

Information for international students being considered for nomination under 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 are expected to begin arriving from mid- 2022.

Your education provider is considering nominating you for entry to New Zealand as part of this cohort of international students.

This does not guarantee that you will be nominated or approved for entry to New Zealand. You will need to meet all requirements for nomination and then be approved by education agencies including the Ministry of Education and Education New Zealand (ENZ) before beginning the immigration steps required by Immigration New Zealand (INZ).

This sheet provides you with information that you will need to consider carefully and quickly before you confirm with your provider whether you would like to be nominated and travel to New Zealand.

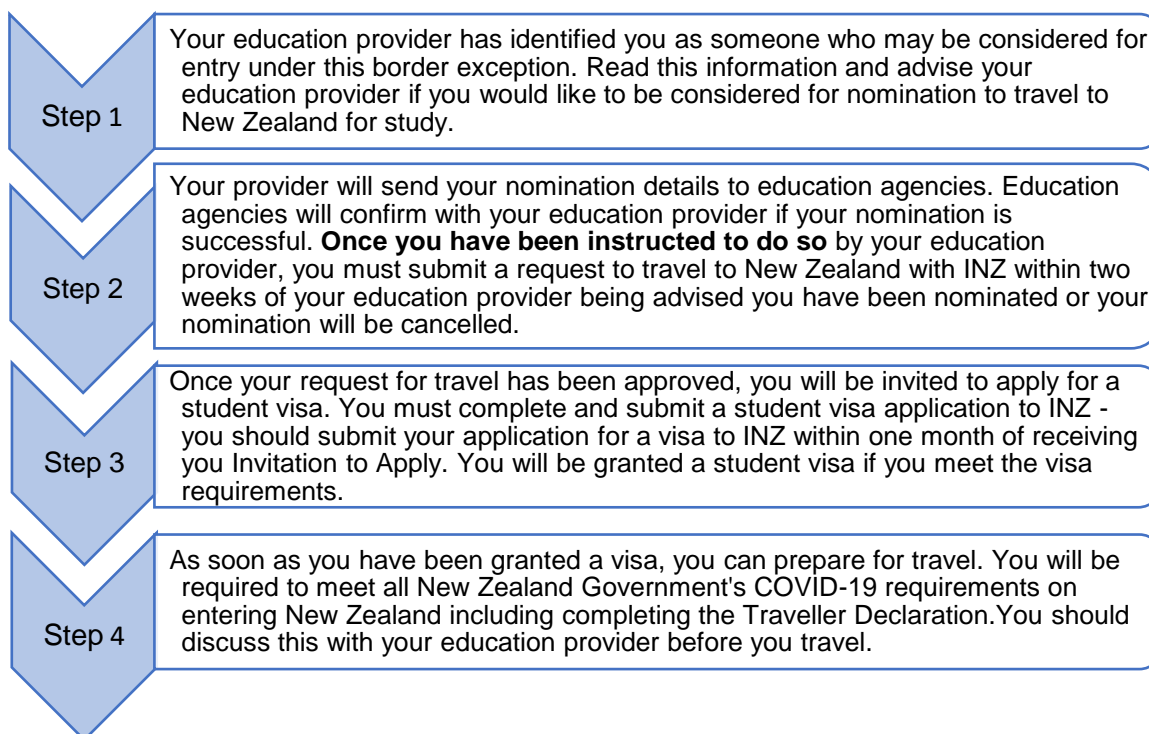
Nomination criteria

To be eligible for nomination, you must meet **all** the following criteria:

- Enter New Zealand on a student visa, and meet all visa requirements including providing evidence that they 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 their 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 their 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.

Please check with your education provider to confirm you will be studying a course that meets the Cohort 4 course criteria.

Process Steps



COVID-19 prevention measures to consider before you confirm your interest in travelling to New Zealand

The global impacts of COVID-19 mean that there are currently issues you need to consider carefully before you confirm with your provider that you would like to be considered for nomination and travel to New Zealand.

You will need to meet all COVID-19 prevention measures. This includes adhering to travel restrictions and pre-departure tests to enter New Zealand; see the link here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/>.

From 1 November 2021, anyone entering New Zealand (17 years and older), who is not a New Zealand citizen, will require a full course of one of the COVID-19 vaccines approved by a government or approval authority and have received their last dose at least 14 days before arrival in New Zealand. For more information on approved vaccines see the link here: <http://covid19.trackvaccines.org/vaccines/approved/#vaccine-list>.

Ability to fund your stay in New Zealand

You will need to consider whether you have enough money to travel to and live in New Zealand at this time, and that suitable flights are available.

If you are invited to apply for a student visa, you will be required to provide evidence with your student visa application to show you have access to at least NZD \$20,000 annually for living costs if you are undertaking tertiary study (or NZD \$1,667 for each month of study if your course is less than thirty-six weeks). 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.

As part of your student visa application, you will also be required to provide evidence to show you have paid your tuition fees to your education provider.

If your student visa allows you to work, you may still have difficulty finding employment due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 in New Zealand. You must therefore be confident that you are able to meet your personal expenses by using the funds that you bring to New Zealand.

Student visa requirements are currently being reviewed by Immigration New Zealand. 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.

Bringing family members with you

If you have a partner and/or dependent children, they may be able to come with you to New Zealand if they are eligible for a visa based on their relationship to you: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/tools-and-information/support-family/student-visa-holder-supporting-visas-for-family>.

If you're a secondary school student aged 17 years old or younger you may bring a parent or legal guardian with you who intends to live with, and care for you while they're in New Zealand. Your parent or guardian will need to be eligible for a Guardian Visitor Visa: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/about-visa/parents-or-guardians-of-students-visitor-visa>.

You must tell your provider if you plan to bring family members, as they must include details when nominating you and you will need to provide details in the request for travel application.

Immigration Steps

There is a two-part immigration process that you will need to follow if you are nominated under this border exception.

Once your education provider instructs you to do so, you must submit a request to INZ to travel to New Zealand under this border exception. If you will be accompanied by a guardian, partner and/or dependent children these family members **must** be included in your request for travel (RFT).

If your request to travel is approved, INZ will invite you to apply for a student visa. If your family plan to come with you and they are eligible for a visa based on their relationship to you, these family members will separately be invited to apply for an appropriate visa.

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. Providers are encouraged to ensure students start their declaration as soon as they can following confirmation their nomination has been successful. Students can start their declaration 28 days before their flight, but they will need to provide a negative COVID-19 pre-departure test when they submit their declaration, unless they are exempt. Students will need to show their Traveller Pass when they check-in at the airport, and to Customs when they arrive in New Zealand. It can be printed out or saved on their mobile device. Further information can be found at www.TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz.

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. If you are unable to work, you need to have money to look after yourself.

Costs

The situation created by COVID-19 has introduced new costs and increased other costs that you will need to pay. These costs are likely to include:

Item	Cost	When payable
Request for Travel	\$45 per request	When you submit the RFT
Student visa application	Around \$330	When you apply
Flights	Higher than pre-COVID-19	When you book the flight

Once you arrive in New Zealand

If you are approved for travel, we look forward to welcoming you to New Zealand. Your provider will be in contact with you about support for your study in New Zealand. Your provider will also be able to assist you with accommodation options if needed.