

Summary of NZ Immigration Status categories for applicants under Religious Worker Provisions

Status	Visa	Requirements	Entitlements
Visitor	Visitor Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not undertake any work for gain or reward. Must genuinely intend a temporary stay in New Zealand for a lawful purpose. 	Short term stay. INZ FactSheet
Temporary Entry	Religious Worker Temporary Entry Visa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsored by a Charitable Religious Organisation. Granted for 2 years. A second period of 2 years may be applied for. Type of work is less strictly defined than for Residence visa. Age and English language conditions not applied. May study for up to 3 months in any 12-month period. Must continue to work within the terms of the agreement with the sponsoring organisation. 	Limited access to social services, such as health services, education, social security benefits etc. INZ FactSheet
Student / Trainee	Student and Trainee Work Visa for Religious Trainees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For religious trainees who wish to undertake a formal religious training programme in New Zealand Sponsored by a Charitable Religious Organisation Granted for up to 1 year. Can be renewed for a maximum of 4 years. 	Can undertake a program of study at an approved charitable institution. INZ FactSheet INZ Manual WE1 INZ Guideline
Residence	Religious Worker Residence Visa (with conditions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be applied for after 3 years with Temporary Entry and before 4 years. Sponsored by a Charitable Religious Organisation. Type of work is quite strictly defined. Age and English language conditions apply. Travel restrictions apply during the term of the visa. Must continue to work within the terms of the agreement with the sponsoring organisation. Typically applies for 5 years. Any change to working conditions, location or sponsoring organisation requires a variation to the visa approved by Immigration New Zealand 	Access to most social services. Limited access to education services as this would conflict with work commitments. INZ FactSheet

Status	Visa	Requirements	Entitlements
Permanent Residence	Residence Visa (without conditions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After completion of Religious Worker Residence Visa. • No travel restrictions apply. • May work in any capacity. 	Full access to New Zealand social security services and education. INZ FactSheet
Citizen	New Zealand Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be applied for once Permanent Residence is approved and residency conditions have been met. • May get a New Zealand passport and travel internationally as a New Zealand citizen. 	Full access to New Zealand social security services and education. Access to New Zealand consular services when travelling overseas. DIA Citizenship Page

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For information only – you must check your situation with Immigration NZ or a qualified immigration adviser.