



30 April 2024

A KS

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DOIA 2324-2142

Tēnā koe A KS

Thank you for your correspondence of 30 March 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

1. Please provide all updated Standard Operating Procedures SOPs (Family Category Parent), templates and other staff guidance which have the steps of how a parent resident visa application is processed, assessed/decided by INZ. These can be from Global Processing Manual or any other documents too. The following was shared in Jan 2024

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F25022%2Fresponse%2F95430%2Fattach%2F5%2F2324%25201232%2520A%2520KS%2520Appendix.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C553aad7dd09446d0971608dc509fd261%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638473895778262094%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IkhWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=D4dfSH770tAjNV9DIYejqdSVOfn9JpkMy%2BH%2Fn%2FrdnR8%3D&reserved=0>

2. Please provide SOP/assessment template that explains the process of assessment of English requirement for the Parent Category visa applicants. Page 9 of the following guidelines does not seem to be complete

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F25022%2Fresponse%2F95430%2Fattach%2F5%2F2324%25201232%2520A%2520KS%2520Appendix.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C553aad7dd09446d0971608dc509fd261%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C63847389577827027%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IkhWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FAHGEvYeRat641P6ItxY6BYPUCaKRVPFzG%2BlvRFXVmM%3D&reserved=0>

The guidelines in the above document Page 9 are only considering the English test results or ESOL pre-purchase as the criteria for meeting English language ability for parent category. However as per instruction F4.25.1(b)(iii) there are other criteria that can be considered as the evidence of meeting English requirement like 'completion of a course of at least 3 years duration leading to the award of a tertiary qualification at institutions using English as the language of instruction or completion of at least 5 years of secondary education (that is, the equivalent of New Zealand Forms 3 to 7 or years 9 to 13) at schools using English as the language of instruction;

Please advice why the criteria of F4.25.1(b)(iii) is missing from the assessment guidelines of <https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F25022%2Fresponse%2F95430%2Fattach%2F5%2F2324%25201232%2520A%2520KS%2520Appendix.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C553aad7dd09446d0971608dc509fd261%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638473895778276035%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I6k1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=jc1ZfBLCm3mKswxEXqTtF1j94xOpHFDFGpM4tLPOHPY%3D&reserved=0>

Can or by When the assessment guidelines be updated to incorporate F4.25.1(b)(iii) instructions?

3. Could you advice if in absence of an English language test , can INZ consider the evidence as mentioned in the instruction F4.25.1(b)(iii) for the assessment of parent category application? <https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.immigration.govt.nz%2Fopsmanual%2F%2373242.htm&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C553aad7dd09446d0971608dc509fd261%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638473895778280803%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I6k1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GLusKYf83ucSGbPPmCc5m4xlefWiU7%2F27kv1enxuUkQ%3D&reserved=0>

4. Do you have the updated version of the following document that was shared in the following old OIA?

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F21085%2Fresponse%2F80471%2Fattach%2F4%2FAppendix%2520One%2520Bundle%2520final%2520Redacted%2520Part1.pdf&data=05%7C02%7CMinisterialServices%40mbie.govt.nz%7C553aad7dd09446d0971608dc509fd261%7C78b2bd11e42b47eab0112e04c3af5ec1%7C0%7C0%7C638473895778285202%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I6k1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2F4oPHPPsUXvLzh9rLs4QMtPbdMrchSRZvNkbbQgjKw%3D&reserved=0>

It can be an updated version of the same document or any other training materials/guide of INZ for the officers to assess parent category application.

MBIE has assessed and decided to grant your request, and will provide you the requested information. However, it will take us some time to process. We will send you the information as soon as it is ready and without undue delay.

We have also decided that some of the information requested may be withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 6(c) as making the information available would likely prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection;
- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.

I do not consider that the withholding of this information is outweighed by public interest considerations in making the information available.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact [inzoias@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:inzoias@mbie.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision to extend the time limit. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jack Price', is positioned above the printed name.

Jack Price

**Manager, Ministerial Services**

Associate Deputy Secretary Immigration Branch

Immigration New Zealand