

# Living in New Zealand



Tongariro National Park, North Island

Fisher & Paykel Healthcare photographer, Cornelia Schulz (Localisation Administrator, Obstructive Sleep Apnea Product Group)

## Healthcare in New Zealand

New Zealand has an extensive and high quality public healthcare system. It is managed by the district health boards and funded largely through general taxation. Most treatment in public hospitals is free, including emergency care (in a hospital), and public hospital treatment referred by your G.P. (General Practice Doctor). Many other health services and medicines are significantly subsidised. All permanent residents, citizens and work visa holders (work visa must be valid for at least 2 years at the time of issue), are eligible for public healthcare in New Zealand. If you are eligible for public healthcare cover, your partner and children will be eligible too.

Everyone in New Zealand can be covered for injury caused by an accident. New Zealand has a no-fault insurance scheme that covers the cost of health and disability services for residents and non-residents if they are injured in an accident in New Zealand. This scheme is administered by the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC). The injury must be accepted by the ACC as falling under the ACC legislation. For more information, click [here](#).

From 1 July 2015, all children under 13 are eligible for free general practice visits, both during the day and after-hours. Not all GPs provide free visits, so check with your GP first. Any child who isn't already enrolled with a GP can enroll for free. For more information, click [here](#). Mothers of babies born in New Zealand are entitled to free essential care during and after their pregnancy. For more information go to Services and Support During Pregnancy page [here](#).

A large number of New Zealanders take out health insurance to protect themselves and their family. In New Zealand, healthcare insurance is generally a lot more affordable than the rest of the world. Fisher & Paykel Healthcare employees have access to Southern Cross and Unimed healthcare cover at a discounted rate. One of the key benefits of health insurance is to be able to receive private hospital treatment and avoid the waiting list for non-urgent medical treatment. Please note people with private health insurance are still eligible for free public health benefits. It is important to note that both providers usually do not cover pre-existing conditions. Find more information about Southern Cross and Unimed on their websites [www.southerncross.co.nz](http://www.southerncross.co.nz) and [www.unimed.co.nz](http://www.unimed.co.nz)

## Education & Childcare

Ensuring a good education for all is part of the Kiwi concept of 'giving everyone a fair go'. We pride ourselves on an education system that is world-class, modern and responsive. The Ministry of Education uses a decile rating system of one to 10. Schools are given the rating dependent on the average income of the residents in the surrounding areas. New Zealand primary and secondary schools have a zoning area in

place. Children who live in the school's area (the zone) are guaranteed a place at their local school. If the school has extra places, children who live outside the zone can apply for those places. If the school has zoning, you need to give an address within this zone when you apply to enrol your child. This must be your usual place of residence. If the school finds that you have given false information they have the right to cancel your child's enrolment. For more information visit [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz) or [www.education.govt.nz](http://www.education.govt.nz)

There are many early childcare options available including day care centres, in-home care and own or shared nanny services. We can provide further information on childcare and preschools in the area surrounding Fisher & Paykel Healthcare. The first 20 hours per week of early childhood education (ECE) are government funded and largely free for children from age three until they start school (after they turn five). This applies to all children in New Zealand, regardless of their visa situation. The programme is called 20 ECE hours.

Many centres offer this subsidy however it is advisable to check with the centre before enrolling your children. While the government's funding covers compulsory fees, many early childhood education centers have other charges. Some charge on a per hour basis and others per day, week or term. For more information, click [here](#) or visit [www.barnardos.org.nz](http://www.barnardos.org.nz) , [www.plunket.org.nz](http://www.plunket.org.nz) , [www.porse.co.nz](http://www.porse.co.nz)

## **Visas & Immigration**

Should you receive a job offer from us you will be entitled to apply for a Talent Visa utilising our accreditation and you will be eligible for a 30-month work visa. At the end of two years you will then be able to apply for a Permanent Residency Visa on the basis that you are working for an accredited employer at the time of applying (i.e. Fisher & Paykel Healthcare). If you are relocating with family, they will be eligible to apply for a work or student visa on the basis of your visa application.

It is important to note that as an organisation we are unable to provide immigration advice, therefore you are responsible for completing your own research. You may find that you are eligible to apply for a Permanent Residency Visa if you qualify under the points system. To find out more about the right visa for you, we recommend that you visit the visa point website [here](#) and the New Zealand Immigration website [here](#).

Partners can be considered for a work visa based on your relationship and will need to submit full medical and police certificates.

Dependent children are eligible to be considered for visas as your dependents. Children under 5 will require visitor visas and those 5 and over will require student visas. Notarised and translated copies of birth certificates are required for all dependent children applications. You will also need to provide full medical certificates however Police certificates are only required for those children older than 17.

There are also some helpful checklists that can be customised to your personal situation. To create these, go to <http://nzready.immigration.govt.nz> and enter some basic information. For more information visit: [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz) or [www.workingin-newzealand.com/visa](http://www.workingin-newzealand.com/visa)

[fphcareers.com](http://fphcareers.com)

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