



Most student visa holders are able to work part-time (up to 20 hours per week) while they are studying and full-time during scheduled semester breaks and/or over summer vacation. Once they have completed their qualification, most international student graduates are eligible for a 1, 2, or 3 year **Post-study work visa**. This gives them a chance to get valuable New Zealand work experience after completing their studies. To check if a visa holder is able to work for you, visit: immigration.govt.nz/VisaView For employing an international student graduate, visit: immigration.govt.nz/hiregraduates For information about employing a current student, visit: immigration.govt.nz/hirestudents

Information for employers when hiring international students and graduates

Working

Can I work while I am studying?

Most international students can work **up to 20 hours a week** and full-time during scheduled course breaks. It is a great way to get work experience, earn some extra spending money, and meet new people.

You need to make sure that your visa allows you to work, and make sure you leave yourself time to study and enjoy New Zealand.

Can I work after I graduate?

If you want to stay in New Zealand after you graduate, you can apply for a **Post-study work visa**. This visa lets you work for almost any employer in New Zealand, so you can get valuable practical work experience.

The length of Post-study work visa you are eligible for will depend on the New Zealand qualification you have completed.

➔ (see chart on other side for details)

To make sure your time here is a success, you need to know your rights and your responsibilities.

Working in New Zealand is a great way to get work experience and to start your career.

Finding a job

How can I find a skilled job?

If you want to continue working in New Zealand after your Post-study work visa, you will need a skilled job. It is important to know that there may be plenty of competition for these jobs from both international and domestic students so make sure you present yourself well to prospective employers.


The process of getting a job in New Zealand can be different from what you are used to. New Zealand employers may prefer CVs in a different style, and job interviews may be more informal.

Information you can provide prospective employers

Immigration New Zealand has developed information sheets for you to include with job applications, these help prospective employers know you are eligible to work.

Download our information sheet for students here: immigration.govt.nz/hirestudents

Download our information sheet for graduates here: immigration.govt.nz/hiregraduates

 newzealandnow.govt.nz and careers.govt.nz have useful information for job seekers in New Zealand.

Work during and after study

guide for international students



Inside:

- Working while studying
- Working after you graduate
- Finding a job
- Your rights as a worker
- Information for employers when hiring international students and graduates



Applying for a visa

How do I apply for a Post-study work visa?


The easiest and fastest way to apply for a visa is online. Visit immigration.govt.nz/apply to start your visa application.

! If you plan to apply for a *Post-study work visa*, you must apply within 3 months of the expiry date of your Student visa or within 6 months if your qualification was a PhD.

Information we need

To apply for a Post-study work visa, we need:

- a scan of your passport (if you are applying online)
- evidence of your completed qualification
- proof that you have \$4,200 available to pay your living costs while you are looking for a job (eg bank statements in your name)
- documents that show you meet the Health requirements. (You might need to have a medical examination – go to immigration.govt.nz/healththevidence)
- documents that show you meet the Character requirements. (You may need to provide updated police certificates).

 For a more detailed list of requirements visit: immigration.govt.nz/poststudy

Your rights as a worker

What are my work rights?

International students and graduates have exactly the same rights as all other New Zealand workers and must be treated fairly. Your employer must:

- give you a written employment agreement
- pay you at least the minimum wage
- pay you for all public holidays that you would normally work, or extra pay when you work on a public holiday
- pay you for sick leave and annual leave entitlements.

If you believe your employer is not meeting these standards, call the Employment New Zealand phone line on **0800 20 90 20** (ask for the “Language Line” if you need an interpreter).



Useful links

immigration.govt.nz/poststudy
Requirements for the Post-study work visa.

newzealandnow.govt.nz/work-in-nz
Tips on how to find work for people who are new to New Zealand.

careers.govt.nz/new-to-new-zealand
Useful information to help new arrivals to find work in New Zealand.

employment.govt.nz
Detailed information on employment rights.

immigration.govt.nz/exploitation
Information for migrants who are concerned that they are being exploited at work.

newzealandnow.govt.nz/safety
Tips for keeping yourself safe and what to do if you are in trouble.

 **Contact us 0508 558 855**

The Immigration New Zealand contact centre is open 6am Monday to midnight Saturday (NZ local time).
immigration.govt.nz/contact

Working during and after your studies in New Zealand

	<i>While you are studying</i> Student visa	<i>After your studies</i> Post-study work visa	<i>Next steps</i>
Eligibility and entitlement	<p>Most international students studying in New Zealand are allowed to work while they study.</p> <p>You may be able to work for up to 20 hours per week while studying and/or full-time during scheduled vacations. You must work for an employer and have an employment agreement. You cannot be self-employed or provide commercial sexual services.</p>	<p>You can apply for a Post-study work visa if you have gained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a qualification at level 7 or higher on the NZQF* and you have studied it in New Zealand for at least 30 weeks, OR• a qualification at levels 4-6 on the NZQF* and you have studied it in New Zealand for at least 60 weeks, OR• 2 qualifications at levels 4-6 on the NZQF* (the second qualification being at a higher level) and you have studied each qualification for at least 30 weeks (60 weeks in total). <p>Your Post-study work visa will be valid for 1, 2, or 3 years, depending on your qualifications. You can work for almost any employer but cannot provide commercial sexual services, or operate or invest in a business that does.</p>	<p>Your chances of getting a further temporary work visa or residence visa depend on a number of things. These include whether your skills and/or qualifications are needed in New Zealand.</p>
Tips	<p>It is a good idea to get work experience related to your field of study during this time. This may make it easier to find work in that field after you graduate.</p>	<p>The newzealandnow.govt.nz and careers.govt.nz websites have lots of helpful hints on how to find a job in New Zealand.</p> <p>Careers.govt.nz offers Work Connect, a free programme for international student graduates (level 7 and above) to help you prepare for the New Zealand job market.</p>	<p>You may be eligible for a temporary or a residence visa.</p>
Web links	<p>immigration.govt.nz/workandstudy</p>	<p>immigration.govt.nz/poststudy newzealandnow.govt.nz careers.govt.nz/work-connect</p>	<p>immigration.govt.nz</p>