

Information for international students nominated to the 4th border class exception

The Government has approved entry to New Zealand for a group of 5,000 international students (Cohort 4). This cohort of students will have special permission to enter New Zealand, referred to as a border class exception. The students will be able to start arriving in New Zealand from mid-2022.

The following information and guidance will support you with meeting the requirements so you can enter New Zealand as part of this border exception for international students.

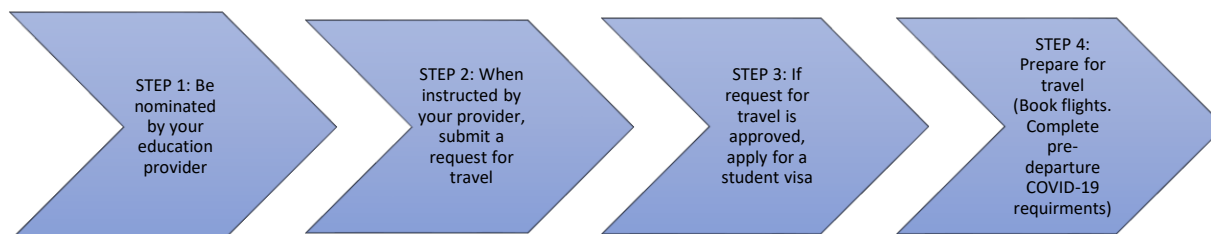
To be eligible to enter New Zealand under this border exception, students must first be nominated by their education provider.

Your education provider has nominated you. As part of that process, your provider will have confirmed with you that you meet or will meet **all** the following criteria:

- You will enter New Zealand on a student visa, and meet all visa requirements including providing evidence that you have access to:
 - For tertiary students at least NZD \$20,000 annually for living costs (or NZD \$1,667 for each month of study if your programme of study is less than thirty-six weeks).
 - For school students at least NZD \$15,000 annually for living costs (or NZD \$1,250 for each month of study if your programme is less than thirty-six weeks).
- Meet all COVID-19 prevention measures, this includes adhering to any travel restrictions, pre-departure tests and any isolation requirements in place at the time of entry to New Zealand; see: <https://covid19.govt.nz/travel/>.
- Agree to sharing of private nomination information between yourself, your education provider and New Zealand Government agencies involved in the border exception process for the purpose of tracking your progress up to and including your commencement of study in New Zealand.
- Be 'travel ready' and able to arrive in New Zealand from mid-2022 and by October 2022 within the logistical constraints that exist.
- Enrol to study in a course eligible for Cohort 4 (refer to course eligibility criteria).
- Enrol to study in a course that is approved for Cohort 4.

Process to enter New Zealand to study

These steps must be completed in the following order. The requirements you will need to meet are different for each step. For example, being nominated by your education provider does not guarantee you will be invited to apply for a student visa, or that your student visa application will be approved.



Further considerations are outlined in Appendix 1.

Step 1 - Get nominated by your education provider

This step has been completed and your nomination has been confirmed. Your details will now be provided to Immigration New Zealand.

Step 2 - Submit a request for travel (RFT)

Once your education provider tells you that you can submit a RFT, go to the [Immigration New Zealand website](#) to complete the form. **Do not complete this form until instructed by your provider.**

Education agencies require you to submit your RFT form **within two weeks** of your provider instructing you to do so. If you do not apply for your RFT within the two weeks, unfortunately your nomination will be cancelled.

When filling out your RFT:

- Your reason to travel is 'Nominated individual'
- You are a 'new and returning student - 5,000 place limit (cohort 4)'
- Select 'Yes' to confirm you have been nominated by an authorised government agency to submit a request for travel.
- Enter the name of your education provider.
- Confirm you will be able to provide evidence that you have enough money to live on while you are in New Zealand.
- Enter your personal and contact details, as the nominated student ('principal applicant').
- If your guardian, partner and/or child(ren) will come with you to New Zealand, enter each of their details ('secondary applicants').

Immigration New Zealand will assess your RFT (usually within five working days) and, if approved, you will be sent an invitation to apply (ITA) for a student visa, by email. Any guardian, partner and/or dependent children will be sent a separate ITA if they are eligible.

If you do not include the details of your family members who wish to come with you to New Zealand in your RFT they will not be invited to apply for a visa. Family members cannot submit a RFT on their own, they must be included in your RFT.

Please note that an ITA for a visa does not guarantee that your student visa application will be approved. See costs in Appendix 1.

Step 3 - Apply for a student visa

The New Zealand Government expects you to submit your visa application online as soon as possible, and to travel to New Zealand at the earliest opportunity after being granted a visa.

After you receive the ITA from Immigration New Zealand, you will need to apply for your student visa online: www.immigration.govt.nz/apply-student-online. You should submit your student visa application **within one month** of receiving your ITA.

Talk to your provider about what you need from them to support your student visa application.

Your visa application will be processed as quickly as possible. How long it takes will depend on the information you have provided and any checks that need to be done. Providing English translations of supporting documents that are not already in English (as well as copies of the original untranslated documents) will help Immigration New Zealand to process your application faster.

Step 4 - Prepare for travel

If your application is approved, you will receive an email notification from Immigration New Zealand.

You will need to book your flights and accommodation and complete the New Zealand Traveller Declaration.

The New Zealand Traveller Declaration

Everyone travelling by air to NZ after 31 March 2022 complete a [New Zealand Traveller Declaration](#).

Travellers must complete the New Zealand Traveller Declaration and be issued a New Zealand Traveller Pass before they can board their flight to New Zealand. You can start your declaration as soon as you have been granted your visa.

We recommend that you complete your declaration on a computer or laptop, to make it easier to upload your documentation. You can start your declaration 28 days before your flight, but you will need to provide a negative COVID-19 pre-departure test when you submit your declaration, unless you are exempt. If you start your declaration early and don't complete all the tasks, your declaration will be automatically saved (after completing the Your Passport information page) and a reference number will be emailed to you with a unique code to access your declaration. This may be a feature you use if you want to start your declaration early, but then need to obtain your COVID-19 pre-departure test closer to travel.

You will need to show your Traveller Pass when you check-in at the airport, and to Customs when you arrive in New Zealand. It can be printed out or saved on a mobile device. Further information can be found at www.TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz.

Pre-departure testing

All travellers arriving in New Zealand are required to test negative for COVID-19 before departing, and results need to be completed before your scheduled international departure time. Further information is available at miq.govt.nz/travel-to-new-zealand/plan-your-travel-to-nz/pre-departure-testing.

You will also be tested for COVID-19 after you arrive in New Zealand.

Remember to bring all relevant documents to support your travel when you leave your country, such as your passport, eVisa approval letter, COVID-19 test results and COVID-19 vaccination record.

Vaccination

Anyone entering New Zealand (17 years and over), who is not a New Zealand citizen, requires a full course of one of the approved COVID-19 vaccines. You must have received your last dose at least 14

days prior to arriving in New Zealand. The requirement does not apply to New Zealand citizens, children under the age of 17, and those who are unable to be vaccinated for medical reasons.

Information on vaccination requirements is published here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/travel/international-travel-and-transit/proof-of-vaccination-for-travel-to-new-zealand/>

Appendix 1 - Things to consider

Talk to your provider about the things to consider when planning your travel to New Zealand. Please join NauMai NZ at naumainz.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz to get trusted information, help and advice to have a great experience living and studying in New Zealand.

These uncertain times of travel during the global pandemic, may mean that requirements change too. Please keep updated with key information through your provider and the websites included in this guidance.

It may be harder to find work in New Zealand due to the impact of COVID-19, so you need to have enough money to live in New Zealand without relying on work.

This amount does not include money to leave New Zealand. You must be able to show you have separate funds to pay for outward travel costs.

Financial support

The following table shows some costs you need to know when considering travelling to New Zealand. All costs listed are subject to change at any time. You should check Immigration New Zealand websites to confirm the costs that apply at the time.

Item	Cost	When payable	More info
Request for Travel	\$45 per request	When you submit the RFT	https://www.immigration.govt.nz/
Student visa application	Approx. \$330	When you apply	https://www.immigration.govt.nz/
Flights	Higher than pre-COVID-19	When you book the flight	Airlines and travel agents

Cost of living

For tertiary students to be granted a student visa, you must show that you have at least NZD \$20,000 available per year of study (or NZD \$1,667 per month of study, if your course is less than thirty-six weeks) to pay for your living costs. For school students to be granted a visa, you must show that you have at least NZD \$15,000 available per year of study remaining (or NZD \$1,250 per month of study, if you have less than one year of study left) to pay for your living costs.

Student visa requirements

Student visa requirements are currently being reviewed by Immigration New Zealand. This will not impact your student visa application under this border exception, but you should be aware that there may be changes to in-study and post-study work right eligibility for some international tertiary students in 2023 and these changes may apply to any future applications.

Phased response to COVID-19

The New Zealand Government's process for managing COVID-19 includes settings that tell us what measures we need to take (such as wearing face masks, and limitations on gatherings). More information on these settings can be found here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/traffic-lights/life-at-red/>.

More information on New Zealand's response to Omicron can be found here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/prepare-and-stay-safe/about-covid-19/our-response-to-omicron/>.

If you come to New Zealand, you must follow all COVID-19 restrictions. You need to be willing to accept the risks of COVID-19 being in the community. Your tuition fees will not be refunded if your course needs to shift to online delivery, for example. In case you are unable to work, you need to have money to look after yourself.