment form that allows a practice to enter a person onto its register as ENROLLED. If you fail to produce an enrolment form for a person, or have an enrolment form with some critical errors, this can, and often does, have financial ramifications for the practice

If you or your staff have never read this document, then I strongly suggest that you consider going through the Enrolment Requirements at the next staff group training session, just to

remind yourself of the rules.



It's important that enrolment in completed, and that the correct demographics are recorded for a person as this has an impact on funding.

The seven demographics that impact on the funding are Age, gender, Ethnicity, CSC and HUHC status, Care Plus Status and deprivation quintile.

Depending on the demographics the funding can be as little as around \$6.60/month for a non-HUHC young to middle-aged male, to as high as \$61/month for an under 5-year-old baby with a HUHC.

Re-enrolling via Auditable Contact

Re-enrolling via Auditable Contact is described in Section 8 Enrolment Requirements. It states:

An Enrolled Person may confirm their enrolment in three ways:

- The Enrolled Person signs a confirmation of enrolment form (NB The original enrolment form needs to be retained as either a hard or electronic copy);
- 2. The Enrolled Person signs a new Enrolment Form; or
- 3. The Enrolled Person confirms continued enrolment through Auditable Contact.

Auditable Contact:

- may be a telephone contact or electronic media exchange with an Enrolled Person that specifically confirms his/her intention to remain enrolled with the Contracted Provider.
- is only acceptable if the conversation is documented in the Enrolled Person's Daily Record and there is sufficient
 documented evidence that the Enrolled Person's eligibility and entitlement to be enrolled has been confirmed, and
 there is no reason why the Enrolled Person's eligibility and entitlement to be enrolled would have changed.
- may be used as confirmation of enrolment only if there is a signed Enrolment Form on file. NB Prior to 1 April 2004 a signed Enrolment Form was not required.
- · may be used to update the Date of Confirmation of Enrolment field in the PMS if the above conditions are met.

Before I get into the topic of Eligibility, I'll just touch on a couple of things we've picked up in some recent audits that some practices aren't quite getting right that are resulting in some much unwanted financial ramifications for the practice. The most significant finding relates to the increased use over the last 3-4 years of the Auditable Contact method of reenrolment.

There are three methods to either enrol or re-enrol a person, and these are described in the Enrolment Requirements for Practices and PHOs.

They are.... a new enrolment form, a confirmation of enrolment form and Auditable Contact.

Obtaining a new enrolment form is always considered best practice but on occasion this may not be practicable. On those occasions Auditable Contact is available but does come with risk as it is quite easy to get it wrong. If you do get it wrong, it may invalidate the reenrolment, which could potentially result in financial ramifications.

There are three things the practice must complete or have for a re-enrolment via Auditable Contact to be valid.

Firstly, the practice must hold an original valid signed enrolment form on file

Secondly, the practice must contact the patient to confirm their wish to remain enrolled with the practice, and a note of the conversation must be recorded in the daily record. Thirdly, and this is often where practices fail, the practice must have documented evidence that the patient's eligibility has been tested and that there is no reason for eligibility to have changed.

It's only if these three conditions are met, that the re-enrolment date on the PMS can then be updated.

Re-enrolling via Auditable Contact

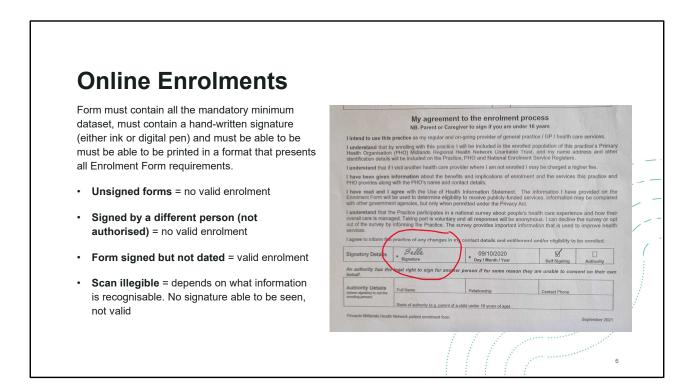
Whilst not an official document, an Auditable Contact checklist has been developed to assist practices with the process.

If practices use the checklist, the likelihood of the Auditable Contact reenrolment failing will be minimal.

ırolmen	t Requirements (Version 4.1 - Nove	mber 2018) - Section 8 Confirmation of Enrolment
may be is/her int is only ufficient onfirmed ave char may be 004 a sig may be B: If enro	tention to remain enrolled with the acceptable if the conversation is di documented evidence that the Enr I, and - there is no reason why the typed. used as confirmation of enrolment ined Enrolment Form was not requi used to update the Date of Confirm	ocumented in the Enrolled Person's Daily Record and there is loiled Person's ligibility and entitlement to be enrolled has been Enrolled Person's eligibility and entitlement to be enrolled would rought of the property of the property of the property of the rought of the property of the property of the analysis of Enrollement field in the PMS if the above conditions are met. A additable Contact method of re-anoment is IKO longer an available
	Patient's Name:	
1	Phone Call Date: Staff Member Calling: Staff Member Signature:	
2	Has Enrolled Person confirmed that he/she wishes to remain enrolled with the practice	YES / NO (circle answer)
3	Does practice hold a valid enrolment form (with the eligibility questions and Health Privacy Declarations) signed by correct person? Yes - Enrolment Form Dated:	
4	Does Practice hold documented Evidence the patient's eligibility has been tested? Yes - Describe evidence viewed (e.g. NZ Passort number, or NZ Citizen by Birth via NES DIA Data share, Birth Cert in Inbox, Current Work Visa dated XX/XX/XXXXX in Inbox, etc)	
5	Ensure "Re-Enrolment" is updated in NES and this form is scanned into the Inbox	

We actually found during one audit that a practice had created a very basic Auditable Contact checklist. We took this back to our office and played around with it a bit and came up with what we see here. Whilst its not an official reference document, I think it is incredibly useful for those practices who wish to use the Auditable Contact method of reenrolment.

The checklist is a great reminder of the necessary steps for Auditable Contact re-enrolment and if its fully completed and scanned into the inbox there is unlikely to be any problems with regard to the re-enrolment and updating of the enrolment date.



Many practices are now allowing patients to enrol using an online enrolment form.

Most of the On-line forms we've seen are perfectly fine and meet the Enrolment Requirements. However, we've recently come across an on-line enrolment form, that is being used by a small number of practices, that does not meet the mandatory requirements as set down by the Enrolment Requirements. The on-line form in question did not contain all the eligibility options, did not contain all the mandatory "My Agreement to the Enrolment Process Statements, and allowed the enrollee to type their signature, rather than sign it.

The Enrolment Requirements state:

Contracted Providers are required to ensure the enrolling person completes a hard copy or electronic format Enrolment Form. The Enrolment Form **must** include:

- the enrolment minimum dataset (refer section 3.6)
- an eligibility declaration
- an entitlement declaration
- the My Agreement to the Enrolment Process statements
- an acknowledgment of Use of Health Information Statement
- hand signature (ink or digital pen) of enrolling person (or authorised person) and date

of signing

NB. Although "consent to transfer records" is not a mandatory requirement on the Enrolment form it is required as part of Foundation Standard which is a minimum requirement within the PHO Services Agreement.

Enrolment Forms in electronic format **must** be able to be printed in a format that presents all Enrolment Form requirements.

Why Eligibility and Entitlement Matter

Health & Disability services in NZ are only funded for people who are eligible (Health and Disability Services Eligibility Direction 2011)

A practice can only enrol a person if:

The practice assesses the person as eligible

The practice assesses

the person's entitlement to enrol

A formal enrolment process is followed

Because New Zealand is a relatively small country with limited revenue, we have to be careful about where that revenue is spent. This includes making sure the health dollar is spent on those who need it and are entitled to it. Being 'eligible', gives a person the right to be considered for publicly funded health or disability services. Because if eligible, these services could be subsidised or even free.

But Eligibility is just one part. The PHO Enrolment Requirements take this a step further and say, not only does the person have to be eligible for enrolment, but they also need to be entitled. Entitlement is just as important as Eligibility.

Once a person is found to be both eligible **and** entitled, it's then a formal enrolment process can then be followed.

Eligibility and Entitlement

Eligible person - eligible for publicly-funded health & disability services (Health and Disability Services Eligibility Direction 2011)

Entitlement to enrol:

- residing <u>permanently</u> in New Zealand (at least 183 days per year) <u>and</u>
- · wishes to use the provider for on-going, regular health care and
- is not receiving his/her healthcare through a different funding agreement i.e. Defence Force & Corrections (people in prison)

Fully eligible person - <u>eligible to enrol</u> and <u>entitled to enrol</u> in a PHO because s/he is currently residing permanently in NZ and wishes the practice to be his/her regular and <u>on-going provider</u> of First Level Services

There are 10 different eligibility criteria and these are defined in the Eligibility Direction 2011. We'll look at these in a moment.

For the purposes of Enrolment, the enrolling person also needs to be entitled. And there are three aspects to entitlement.

Firstly, the person must be residing permanently in New Zealand. This means that they must be in New Zealand for at least 6 months and 1 day in any 12 month period. (that's 183 days per year).

secondly, the person must not be receiving his or her healthcare though any other funding agreement. This relates to people in the Defence Force and people in prison. For defence force personal the Defence Force is responsible for their healthcare, and for people in prison, the Dept of Corrections is responsible for their healthcare;

And **thirdly**, they must intend to use the provider for their ongoing and regular healthcare. If a person fulfils all of these conditions, they are deemed to be fully eligible and can then complete the enrolment process.

More on people in Prison

People in Prison

The Dept of Corrections is responsible for the healthcare of any person in Prison or on remand. These people are no entitled to enrol at a general practice

If the practice becomes aware, from any reliable source, that a patient is now residing in prison, it is obligated to end the enrolment for that patient. Particularly if the patient will be residing in prison for more than a month.

It is recommended that when the medical records are transferred to the prison, the practice include a letter to be passed on to the prisoner advising them that they will need to re-enrol with the practice upon release.

Before moving on, let's talk a bit more about people in prison. We often get questions on this. As mentioned briefly earlier, the Dept of Corrections is responsible for the healthcare of any person in Prison or on remand. As such these people are not entitled to enrol at a general practice

If the practice becomes aware that one of its patients is now in prison, the Enrolment Requirements require that the enrolment for that patient be ended.

So, if a practice doesn't know how long a person will be in prison, or knows that it will be for more than a month, then end the enrolment for that person. However, my recommendation is that If the practice is of the understanding that the person will be in prison for less than a month, then don't end the enrolment. The admin required to end the enrolment and then chase the patient up to re-enrol them upon release makes ending the enrolment nonsensical when the time in prison is less than a funding cycle.

But if you are ending the patient's enrolment, it is recommended that a letter to the patient is provided with the transfer of records, advising the patient that their enrolment has briefly been ended whilst in prison and that they will need to re-enrol with the practice upon their release.

Eligibility for Enrolment

A person is fully eligible and entitled to be enrolled in a PHO if he / she is residing permanently in New Zealand and:

- a) Is a New Zealand citizen (incl. people from the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau) OR
- b) Holds a resident visa or a permanent resident visa (or a residence permit if issued before December 2010) OR
- c) Is an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident AND has been in New Zealand or intends to stay in New Zealand for at least 2 consecutive years OR
- d) Has a current work visa and is able to show that he/she is able to be in New Zealand for at least 2 years (previous permits included) OR

So let's look at the 10 different eligibility criteria. Firstly, the most common ones. People are eligible if:

A: they are a New Zealand Citizen, or a citizen of the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau, or

B: they hold a resident visa or permanent resident visa, or

C: are an Australian Citizen or an Australian permanent resident who intends to reside in New Zealand for at least two years, or

D: they hold a current Work visa and can show that they are able to be legally in New Zealand for at least two years (a person's previous visas, as long as they are consecutive, can also be included in the two-year calculation)

Eligible Persons Continued

- e) Is an interim visa holder who was eligible immediately before their interim visa started OR
- f) Is a refugee or protected person OR is in the process of applying for, or appealing refugee or protection status, OR is a victim or suspected victim of people trafficking OR
- g) Is under 18 years and in the care and control of a parent/legal guardian/adopting parent who meets one criterion in clauses a–f above OR
- h) Is a NZ Aid Programme student studying in New Zealand and receiving Official Development Assistance funding (or their partner or child under 18 years old) OR
- i) Is participating in the Ministry of Education Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship scheme OR
- j) Is a Commonwealth Scholarship holder studying in New Zealand and receiving funding from a New Zealand university under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Fund.

And now onto some of the less common eligibility criteria. People can also be eligible if: **E:** they hold an Interim Visa and were eligible immediately before their Interim visa started (we'll talk more about these soon), or

F: the person is a refugee or a protected person or is in the process of appealing refugee or protected person status, or is a victim of or a suspected victim of people trafficking, or **G:** the person is under the age of 18 years and is in the care and control of a parent or legal guardian who meets one of the eligibility criteria, or

H: the person is a New Zealand Aid Programme student studying in New Zealand, or is the partner or child of a New Zealand Aid Programme student. This is one of the few eligibility criteria where the children, partner or spouse are also eligible base on the NZ Aide Programme student's visa

I: the person is participating in the Ministry of Education Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship scheme, or

J: the person is a Commonwealth Scholarship holder studying in New Zealand

Eligible Persons Continued



New Zealand includes all waters within the outer limits of the territorial sea of NZ as defined in section 3 of the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1977, but does not include the Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau or the Ross Dependency. It includes:

- Chatham Island (est pop 600)
- Kermadec Islands (est pop 6)
- Three Kings Islands
- Bounty Island
- Antipodes Islands
- Campbell Island
- Auckland Island

So those are the ten different eligibility criteria. You may recall that along with New Zealand citizens, people from Cook Islands, Tokelau and Niue are also treated as New Zealand citizens.....so they're eligible. **But** how does this fit into the entitlement criteria of residing permanently in New Zealand. Well, any time spent residing in those islands does **not** count as time spent in New Zealand.

The area that is considered New Zealand is described in the Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1977....... As well as the North Island, South Island and Stewart Island, New Zealand also includes:

Chatham Island

The Kermadec Islands

Three Kings Islands

Bounty Island

Antipodes islands

Campbell Island

Auckland Island

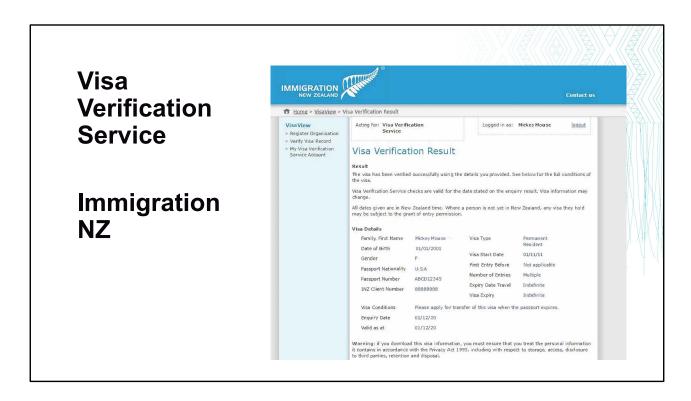
So, we need to remember that no matter which of the eligibility criteria a person may fall into, they must also meet the entitlement criteria of residing permanently in New Zealand, which means for at least 183 days in the year.

On-going Eligibility

- · On-going Assessment of Eligibility
- Under the current Enrolment Requirements it is the practice's responsibility to assess eligibility and entitlement
- · Eligibility is assessed at the time the person first enrols
- But the provider has an obligation to re-assess the eligibility of the people with a temporary/time limited visa
- PHO Enrolment Checklist:
- http://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/eligibility-publicly-funded-health-services/resources-service-providers-check-eligibility/eligibility-enrol-primary-health-organisation

Rightly or wrongly, checking eligibility is the practices' responsibility and normally this would only be required to be done once, at the time the patient first enrols. But for people with a temporary visa, such as a work visa that might expire after 2 years, the practice needs to re-check for ongoing eligibility. If a work visa has expired, and the patient holds no further work visa, or does not meet any of the other eligibility criteria, then they must have their enrolment ended in N.E.S.

Practices use different methods for following up on time limited visas. This might include setting up tasks, diary notes, or utilising the more recently added Visa Expiry field that some Practice Management Systems now contain.



You may or may not already know but Immigration NZ now offer a Visa Verification Service. This Service allows authorised people and organisations to verify a person's visa details. I understand that its reasonably easy to apply to get access to this service.

Basically, with the patient's consent the practice can log into the Visa Verification Service and by entering certain demographic information relating to the patient, the practice can see the patient's current visa details.

This service may assist practices who have patients with time limited visas, such as work visas. So, with the patient's prior permission, which maybe you can get from the patient at the time of enrolment, the practice can check whether new visas have been issued when a patient's old visa is about to expire. This may save time having to chase the patient for the information.

Interim Visas

An Interim Visa allows a foreign national to remain in NZ lawfully, while a new temporary visa application is processed.

Interim Visa are issued to people who:

- · are in the New Zealand.
- · hold a temporary Visa, and
- have applied for another temporary visa and the application is <u>accepted</u> for processing by INZ.

Temporary visa applications that qualify for an interim visa are:

• Work, student, visitor, military, diplomatic, consular of official visas.

People whose temporary visa application was not accepted for processing, are <u>not</u> eligible for an interim visa.

Interim Visas are only valid for 6 months but will expire as soon as the person receives their new visa or leaves the country

Practices can sometimes be presented with interim visas as evidence of eligibility. The main thing you need to remember is that a person will only be eligible on an interim visa, if they were eligible immediately prior to receiving the interim visa. Not everyone will receive an interim visa, as specific conditions need to be met before an interim visa is issued.

They are only issued to people who are currently in New Zealand,..... who still currently hold a temporary (or time-limited) visa,and who have applied for a further temporary visa and have had their application accepted by Immigration NZ before their current visa has expired.

If a person's current temporary visa has expired prior to a new visa application being accepted by Immigration NZ, then an interim visa will not be issued and there will often end up being a time-gap between the person's visas.

For example, if a woman who applied for a new work visa 2 days before the old one ran out. Information was missing from her application, so Immigration sent the application back. By the time the application was re-submitted her first visa had expired and therefore an interim could not be issued. This person then technically became an illegal over stayer; however, Immigration New Zealand normally give 42 days grace

Proof of Eligibility & Identity

- · A New Zealand passport OR
- A New Zealand Birth Certificate (or Cook Island, Niue or Tokelau birth certificate)
 AND two forms of proof that they are the person on the birth certificate OR
- A New Zealand Certificate of Citizenship AND 2 forms of supporting identity documentation – 1 needs to have a photograph OR
- A Descent Registration Certificate AND 2 forms of supporting identity documentation
 1 needs to have a photograph OR
- Evidence the person is currently getting a social security benefit (except emergency benefit) AND 2 forms of supporting identity documentation – 1 needs to have a photograph of the patient.

Practices are contractually bound to only enrol people who **are** eligible. So, in the interests of best practice and to avoid any possible negative impact for the practice should ineligible people be found on its register, we strongly recommended that the practice sight and retain evidence of a patient's eligibility and identity.

For New Zealand citizens some of the things you would expect to see as proof of identity and eligibility are:

A New Zealand passport; or

A New Zealand birth certificate. This includes a birth certificate from the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau. or

A New Zealand Certificate of Citizenship or a Descent Registration Certificate; or

Evidence the person is currently receiving a social security benefit, such as an unemployment benefit, Invalids benefit or Sole Parent Support benefit (DPB). For people obtaining these benefits, Work & Income NZ has already assessed their eligibility for you. The only benefit type you cannot rely on as evidence of eligibility is the emergency benefit as non-eligible people can also receive this. For this criteria evidence could include a letter from WINZ or bank statements showing the benefit payments.

This last option might be useful for many of those people are of no fixed abode or

homeless or similar.

Proof of Eligibility & Identity Continued

- Foreign nationals need to show a visa (passport). A foreigner who is unable to show proof can contact INZ for proof of his/her status or history in NZ (free service).
- Examples of <u>identity</u> documents include:
- · a driver licence
- an 18+ card
- · an employment contract, a rental agreement, or
- · letters addressed to the patient at their current address.
- Community Service Card (CSC) to be used as last resort only as on rare occasions a non-eligible person can hold a CSC card

As evidence of eligibility Foreign Nationals will need to show a visa. To be eligible this would normally mean producing a Work visa or Resident Visa. Any person from overseas is able to contact Immigration and request proof of their status or history in New Zealand if required.

When requesting evidence of eligibility we suggest the practice also seek two forms of supporting identification, including one with a photograph, if possible. Some examples of identifying documents include, a drivers licence, an 18+ card, an employment contract, a rental agreement or letter addressed to the patient at their current address.

Many practices have asked whether Community Services Cards can used as evidence of eligibility. Utilising CSC cards as evidence of eligibility should be a last resort only. Whilst 99% of people holding a CSC card will be eligible, on rare occasions a non-eligible person can also hold a CSC card. So always seek other evidence of eligibility first. If practices solely use the CSC card as evidence of eligibility, we recommend the practice write an audit trail on the enrolment form stating why a CSC card only has been used as evidence.

Homeless people. Ask a series of questions of the enrolee and write an audit trail on the enrolment form explaining the steps taken to assess eligibility.

What evidence should I retain?

Practices should record a note of the details they reviewed to confirm eligibility to enrol. This could be either in the daily record, or on the enrolment form itself. This note should include:

- The evidence of eligibility that has been viewed by the practice. The practice is able to rely on what's shown to it by the
 enrolling person, as long as it is a valid document listed in the Enrolment Requirements. Refer to Appendix 1, at page 18 of
 the Enrolment Requirements for Contracted Providers and Primary Health Organisations and the PHO Enrolment Checklist
 Summary Information for Office Staff (tewhatuora.govt.nz).
- · a record of the following information:
 - o the type of documentation provided (e.g. passport or work visa)
 - o last 4 digits of the document relied on to prove eligibility (if applicable)
 - o the date the document is valid until

Examples could be: Patient provided a NZ Passport, expiry date 01/01/2024, last 4 digits PP number...2365 – NZ Citizen" or "Patient provided Work Visa dated 01/01/2022, expiring 02/03/2024 – meets 2-year work visa criteria" or "Patient provided Student Visa 01/01/2019 – 01/01/2023 followed by Work Visa 02/01/2023 – 02/01/2024 – meets 2-year Work Visa criteria). You are no longer required to retain a copy of the actual eligibility document reviewed, nor record the full unique identifier of the document sighted.

This information can also be used to support "documented evidence of eligibility" as part of the re-enrolment process (Section 8 Enrolment Requirements).

Questions have recently been raised about how much information general practices may or may not be retaining about the eligibility status of their enrolled population. A person's eligibility is one of the matters addressed at audit, and is part of the Enrolment Requirements practices are contracted to meet.

It is necessary to strike a balance between the practice establishing they have taken the required steps to check a person is eligible (before they are included in PHO Registers and seek subsidised payment for them), and ensuring only 'necessary' information is collected.

Copies of eligibility documents need no longer be retained. Now only limited details are required to be recorded (including that only short extracts, rather than full unique identifier details are retained):

HPIT now summarises the audit team expectations for general practices when retaining valid enrolment eligibility evidence. The expectations are designed to meet the requirements of the Privacy Act 2020, and our audit expectations of reasonable evidence retained to establish adequate eligibility checking has occurred.

Practices should record a note of the details they reviewed to confirm eligibility to enrol. This could be either in the daily record, or on the enrolment form itself. This note should include:

• The evidence of eligibility that has been viewed by the practice. The practice is able to rely on what's shown to it by the enrolling person, as long as it is a valid document listed in the

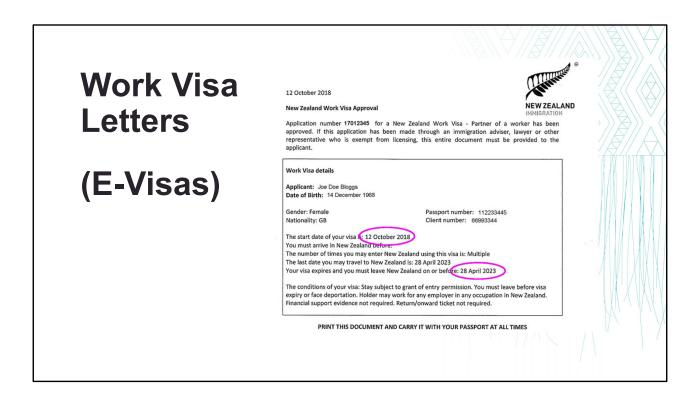
Enrolment Requirements. Refer to Appendix 1, at page 18 of the <u>Enrolment Requirements</u> for Contracted Providers and Primary Health Organisations and the <u>PHO Enrolment Checklist</u> Summary Information for Office Staff.

- a record of the following information:
 - o the type of documentation provided (e.g. passport or work visa)
 - o last 4 digits of the document relied on to prove eligibility (if applicable)
 - the date the document is valid until Examples could be: Patient provided a NZ Passport, expiry date 01/01/2024, last 4 digits PP number...2365 NZ Citizen" or "Patient provided Work Visa dated 01/01/2022, expiring 02/03/2024 meets 2-year work visa criteria" or "Patient provided Student Visa 01/01/2019 01/01/2023 followed by Work Visa 02/01/2023 02/01/2024 meets 2-year Work Visa criteria). You are not required to retain a copy of the actual eligibility document reviewed, nor record the full unique identifier of the document sighted.

This information can also be used to support "documented evidence of eligibility" as part of the re-enrolment process (Section 8 Enrolment Requirements).



One of the more common eligibility criteria relied upon by Foreign Nationals is a work visa. We have here an example of an older style work visa with a Start Date and a First Entry before date. Rather than showing an expiry date, the length of the visa is detailed in the conditions. If we look at this example we can see that the visa is valid for 24 months from first arrival. It is therefore important that practices also obtain confirmation of when the patient first arrived into the country so that it knows when the visa will expire and a reassessment of eligibility may be required.

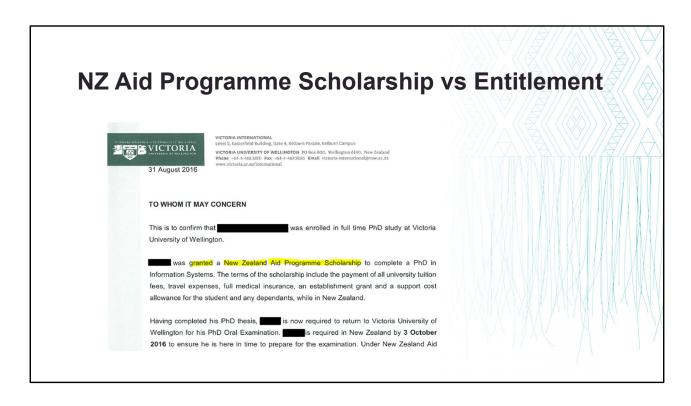


Most practices will now be seeing work visas in this letter format. An E-Visa. As detailed in the previous slide the length of the visa may be detailed in the conditions, or it may show a Start Date and a Last Date of Travel Date (or End Date).

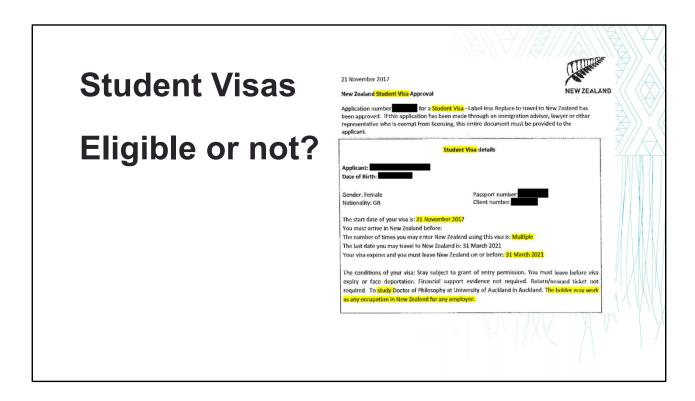


Up until this point we have mentioned very little of Student Visas. The reason being is that holding a student visa **only** is **not** one of the criteria for eligibility. However, if a person presents with a student visa **and** a corresponding letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade detailing a New Zealand Aid Programme Scholarship or Commonwealth Scholarship, as shown in the slide here, the person would then be eligible for the period described in the letter. Like work visas, the practice will need to re-assess the patient's eligibility when the scholarship is nearing its end date.

For these people it is important to note that the period of eligibility is the period stated in the MFAT letter, not the dates in the Student Visa.



Whilst people on a NZ Aide Scholarship will be eligible, practices should also check their entitlement. In the example here, the student did hold a NZ Aide Scholarship, so was eligible, but was back in New Zealand for just 3 months only to complete a PHD. This person did not meet the entitlement criteria of residing permanently in New Zealand for at least 183 days and should not have been enrolled.



Whilst the conditions of a person's visa may discuss study, work or employment, the type of visa it is will be detailed at the top of the letter or visa sticker. Here we have an example of a Student Visa which includes in its conditions confirmation that the person can work for any employer. In this particular instance the practice that received this had, because of the condition stated, categorised this as a Work Visa and had incorrectly enrolled the person. Whilst it does give the holder permission to work it is not a work visa and the holder is not eligible.

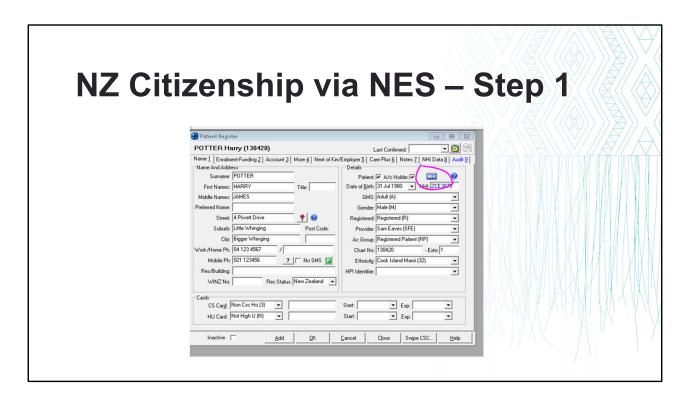
Diplomatic,	Consular & Official Visas	
NOT Eligible	18 September 2019 MEW ZEALAND IMMIGRATION	
	New Zealand official visa approval Application number 123123123 for a New Zealand visa has been approved. New Zealand official visa details	, / Y
	Applicant: Date of Birth: Joe Bloggs 12 September 1951	
	Principal applicant's details	11/11/
	Principal applicants a lectains Gender: Malle Nationality: Greenland The start date of your visa is: 18 September 2019	1 ///
	You must arrive in New Zealand before: The number of times you may enter New Zealand using this visu is: Multiple The last date you may trays! to New Zealand is: 01 January 2022	

In out Eligibility Audits this year we have seen a number of practice accepting Diplomatic, Consular and Official Visas as evidence of eligibility. Diplomatic, Consular and Official Visa are NOT included in the eligibility criteria and are not evidence of eligibility. The country of origin is responsible for paying for healthcare of their diplomats

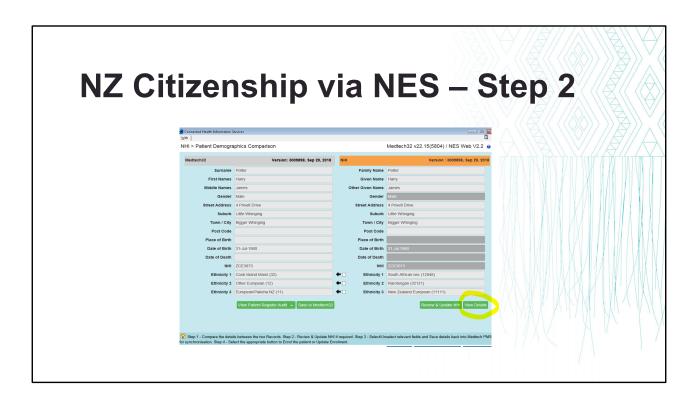


One of the best documents for proving citizenship is a New Zealand Birth Certificate. However, simply having a New Zealand birth certificate is unfortunately no longer 100% evidence of eligibility.

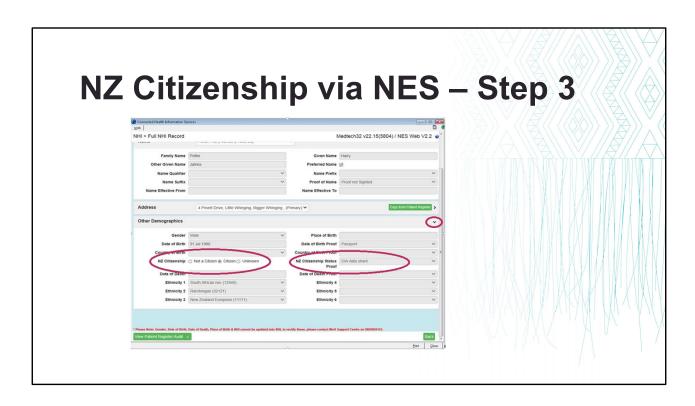
Previously any baby born in New Zealand was automatically deemed to be a New Zealand citizen. But since 2006 any baby born in New Zealand to parents who did not meet the eligibility criteria, were no longer automatically granted New Zealand citizenship by birth. The good news is that the citizenship status is now detailed on all birth certificates issued from 2006. At the bottom of the column on the left-hand side it contains the statement "New Zealand Citizen by Birth" and next to that will be either a YES or NO, detailing whether a person is a NZ citizen by birth or not. So practices will now need to do this extra check when provided with a birth certificate for any person born after 2006.



Another very useful tool for checking if a person is an eligible New Zealand Citizen by birth is via the NHI function on the practice's PMS. After a datamatch was conducted between the Ministry of Health and the Dept of Internal Affairs, the NHI records for 1.7 million people were able to be updated to show them as a New Zealand Citizen by birth. Different PMS will access the information in different ways. The MedTech example shown here requires the user to click on the NHI button.



You then need to click on the View Details button on the bottom right to take you to the persons full NHI record.



In the 'Full NHI Record' screen, half way down, in the 'Other Demographics' section, you will see a line containing the person's NZ Citizenship details. If this line indicates the person to be a Citizen and over to the right the Proof section states 'DIA data share' then this is confirmation enough that the person is a NZ Citizen by birth, and can be relied on by the practice as 100% evidence of the person's eligibility.

If a person is found to be eligible via this method, we suggest you note the details down on the enrolment form next to the eligibility section.

Data Matching with INZ

- · Memorandum of understanding with INZ
- Random & Targeted Data Matches with INZ since 2011
- Audit & Compliance writes to people who appear to be not eligible or not entitled to be enrolled with a PHO or included on a PHO enrolment register. People are asked to provide evidence of their eligibility.
- PHOs are advised of the people not eligible or entitled to be included on an enrolment register and are requested to ensure that these people are removed from registers (Subsequent targeted audits).

In 2011 the Ministry of Health entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Immigration New Zealand and since that time has been conducting random and targeted data matches. This process involves sending the names and dates of birth of people from patient registers to Immigration NZ who then match these details against their own database to look for people who are either living outside of NZ or who are in New Zealand on visas that do not meet the eligibility criteria.

Those people identified as potentially ineligible are then written to and given the opportunity to challenge the findings. If no reply is received or the person is unable to prove they are eligible and entitled, the PHOs are provided with details of those people and are asked to ensure that their enrolment is ended. If the enrolment is ended promptly, there are no financial ramifications for the practice or PHO.

If after a period of time it is seen that the people identified as either not eligible or entitled have remained on the register, Audit & Compliance may proceed with a targeted audit. It's during these audits that there are financial ramifications.

Data Matches 2011 - 2016

	Random	Targeted
Number	8	5 (26 practices)
Sample Size	2,525,000	115,050
Total Matched	1,766,872	93,023
Total Notified	36,010	5,200
Percentage	1.43%	4.52%
Successfully challenged (Pts/PHO)	1,093	47
Therefore deemed ineligible	35,016	5,175
Percentage Ineligible	1.4%	3.6%
O/S > 12 months	1.0%	2.4%
O/S > 12 months + ineligible	0.1%	0.9%
Ineligible	0.3%	0.3%

Between 2011 and 2016 Audit & Compliance conducted 8 random and 5 targeted Eligibility Data Matches with Immigration, matching the records for more than 2.6 million people. It found approximately 1.5% of those people matched were either ineligible or living out of New Zealand. One of the targeted data matches included 13 general practices. For these 13 practices we found between 4 and 13%.of the people on their registers were ineligible.

2018 Data Match

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	Random
Number	1
Sample Size	2,228,138
Total Notified	30,977
Percentage	1.39%
Successfully challenged (Pts/PHO)	2,693
Therefore deemed ineligible	28,284
Percentage Ineligible	1.27%
O/S > 12 months	0.9% (approx. 70%)
Ineligible	0.37% (approx. 30%
Incorrect Funding - 28,284 x approx \$12/month	\$353,500 / month

In 2018 a further 2.2 million randomly chosen people were data matched. Immigration records showed in excess of 28,000 of these people were either ineligible or living out of New Zealand, that's almost 1.3% of the patient register. This may not sound like a very large percentage but when you consider that over a billion dollars is paid out to PHOs and General practice every year, 1.3% can amount to quite a substantial amount of funding being paid for people who are either ineligible or not even living in New Zealand. In fact, it works out at over \$1 million of incorrect funding going out every 12 weeks.

Financial Impact

Recoveries will be recommended/quantified:

- for those people who were never eligible we calculate the recovery back to the point they enrolled or became ineligible.
- for those people who were outside of NZ we calculate the recovery from the time the PHO/practice was notified and asked to remove the person

If a data match results in a targeted PHO and practice audit, the financial impact can vary, depending on the findings. For ineligible people the funding recovered is normally from when the person was first enrolled or became ineligible. For people living outside the country, the funding is recovered back to the point when the practice or PHO became aware that the person is now residing overseas.

What can you do? In May 2011 a My declaration of entitlement and eligibility Quality Improvement I am entitled to enrol because I am residing permanently in New Zealand. The definition of residing permanently in NZ is that you intend to be resident in New Zealand for at least 183 days in the next 12 Process was a I am a New Zealand citizen (If yes, tick box and proceed to I confirm that, if requested, I can pro introduced into the If you are <u>not</u> a **New Zealand citizen** please tick which eligibility criteria applies to you (b–j) below Enrolment D Thold a resident visa or a permanent resident visa (or a residence permit if issues before December 2010) I am an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident AND able to show I have been in New Zealand or intend to stay in New Zealand for at least 2 consecutive years I have a current work visa/permit and can show that I am legally able to be in New Zealand for at least 2 years (previous visas / permits included) Requirements to allow PHOs and I am an interim visa holder who was eligible immediately before my interim visa started f I am a refugee or protected person OR in the process of applying for, or appealing refugee or protection status, OR a victim or suspected victim of people trafficking. I am under 18 years and in the care and control of a parent/legal guardian/adopting parent who meets one criterion in clauses a 4 above OR in the control of the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Social Development in Lam a NZ LAB Programme Student studying in NZ and receiving Official Development Assistance funding for Providers time to develop internal systems and their partner or child under 18 years old) i I am participating in the Ministry of Education Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship scheme processes to assess j | I am a Commonwealth Scholarship holder studying in NZ and receiving funding from a New Zealand university under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Fund eligibility Evidence sighted (Office use only) I confirm that, if requested, I can provide proof of my eligibility

So what can you do?

In May 2011 new Enrolment Requirements were released which included a new-look enrolment from containing the eligibility declaration. A Quality Improvement Process was also introduced at this time to allow Providers and PHOs time to develop internal systems and processes to assess eligibility. Many practices took the opportunity and instigated a rolling programme of re-enrolling its patient population using the new enrolment form.

Subsequent releases of the Enrolment Requirements have also reminded practices that if patients have not yet signed an enrolment form containing the eligibility declaration and the health privacy statement, then a new form should be obtained at the next point of contact.

What can you do?	
l am entitted to enrol because I am residing permanently in New Zealand* and meet one of the following el criteria: a) I am a New Zealand citizen OR b) I hold a resident visa or a permanent resident visa (or a residence permit if issued before December 2010 c) I am an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident AND able to show I have been in New Zealand or Intend to stay in New Zealand for at least 2 consecutive years d) I have a work issafpermit and can show that I am able to be in New Zealand for at least 2 years (previous permits included) e) I am an interim visa holder who was eligible immediately before my interim visa started f) I am a refugee or protected person OR in the process of applying for, or appealing refugee or protection status, OR a victim or suspected victim of people trafficking g) I am under 18 years and in the care and control of a parent/legal guerdian/adopting parent who meets one criterion in clauses and above h) I am 18 or 19 years old and can demonstrate that, on the 15 April 2011, I was the dependant of an eligible work permit holder i) I am a NZ Aid Programme student studying in NZ and receiving Official Development Assistance funding (or their partner or child under 18 years old) l) I am participating in the Ministry of Education Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship scheme k) I am a Commonwealth Scholarship holder studying in NZ and receiving funding from a New Zealand university under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Fund.	Ploase circle Yes (No)

If a new enrolment form is received, it is important that it isn't simply accepted and filed without checking it and obtaining the appropriate evidence of eligibility. Here is an example of a form found during an audit which clearly shows the patient to be ineligible, yet the practice still enrolled them.

And its not just the eligibility section that you should take special note of. Always make sure the form is signed and dated. An unsigned form is not valid. Just in the last couple of weeks I have visited a practice for an audit and found the Transfer of Records section had been signed, but not the Enrolment declarations or Agreement to the Enrolment Process section. In these instance the enrolment is once again not valid.

Useful contacts and Info

Email:

eligibility@health.govt.nz

Phone: 0800 855 066

Enrolment Check List

 https://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-healthsystem/eligibility-publicly-funded-healthservices/resources-service-providers-checkeligibility/eligibility-enrol-primary-health-organisation

Eligibility Direction

 https://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-healthsystem/eligibility-publicly-funded-healthservices/eligibility-direction

Enrolment Requirements

 https://www.tewhatuora.govt.nz/assets/For-thehealth-sector/Primary-care/Referenceddocuments/Enrolment-Requirements-for-Contracted-Providers-and-PHOs-Version-4.1.pdf

We've included some links to information you might find useful. And if you have any queries regarding eligibility, please email eligibility@health.govt.nz or phone: 0800 855 066.

Health Integrity Line

- Audit and Compliance manage the Health Integrity Line (HIL). The HIL is a free, completely
 anonymous, 24/7 phone line for you to report fraud or any other activities you're concerned
 about in the health system.
- Concerns may include dishonesty or inappropriate claiming or use of public money, inappropriate use of technology, workplace bullying, theft, drug use or harassment.
- Health Integrity Line 0800 424 888
- Free and anonymous
- If you feel comfortable providing your contact information, you can provide your concerns direct to Audit and Compliance at ac_intel@health.govt.nz.

And on a final note, Audit and Compliance also manage the Health Integrity Line (HIL)

The Health Integrity Line is a free, 24/7, completely anonymous method of providing information to Audit and Compliance about anything that you think is "not right" within the Health Sector. This could be anything from the deliberate non-compliant enrolment of patients, through to dishonesty or the inappropriate use of public money.

Upon receipt of the information, Audit and Compliance will review the information and act upon it. If the information is not a 'claiming issue', where Audit and Compliance have a mandate to investigate, the information is passed on to the appropriate team or agency to follow up.

This concludes our session, thank you for taking the time to watch and listen. Nga Mihi Nui