

# Immigration ONLINE – VisaView

## Information for education providers

April 2016

### Education providers can now check an overseas student's study entitlements online with INZ's VisaView service.

Education providers who register with VisaView, visit [www.immigration.govt.nz/employers/resources/visaview/default.htm](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/employers/resources/visaview/default.htm) can confirm that a non-New Zealand citizen can study for that education provider, and they can see conditions that may be attached to the student's visa.

VisaView is only available to registered and verified user groups – previously, New Zealand employers had been the only user group. As part of their application, Work and Student visa holders provide consent to employers and education providers to make checks to confirm their study entitlements.



### eVisas

eVisas (passport-free applications and label-less visas) are now available for online Student visa applicants from a wider range of countries.

eVisas are now provided to students from the 59 visa-waiver countries and China who apply online from outside New Zealand. They are also provided to all students who apply for their visa online from within New Zealand.

A student who is eligible for an eVisa, or an agent applying on their behalf, no longer has to send in their passport for processing.

Citizens of visa waiver countries, visit <http://glossary.immigration.govt.nz/VisaFreeCountries.htm> do not need a visa to visit New Zealand as a tourist for less than three months.

### Assisting an applicant

Education providers can give students clerical help to fill out a form, and they can submit the completed form online - but, by law, education providers cannot provide immigration advice unless they become licensed immigration advisers. See overleaf for more information on this, including examples of what constitutes immigration advice.

To use this service, you should visit the Immigration New Zealand website online application page at [www.immigration.govt.nz/secure/default.htm](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/secure/default.htm). After selecting a visa type, you will be prompted to create your own New Zealand Government RealMe login.

After logging in, you can start the form and work through the questions.

When asked "in what capacity are you completing the form?" you should choose "assisting the applicant".

Your Immigration ONLINE account shows a summary list of applications and PDF versions of application forms and supporting documents that you submit on behalf of you clients.

Some applicants may still need to send in their passports to Immigration New Zealand for processing.

When completed, each online application will say whether the passport needs to be sent in, and where to.

Work, Visitor and Student visa applicants can apply online directly themselves.

# Immigration ONLINE – Apply on Behalf

## Questions and answers for education providers

### **Are education providers able to apply online for all types of student applicant?**

No. Online applications are possible for most full fee-paying students, scholarship students, exchange students and English language students. Some student applicants cannot apply online, such as students that must be accompanied by a guardian.

### **What assistance can education providers offer student applicants?**

As unlicensed third parties, education providers cannot, by law, offer advice to applicants about any immigration matter. Immigration advice may only be provided by licensed immigration advisers or those who are specified by law as exempt, including education agents outside New Zealand providing advice on student visas only. In practice, this means you can complete an applicant's form under their direction, but you cannot provide advice about any immigration matter, such as:

- > What type of visa they should apply for
- > How they should answer a question on the form
- > How they should answer any follow-up questions from Immigration New Zealand
- > What type of visa they may be eligible for at a later date

More information, including a list of licensed and exempt advisers, is available on the Immigration Advisers Authority website, visit [www.iaa.govt.nz](http://www.iaa.govt.nz)

### **Are students allowed to complete the form but give education providers access to it?**

No – ownership of individual applications cannot be transferred. This is because the submission process is tied to the submitter through their own "Real Me" login. Students have the right to complete and submit their application forms online themselves.

### **Do education providers still have access to case officers?**

Yes. Names of case officers are not provided through the online account, though you may be provided separately with an INZ contact.

### **Are online applications compulsory?**

We encourage agents to go online to submit the application form and upload any supporting documents, as this will lead to a more efficient service for all users. But for now, all current methods of making student visa applications will remain available, including paper applications.

### **Can an education provider track the progress of an online application?**

Third parties can submit applications online, but not track them. Third parties can view confirmation that their application has been submitted and the fee paid, and they will be notified of the decision. Processing times for individual INZ offices are available on the INZ website.

### **Can an education provider assisting an applicant print out an online application form and give it to the applicant to review before submission?**

Before submission, it is possible to open each page of the form and print the web page in the browser, but the full form cannot currently be printed until after submission. INZ is considering a future enhancement enabling the entire form to be printed before submission.

For a more comprehensive list of questions and answers, visit <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/generalinformation/newitsystems/online-QAs/>