

Submitter information

Please provide your name and phone number, and preferred email address for contact if it is different from the one used to send this form:

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In what capacity are you providing feedback?

e.g. on behalf of: your company, the company you work for, an industry organisation, a union, a licensed immigration adviser etc.

On behalf of my own capacity

If you are representing a company or group, what is the name of that group?

What industry or industries does that group work in?

Paramedic/ Ambulance Officers

In your company or industry, what are the most common occupations for migrant workers?

Ambulance Officers / PHEC or EMT

What visa categories are commonly used by those workers?

i.e. resident visa, Essential Skills work visa, Work-to-Residence work visa (under the Talent or Long Term Skill Shortage List categories), Post-Study work visa (open or employer assisted), open work visa.

Essential Skills work visa, Work-to-Residence work visa (Talent)

Only answer the following questions if you directly employ migrant workers:

How many migrant workers do you currently employ? (Refer to the visa categories in the question above)

Have you supported an Essential Skills visa application for any of these workers?

Using wage or salary information to help determine skill level and access to Essential Skills migrants

Proposal 1: Introduction of remuneration thresholds to determine skill levels and associated visa conditions for Essential Skills visas

Consider the proposal of aligning the remuneration thresholds for the Essential Skills visa with the remuneration thresholds for the Skilled Migrant Category.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from defining lower-, mid- and higher skilled Essential Skills migrants in this way?

Give details of the occupations or sectors and wage or salary levels you are thinking of.

The immigration total point of 160 must be brought down to 145 for higher skilled and medium skilled. Due to a higher point system less immigrants on the medium and higher essential skills list will enter the country, thus will have a negative point on supporting the country on their economy. For example in the medical field where the base salary starts at 55k.

I also propose that when employers are accredited with immigration, that when they only appoint applicants or take volunteers with residency e.g. St Johns, that they give clear guidelines or advise to prospective applicants by means of a job offer for work after 6 months to enable applicants to lodge for residency or apply for a talent (work to residence) visas. This will ensure that there are no misunderstandings for migrants when coming over and trying to pursue a career in Paramedicine.

Reinforcing the temporary nature of the Essential Skills visa and managing the settlement expectations of temporary migrants

Proposal 2a: Introduction of a maximum duration for lower-skilled Essential Skills migrants

Consider the option of a three years for a maximum duration for lower-skilled Essential Skills visas.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from the proposed maximum duration for lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders?

Give details of the occupations and industries you are thinking of.

The minimum of three years' work visa is appropriate due to they do not have the necessary diplomas or degrees to establish a good income. I feel that in this lower skilled if they have a minimum diploma with two years' experience they can earn higher salary and if in a higher salary bracket would enable them to support a family member. Hands on labour e.g. Painters, welders, carpenters, plumbers etc.

Proposal 2b: Introduction of stand down period for lower-skilled Essential Skills migrants

Consider the option for a year-long stand down period following the maximum duration for lower-skilled Essential Skills visas.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from these proposed changes?

Give details of the occupations and industries you are thinking of.

It will have a negative impact on all essential skills list categories as they have invested in New Zealand economy and during this time established a home, family that also support the economy of New Zealand. Note that these visa holders enter the country with no support from family and friends. And they started from the bottom and worked themselves up and after three years the country wants to deport them and then they must start all over again

Proposal 3: Require the partners of lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders to meet the requirements for a visa in their own right

Consider the proposal to require the partners of lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders to meet the requirements for a visa in their own right.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from these proposed changes?

Give details of the occupations and industries you are thinking of.

The negative impact of this type of partner visa is that this can cause the family to be separated and this can be a negative side on the country as they will lose visa holders that are qualified and contributing to the economy. I would suggest if they want to implement this sort of visa they must give the direct family members (partner, young children) or spouse the opportunity of an open visa and if both visa holders can support family members. E.g. parents to enter the country to stay. If they cannot support any family members except children the family members can obtain a visitor's visa to visit their children in New Zealand.

Proposal 4: Require the children of lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders to meet the requirements for a visa in their own right

Consider the proposal to require the children of lower-skilled Essential Skills visa holders to meet the requirements for a visa in their own right.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from these proposed changes?

Give details of the occupations and industries you are thinking of.

In this case it will be a positive point for the parents to obtain a visa for the children to enter the country that state they are healthy and on the long term can add to the economy of the country. This is purely out of a medical point of view as the child that is dependent on the medical system of the country to stay here thus will put extra strain on the health sector. The lower skilled occupations.

Reinforce that Essential Skills visas should only be granted for the period for which the employment is offered

Proposal 5: Make it explicit how the 'period of employment' condition applies to seasonal work

Consider the option to reinforce that Essential Skills visas for seasonal work are only for the length of the season and that the offer of employment must match the length of the season.

What impacts or implications do you foresee from these options?

Give details of the occupations or sectors you think are likely to be affected.

It will be a positive side for the seasonal workers as it will enable them to work for the season and leave the country as they are not at this stage interested in the country as they are seasonal workers. The industries that require seasonal workers must give immigration a concrete evidence for them needing seasonal workers from outside the borders as we can use local, current immigrant employers that are already in New Zealand and have an open visa. E.g. farming

Consider the list of seasonal occupations being considered.

Are there any seasonal occupations that should be added or removed from this list? Why?

No it is okay.

Consider the list of seasonal occupations being considered.

If you employ seasonal staff, or represent a sector with seasonal staff:

- **What are the occupations of the seasonal staff within the sector that you are commenting on?**
- **For each of the occupations that you have identified, what is the typical period that you require seasonal staff to cover (e.g the peak of the season)?**