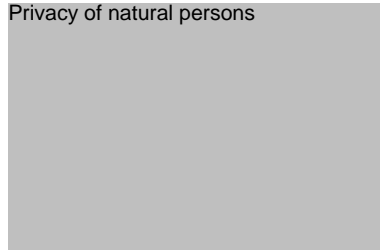




1 August 2024

Privacy of natural persons



DOIA 2425-0063

Thank you for your email of 4 July 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

The item under Visa Pak 584 is: Recommended visa durations for certain offshore general visitor visa applicants The request is for all of the content that is part of the above item.

Our Response

Please refer to the attached appendix for the requested information.

Please note that some information in the appendix is withheld under section 6(c) of the Act as making available of this information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.

Please note that this response and enclosed documents, with your personal details removed, will be published on the MBIE website:

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/about/open-government-and-official-information/published-official-information-act-requests>

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Jock Gilray
Director Visa
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment



Recommended visa durations for certain offshore general visitor visa applicants

To: All Chief Operating Officer Immigration Branch Staff

From: ^{Privacy of natural person} Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support

Action required: Please discuss with your team(s)

Context

The advice in this Visa Pak replaces the advice previously communicated to staff in [Visa Pak 524](#).

Immigration Instructions [V2.15](#) sets out the maximum durations that multiple entry visitor visas can be granted for. The following guidance has been updated to help ensure more efficient processing of applications by minimising risks and to provide a better, more consistent, service to our customers.

From Monday 17 June 2024, these visa conditions are considered to be the starting point ^{s 6(c)}

They will be reviewed periodically and may be updated if appropriate.

Recommended visa durations – offshore applicants

Nationality	First Entry Before	Expiry Date Travel	Expiry Date Stay	Entries
China	N/A	5 years	3 months	M
United States of America	N/A	4 years	3 months	M
Visa Waiver nationals	N/A	3 years	3 months	M
Visa Required nationals	N/A	1 year	3 months	M
Philippines*	N/A	1 year	59 days	M

**Philippines has a bilateral fee waiver with New Zealand but the duration of stay cannot be more than 59 days unless they have paid a fee, in which case their travel and stay expiry dates can be granted in line with other visa required nationals.*

Additional considerations

Immigration officers (IO) have discretion to vary these durations based on each applicant's individual circumstances.

Visa duration

^{s 6(c)}

IOs may consider a longer visitor visa duration, for example for applicants who are travelling to visit family and intend to stay in New Zealand for more than the recommended visa durations and the requested duration is permitted under the visitor visa instructions.

Applications in ADEPT

If IOs process an offshore general visitor visa application in ADEPT and S 6(c)

Passport duration

Passport duration still needs to be considered as per Immigration instructions [E3.10](#). For example, if the IO wants to grant a five-year multiple entry visa to a Chinese national as per the table above, but the passport is only valid for three years, they can only grant a visa to the date specified in the immigration instructions [E3.10](#). They cannot grant a five-year multiple entry visa into a passport with only three years validity.

Action

Please discuss with your teams.

Contact	Operations Support
Publish on Visa Pak Database?	Yes
Publish on INZ website (publicly available)	No
Visa Pak issue date	14 June 2024
Visa Pak no:	584

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