



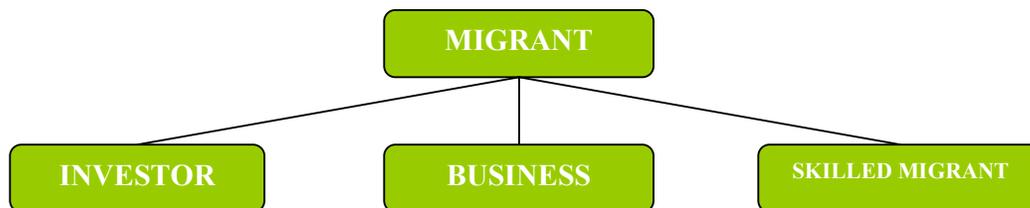
## IMMIGRATING TO NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand was ranked as the **third best country in the world to live in** by the UN in November 2010. New Zealand is looking for the skills, qualifications and experiences that will ensure New Zealand continues to prosper well into the future.

### What are your options in acquiring permanent residency in NZ?

#### ENTRY OPTIONS

The most common avenues to acquire residency in NZ are shown below:



#### INVESTOR CATEGORY

This category is well suited for migrants whose main focus in migration is to have an exceptional lifestyle and fresh investment opportunities. The investor policy is divided into two categories: Investor Plus (Investor 1 Category), and Investor (Investor 2 Category). Outlined below is a summary of the key requirements for each policy.

Applications will only be approved if the investment funds are invested in *acceptable investments* pursuant to immigration policy. Applicants will need to ensure that the investment funds remain invested for the specified investment period. Further, applicants will need to transfer the investment funds through the banking system and provide sufficient evidence that the funds were acquired lawfully.

REQUIRMENTS	INVESTOR PLUS	INVESTOR 2
<b>English Language</b>	None	English Speaking background or IELTS 3.0 (family members can pre-purchase tuition)
<b>Age</b>	None	65 years or younger
<b>Business Experience</b>	None	3 years
<b>Investment funds</b>	NZD \$10 million	NZD \$1.5 million
<b>Investment period</b>	3 years	4 years
<b>Settlement funds</b>	None	NZD \$1 million
<b>Days in New Zealand</b>	44 days in each of the last 2 years of the 3 year investment period	146 days in each of the last 3 years of the 4 year investment period

#### Advice and information

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## **BUSINESS CATEGORY**

New Zealand's business migration policy provides a pathway to residency for experienced business people. The policy is designed to enable experienced business people to buy or establish businesses in New Zealand.

Experienced business people wishing to purchase or establish a business in New Zealand will need to apply under the Long Term Business Visa Category and then apply for residence under the Entrepreneur/Entrepreneur Plus policies.

### **Entrepreneur Category**

Applicants under this category need to be actively involved in the proposed business venture, which requires at least 25% ownership of a business. There is no age limit. However, the business must benefit New Zealand, which means it must either:

1. provide employment; or
2. revitalise an existing business; or
3. introduce new technology; or
4. focus on the export sector.

In addition, the applicant must have the requisite business experience and meet the basic English language requirement (English Speaking Background or IELTS Level 4).

Applicants will only be eligible to apply for Residency once they have operated a business for at least two years. The applicant must ensure that the business is trading profitably and the business has satisfied the 'benefit test' at the time of the application.

### **Entrepreneur Plus Category**

The main difference between the Entrepreneur Plus Category and the Entrepreneur Category is that the Entrepreneur Plus provides a faster avenue to acquiring residency in comparison to the Entrepreneur Category. The applicant is no longer required to wait for two years before they become eligible to apply for residency.

However, the applicant must invest at least NZ\$ 500,000 in their business and create 3 new full-time jobs.

We note that the Residence Visa that will be issued in the first instance is conditional on the following:

1. the principal applicant must be self employed in the business for a minimum of two years; and
2. the principal applicant must retain the investment and maintain the created jobs in the established business for a minimum of two years.

## **SKILLED MIGRANT CATEGORY**

Migrants that are skilled and qualified people may qualify under this category. However, applicants will need to be under the age of 55 and have an offer of **skilled employment** in New Zealand to increase your chances of getting approved under this category. The Skilled Migrant Category is based on a points system and we would recommend referring to our SMC infosheets for more information.

### **Advice and information**

Queen City Law is widely considered to be NZ's pre-eminent immigration lawyers and have acted on more successful applications than virtually any other lawyers in NZ.

We also provide all other relevant legal services and can assist you with matters including due diligence, sale and purchase of businesses and property, all commercial, company, tax, asset protection and other legal aspects inherent in your investment in NZ. Therefore, we are able to provide highly effective one stop shop. These measures are able to provide unique and highly specialized professional services to you.

We look forward to discussing your requirements.

**Queen City Law's** Immigration Team can also advise on all aspects of Tax and Property Matters – please contact **Marcus Beveridge** or **Bradley So** or **Rita Worner** or **Jan Chen** for further information or assistance.

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