

Access and Eligibility for Financial Support for New Zealand migrants living in Australia Information Sheet 2017



In February 2016 new visa pathways for New Zealander's were announced:

Any New Zealander's who arrived between 2001 and 19th Feb 2016 can apply for permanent residency after five years if they earn \$54k each year. The new visa is similar to the skilled visa 457.

<http://www.border.gov.au/Visasupport/Pages/an-additional-pathway.aspx>. The Visa costs \$3,600 and they can sponsor their partner for \$1,800 and children \$900 (under 18) \$1,800 for 18-24 y.o. children. Health and security check costs on top of that.

May be eligible for **Income exemption** if they meet certain criteria:

- The Family Court of Australia assigning primary care of a child to a New Zealand citizen and placing restrictions on that New Zealand citizen from removing the child from Australia; or
- where a New Zealand citizen is receiving compensation for an injury and is unable to continue earning at or above the income threshold, and if they returned to New Zealand their ongoing rehabilitation and/or compensation would be discontinued.

Detailed information about Exemptions to the income requirement is available on the

<http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/189-new-zealand-stream>

Return Resident Visa: Applies to people who entered Australia as New Zealand citizens before 1 September 1994 may be considered a former permanent resident, and may be able to access the RRV pathway. [http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/155-/Resident-Return-visa-\(subclasses-155-and-157\)-document-checklist](http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/155-/Resident-Return-visa-(subclasses-155-and-157)-document-checklist)

Disability support: A reciprocal agreement between NZ, Work and Income, and Australia Centrelink makes some provision for payments - such as Disability Support Payments.

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/new-zealand-citizens-claiming-payments-australia>

And now the National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013 excludes New Zealanders who arrived after 2001.

NZ families with a dependent child 10 years old or over: NZ families who have had a dependent child born in Australia and have had 10 years continuous living in Australia - The child can become an Australian citizen; therefore the parent can apply for Centrelink payments i.e. Special Benefit.

<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/special-benefit>

Citizenship by birth—from 27 February 2001

A child born in Australia on or after 27 February 2001 to a New Zealand citizen parent is not an Australian citizen by birth unless the New Zealand citizen parent:

- held an Australian permanent visa
- was a dual Australian-New Zealand citizen
- was covered by the transitional arrangements for the 26 February 2001 changes.

Automatic acquisition of citizenship on 10th birthday

A child born in Australia on or after 20 August 1986 who did not acquire Australian citizenship at birth automatically acquires it on their 10th birthday if they have been residing in Australia since their birth. This provision operates regardless of the parents' immigration or citizenship status.

Other Resources and Fact sheets

- **NZ Eligibility - Timeline Tip sheet** has been developed by the EHN and is available on the [EHN website](#).
- **State-wide Children's Resource Brokerage**
The Children's Resource Program manage the Homeless Children's Brokerage Support Program, providing up to \$300.00 per child, per financial year for children (0-18yrs) within the family. This brokerage may be able to help support New Zealand children if the family is engaged in ongoing support with a SHS funded agency, including family violence services. For more information:
<http://www.ehn.org.au/justforthechildren/crwhatson/48-brokerageinformation20152016.html?highlight=WyJicm9rZXJhZ2UiXQ>
- **Department of Immigration and Border Protection**
<https://www.border.gov.au/about/corporate/information/fact-sheets/17nz>
- **Centrelink**
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/dhs/centrelink>
- **Department of Human Services - New Zealand citizens claiming Payments**
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/new-zealand-citizens-claiming-payments-australia>
- **Ozkiwi**
Website: <http://www.ozkiwi2001.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ozkiwi2001>
Twitter: @ozkiwi2001
- **Study assist**
<http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helpfulresources/pages/faqs-nz>
- **New Zealanders in Australia: A Quick guide**
http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/rp1617/Quick_Guides/NZAust
- **Social Security Agreement between Australia and New Zealand - Frequently Asked Questions**
<https://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/international/international-social-security-agreements/current-international-social-security-agreements/australia-and-new-zealand-frequently-asked-questions>