
Visitor Visa Policy Training

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Agenda

Introduction to Visitor Visa Category

Visitor Visa General V2

Special Visitor Visas V3

- Business Visitors V3.5
- Parent and grandparent multiple entry visitor visa V3.110

What do you know about visitor visas?

Who is a visitor and why might they want to visit New Zealand?

What are the benefits of allowing visitors to come to New Zealand?

What are some things to note about the visitor visa pathway?

How long can you stay in New Zealand under this visa type?

What are special visitor visas?

Objective V1

to facilitate the movement of visitors to New Zealand while

- *minimising the risks to New Zealand, and in particular;*

To foster tourism, trade and commerce, international understanding and cross-cultural links, educational and scientific activities, while:

- *maintaining the health, safety and good order of New Zealand society; and*
- *protecting New Zealand from international crime, terrorism and illegal immigration.*

What motivates people to visit NZ?



Good visitors/Genuine

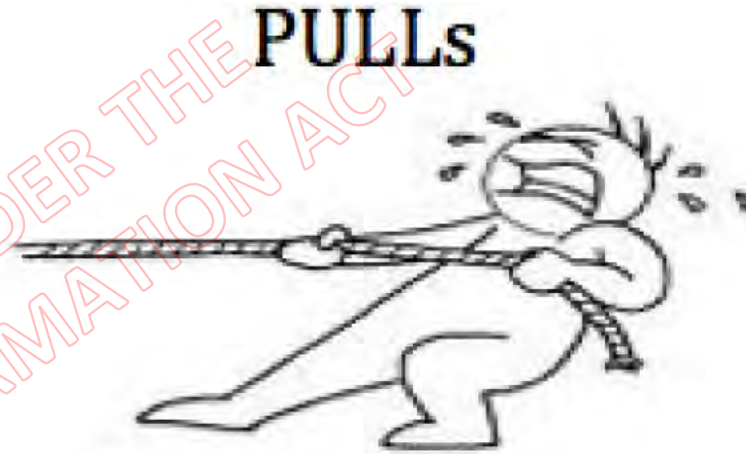
- See friends and family
- Meet grandchildren for the first time
- Celebrate special occasions eg wedding or birth of a baby
- Sightseeing
- Holiday



Bad visitors/Non-Genuine

- Not intending to go home
- Claim benefits
- Work illegally
- Run up large medical bills
- Illegal behaviour
- Declined visa application history
- Overstay or non-genuine asylum claim, refused entry at border

Push vs Pull



What things where I live in my home country would 'push' me or make me want to leave

What things where I live in my home country 'pull' me back or motivate me to go back

Visitor Visa

Visitor visa applications are based on three main criteria

Where they come from

How long they want to stay

The purpose of their visit

s 9(2)(a)

Adventurer

Since his divorce s 9(2)(a) has been on an adrenaline fix seeking out the next big challenge – let's go to Queenstown!

He's keen to stay for 3 months but he has some old university mates in New Zealand so might stay longer.

He's got a s 9(2)(a) and is ready to go.

Questions

1. What visitor visa options are available to s 9(2)(a)
2. How long could he stay in New Zealand?
3. What activities could he do while in New Zealand?



NZeTA

E12.1.1 Who must hold an ETA

- Transiting through NZ, or
- **From a visa waiver country (E2.1), or**
- A crew member on a cruise ship or aircraft that is travelling in the ordinary course of the business of the ship or a scheduled international service

E12.1.5 Exceptions: e.g. Australian Citizen

E12.5 Must be applied for online

E12.10.5 Persons who are ineligible

E12.15 Valid for 2 years (5 years for crew members)



s 9(2)(a)

Artist

s 9(2)(a) recently completed part-time study in media and film.

She's also a big movie fan and wants to visit New Zealand for 3 months. She would like to visit some of the locations where the Lord of the Rings movies were filmed.

She needs help choosing the right visa option for her trip.

Questions

1. What visitor visa options are available to s 9(2)(a)?
2. How long could she stay in New Zealand?
3. What activities could she do using this visa option?



RESOURCES

- Ops Manual

- INZ Website



NEW ITEM

s 9(2)(a)

Programmer

s 9(2)(a) enjoys travelling, Australia and New Zealand are next on her list.

She has a total of 19 days for sightseeing in both countries.

She's also a huge winter sports fan and wants to go snowboarding in Queenstown.

Let's help s 9(2)(a) with her application and requirements.

Question

1. What requirements are applicable to s 9(2)(a) application?
2. What evidence does s 9(2)(a) need to include with her application to show she meets these requirements?



What requirements are applicable to s 9(2)(a) application?

V2.1 General Requirements for Visitors

- Requirements for generic temporary entry (E4)
- Bona fides (E5)
- Health and Character (A4 and A5)
- Fund/Sponsorship (V2.20 and E6)
- Onward Travel (V2.25)
- Lawful purpose of travel (V2.1.1)

What evidence needs to be provided?

Evidence of
identity

Evidence of
health and
character

Evidence of
onward travel

Evidence of funds
for maintenance
in New Zealand

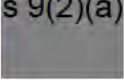
Evidence of bona
fides

Evidence of a
lawful purpose



s 9(2)(a)

Questions

1. Given the duration of her intended holiday, what does  need to provide for this requirement?
2. Does she need to include medical certificates or Police check with her application?
3. Does she require a National Security Check?



Health and Character

When are Medical Certificates required?

- General Medical Certificate: staying for 12 months or more*
- X-Ray Certificate: staying for 6 months or more (depending on risk factors)

X-Ray not required if pregnant or under 11 years of age

When is Police Certificate required?

- 17 years and older, staying in NZ for 24 months or more*, or
- Character issue declared in application form (also consider any information in AMS from previous applications)

The timeframe calculation for Medical Certificates looks *forward* only, whereas the timeframe calculation for Police Certificates looks *back* to include time previously spent in NZ

s 6(c)

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Age:
26

Family:
Single

Work:
Student

Location:
Tacheng,
Xinjiang

Pay My Way

s 9(2)(a) is an international student in Germany and has been saving for her trip to Australia and New Zealand for the last few months.

She's grateful you saved her money earlier by helping her avoid an unnecessary medical certificate.

She has enough money to book her flight and accommodation. However, she is unsure how much money is required to have an enjoyable trip.

Questions

1. What does s 9(2)(a) need to provide to meet this requirement?
2. What evidence is sufficient to prove she meets this requirement?



Funds or Sponsorship Requirements V2.20

Funds

NZ\$1000 per month **or**
NZ\$400 per month if
accommodation prepaid

OR

Sponsorship

by a person, an organisation or
a Government agency E6.5

- Sponsorship form or
- partner support form

Evidence (V2.20.1)

Cash, travellers' cheques, bank drafts, recognised credit or debit cards, a bank statement, a letter of financial support, sponsorship form or partner support form.

Acceptable Sponsors E6.5

Natural person

must be a New Zealand citizen or the holder of a current residence class visa

Organisation

must be registered in New Zealand as a company, incorporated society or charitable trust

Government agency

must be a government department named in Schedule 1 of the State Sector Act 1988, or a Crown entity



s 9(2)(a)

No Ticket Yet

s 9(2)(a) is confused as it appears she needs to have an actual outbound ticket to travel home after her holiday.

She hasn't bought her tickets yet. she wants to make sure she has an approved visa before making her booking.

s 9(2)(a) feels like she is missing something and needs help figuring out her options.

Questions

1. What options are available to s 9(2)(a) to meet this requirement?
2. How does the evidence required for the onward travel requirement relate to other evidence that s 9(2)(a) needs to provide?



Onward Travel V2.25

Applicants for a visitor visa are required to have the means to leave NZ.



V2.25.1 Evidence

- a. Onward travel arrangements
- b. Sponsorship – INZ1025
- c. Not required for partner of a WV holder who earns sufficient income, or a SV holder with a scholarship which guarantees onward travel.



s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a) Confused

She has been making good progress with her application but now needs to complete the section on bona fide.

She does not have a clear understanding of this requirement and is starting to feel anxious about her application.

Help **s 9(2)(a)** clear up her confusion by answering the following questions.

Questions

1. What is a bona fide applicant?
2. How would you explain to **s 9(2)(a)** why assessing bona fides is a critical step in the INZ process?
3. How can **s 9(2)(a)** demonstrate she is a bona fide applicant?



Bona fide E5

Definition of 'bona fide' E5.1

- a. **genuinely intends** a temporary stay in New Zealand for a **lawful purpose**; and
- b. in the opinion of an immigration officer is **not likely**:
 - i. to remain in **New Zealand unlawfully**; or
 - ii. to **breach the conditions** of any visa granted; or
 - iii. to be **unable to leave** or be deported from New Zealand (see [E5.10](#))

USEFUL RESOURCE*
IAC 13-09 will assist with assessing 'bona fide applicant' criteria

***V2.1.1 Definition of 'lawful purpose' for visitors**

E5.10 Determining 'bona fide'

Officers must take into account:



Evidence of genuine intent and lawful purpose



Ability to leave NZ



Previous application history (if any)



Personal circumstances

Personal Circumstances of applicants

the strength of any family ties

the nature of any personal, financial, employment or other commitments

any circumstances that may discourage the applicant from returning to their home country when any visa expires.



Who may be included? E4.1

If intending to travel to and be in New Zealand together,

- A Partner of an applicant, and
- Dependent children of an applicant less than 20 years old

may be included in a visitor visa as secondary applicants.

Definition of 'partner' E4.1.10

a person who is legally married to; or

a person who is in a civil union relationship with; or

a person who is in a de facto relationship with

- a principal applicant in an application for a temporary entry class visa; or
- a person who is a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder; or
- a person who is an applicant for, or the holder of a student, work, or military visa; and

they are in a genuine and stable partnership (see [E4.5.25](#)).

V2.5.1 Length of permitted stay

9 in a 18-month

Max. 9 months in a 18-month period before the proposed expiry date of the visa; or

12 in a 24-month

Max. 12 months stay in a 24-month period before further visitor visa can be granted

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Example 1: s 9(2)(a)



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- s 9(2)(a) has been in New Zealand for the period 1 February to 30 June.
- Before his visa expires in June he applies for a further visa to allow him to stay until 30 October.
- The officer counts back 18 months from October (the end of the proposed stay). This takes them back to May.

Example 2: s 9(2)(a)

Jan 	Feb 	Mar 	Apr 	May 	Jun 	Jul 	Aug 	Sep 
					18 months			
Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
18 months								
Proposed visa								
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
18 months								

- s 9(2)(a). She visited New Zealand for the period 1 January to 30 September, and then returned to Tonga.
- She has now applied at the Nuku'alofa branch for a visa to travel to New Zealand to visit for the period 1 July to 31 October.
- The immigration officer counts back 18 months from October (the end of the proposed stay). This takes them back to May.

Practice: s 9(2)(a)

Jan 	Feb 	Mar	Apr 	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Oct	Nov 	Dec 	Jan 	Feb	Mar	Apr 	May 	Jun
18 months								
					Proposed visa			
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
18 months								

1. Count back 18 months from the end of Jun's proposed stay. How long has he been in New Zealand during this time? **5 months**
2. Can his application for an additional four months be approved? **Yes**

Single or Multiple Journey Visa

V2.10 Single Journey

Visitors may be granted a single journey visa for travel for **up to 6 months** from the date it is granted.

V2.15 Multiple Journey

- For visitors who have bona fide reasons to regularly travel to NZ for visit of up to six months
- **9 in a 18-month** rule applies
- Will **not spend more than six months in a the 12 month** period before the end of their current stay.

Multiple entries visa maybe current for travel for up to

- nationals of **USA: 4 years** from the date it is granted
- nationals of **China: 5 years** from the date it is granted

PPI letters for off-shore applications

E7.15.1 - PPI is factual information or material that:

- was **not obtained from the applicant** or the applicant's authorised representative or agent; and
- is **not publicly available**, or that the applicant is **not necessarily aware of**; and
- will or may adversely affect the outcome of an application; and
- the applicant has not previously had an opportunity to comment on.

Note: *The submission of false or misleading information by an applicant or their agent is not potentially prejudicial information as that information has been obtained from the applicant or their agent.*

SPECIAL VISITOR VISAS V3

Business Visitors (V3.5)

Parent and Grandparent (V3.110)

Special Visitor Visas activity



Who would use these sorts of visas?

Are the requirements similar to what we have covered so far?

Are there any new requirements to consider?

How long can you stay in New Zealand under this visa type?

Are there any support tools to help us assess these applications on the INZKit website?

Business Visitors V3.5

Business visitors who are not considered to be undertaking employment in NZ and intend a stay in NZ for no longer than 3 months in any one year

- Requirement for generic temporary entry (E4)
- Bona fide (E5)
- Health and character (A4 and A5)
- Fund/Sponsorship (V2.20)
- Onward Travel (V2.25)
- Lawful reason for travel.

Business visitors will meet this requirement if V3.5b applies to them.

Otherwise, they need to apply for a work visa.

Single entry visa is usually granted for this category, unless there is evidence provided that multiple entries are needed.

Parent and Grandparent V3.110

To facilitate opportunities for parents or grandparents (and their partners) to visit their NZ citizen or RV holder children or grandchildren

- Must provide full meds if intending to stay in NZ for more than 12 months
- No dependent children may be included in an application (if they have any, these children must apply for a VV in their own right)
- Must be sponsored by a child or grandchild who meets sponsorship requirements
- Only one person or family unit may be sponsored at a time.

Length of permitted stay:

3-year multiple entry visitor visa, allowing visits up to 6 months each

Questions?

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