



Summary of government proposals for:

- › International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy
- › Electronic Travel Authority
- › Immigration Fees and Levies Review

Government is consulting on several changes and proposals that will affect international visitors travelling to New Zealand. This document provides a succinct summary of the proposals. Each proposal has its own discussion document that provides further detail and information on how to make a submission.

Consultation period ends 22 July 2018

www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes



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Summary of government proposals – International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy

Consultation period ends 22 July 2018

What is the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy?

The number of visitors to New Zealand has grown strongly over the past few years, and growth is expected to continue.

Government is proposing a levy so that international visitors are contributing to the tourism infrastructure they use and to helping conserve our natural environment.

The levy as proposed aims to:

- › charge only international visitors, not New Zealanders
- › have as little impact as possible on travellers and carriers such as airlines
- › have low collection costs
- › align with New Zealand's international interests and agreements.

■ How much will it be?

Between \$25-35, generating around \$57-80 million per year.

Government is seeking input on what the rate should be.

■ How will it work?

For visitors who require a visa, an extra charge will be added to their visa fee.

Most visitors who don't require a visa before travelling to New Zealand will be required to apply for an Electronic Travel Authority and will pay their levy at this time.

The Electronic Travel Authority is a proposed new border security and facilitation measure currently out for consultation that would help speed things up at the border. Find out more here:

www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes



■ Who will have to pay the levy?

Most international visitors entering New Zealand for 12 months or less will be charged an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy.

■ Exemptions

There are certain exemptions in recognition of New Zealand's international obligations and interests. The following people will be exempt from payment of the levy:

- › Australian citizens and permanent residents
- › people from Pacific Islands Forum countries, such as Tonga and Samoa
- › those on diplomatic, military, medical and humanitarian visas
- › those transiting New Zealand
- › business visitor visa and APEC business traveller card holders
- › children under two years old.

■ How will the money be spent?

The money collected will be split between tourism infrastructure and conservation activity.

Government is seeking submissions on what this split should be, as well as the types of projects that should be funded.

■ When would the levy come into effect?

It would likely to come into effect in the second half of 2019 (at the same time as the introduction of the Electronic Travel Authority).

■ How do I make a submission?

Visit www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes to view the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy Discussion Document, which includes instructions on how to submit.





Summary of government proposals – Electronic Travel Authority

Consultation period ends 22 July 2018

What is an Electronic Travel Authority?

Government is consulting on a proposal to introduce an Electronic Travel Authority for some groups of travellers. It is a new security and facilitation measure that, if it is introduced, will help to speed things up at the border.

The Electronic Travel Authority as proposed aims to:

- › enhance security and reduce immigration risks
- › address smuggling and biosecurity risks
- › maintain or improve traveller experiences
- › support New Zealand's international relationships and agreements
- › manage the provision of services more efficiently
- › adapt to the changing needs and requirements of the government, stakeholders and travellers over time.

■ Why an Electronic Travel Authority?

The number of visitors to New Zealand has grown strongly over the past few years, and growth is expected to continue. Most short term visitors arriving by air or sea do not need to apply for a visa, which supports our tourism industry by making it easy to travel.

However, when people don't have to apply for visas, we only learn about them once they are en route to New Zealand. We are unable to screen these travellers in advance for border and immigration risks and have a reduced ability to make entering New Zealand smoother and faster as technology evolves.

The Electronic Travel Authority proposal aims to deal with these issues and is part of wider government efforts to make border crossing as seamless as possible.

■ How would it work?

Before coming to New Zealand, travellers required to hold an Electronic Travel Authority will fill out a simple form and pay their fee online, creating an electronic account that will be easy to set up and update.

Some travellers will also have to pay the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy at this point. This proposal is currently out for consultation as well. Find out more here: www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes

Government proposes that the Electronic Travel Authority will be valid for two years, but is seeking input on this.



■ What sort of information will people have to provide?

Government is consulting on the information to be provided by travellers. The current proposal is that it would be similar to arrival card information and would include:

- › name and birthdate
- › passport details
- › contact details
- › some declarations, such as about criminal conviction history (certain convictions require a visa to travel) and travel intention (for example, travelling to New Zealand to seek medical care requires a visa).
- › optional biometric information (passport photo)

■ Who would have to hold an Electronic Travel Authority?

Most travellers who aren't required to get a visa before entering New Zealand will have to hold an Electronic Travel Authority. This includes citizens of visitor and transit visa waiver countries, cruise passengers, cruise ship crew and commercial airline crew.

We propose that Australian citizens be exempted, though Australian permanent residents would not.

New Zealand citizens and holders of valid New Zealand visas (both resident visas and temporary visas) will continue to be able to enter New Zealand **without** an Electronic Travel Authority.

■ Is an Electronic Travel Authority a visa?

No. An Electronic Travel Authority is technically a condition of visa waiver travel. New Zealand will maintain its current suite of visa waiver countries.

■ How much would it cost?

Final costings are still under development, but we expect it will cost around \$9 per person.

■ When would the Electronic Travel Authority come into effect?

It would likely come into effect in the second half of 2019.

■ How do I make a submission?

Visit www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes to view the Electronic Travel Authority Discussion Document, which includes instructions on how to submit.





Summary of government proposals – Immigration Fees and Levies Review

Consultation period ends 22 July 2018

What is being proposed?

Government is proposing to increase some immigration fees and levies so that enough money is collected to pay for the cost of providing services and managing risks related to immigration. These costs have increased as more people come to New Zealand and the risks associated with immigration become more complex.

Fees for some classes of visa will increase, while others will decrease. This is to ensure that the fees reflect the cost required to process the different kinds of visa.

Summary of proposed changes:

Work visas (excluding Recognised Seasonal Employers, Working Holiday and humanitarian work visas)	+ 54 per cent
Student visas	– 6.5 per cent
Group visitor visas	– 45 per cent
Business visas	– 1 per cent
Other visas	+ 10 per cent
Immigration levies	+ 43 per cent

In addition, the government is proposing to remove the \$20 online discount for certain visa applications and increase the employer accreditation fee.

■ How will the money be spent?

The proposed increases are needed to cover the following increased costs (over five years):

- › \$119.774 million to meet the increasing cost of visa processing services
- › \$39.576 million to enhance border security and strengthen the regulation of immigration advisers.

Proposed increases are also required to make up for a shortfall accumulated over the past few years where not enough funding was collected to cover Immigration New Zealand costs. The current deficit is expected to be paid off over the next three to five years.

■ When will the changes come into effect?

The new fee and levy rates are likely to come into effect in November 2018.

■ How do I make a submission?

Visit www.mbie.govt.nz/border-changes to view the Immigration Fees and Levies Review Discussion Document, which includes instructions on how to submit.





How will proposed border changes affect travellers?

International visitors to New Zealand will be affected differently by proposed changes to border fees, levies and processes.

On the following pages are some examples that illustrate what the combined changes may mean for different traveller types.

Visa fees are provided in a range that reflects inclusion and exclusion of the discount applicants receive for applying online. Note that this discount is proposed to be removed.

The rate for the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy, reflects the midpoint of the \$25-35 range being consulted on.

The rates include GST, where applicable.

The examples do not include the existing Border Clearance Levy, which covers passenger clearance costs for the Ministry of Primary Industries and the New Zealand Customs Service. This levy is paid as a part of travel costs, eg. included in the price of an airfare or cruise ticket.

The Immigration Fees and Levies Review is also seeking feedback on a future Border Clearance Levy option. That is not taken into account in the examples below.





INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLING ON A VISITOR VISA

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	\$151 – \$170	\$190	\$20 – \$39
Immigration levy	\$14	\$21	\$7
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$30	\$30
Combined	\$165 – \$184	\$241	\$57 – \$76



FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR TRAVELLING ON VISITOR VISAS

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	\$151 – \$170	\$190	\$20 – \$39
Immigration levy	\$14	\$21	\$7
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$120	\$120
Combined	\$165 – \$184	\$331	\$147 – \$166



INDIVIDUAL FROM A VISA WAIVER COUNTRY

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$9	\$9
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$30	\$30
Combined	n/a	\$39	\$39



FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR FROM A VISA WAIVER COUNTRY

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$36	\$36
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$120	\$120
Combined	n/a	\$156	\$156



INDIVIDUAL AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	n/a	n/a	n/a



FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	n/a	n/a	n/a



INDIVIDUAL AUSTRALIAN RESIDENT

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$9	\$9
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	n/a	\$9	\$9



FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$36	\$36
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	n/a	\$36	\$36



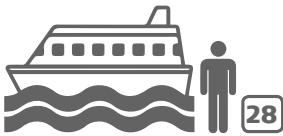
INDIVIDUAL FROM A VISA REQUIRED PACIFIC COUNTRY TRAVELLING ON A BUSINESS OR VISITOR VISA

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	\$116 – \$135	\$150	\$15 – \$34
Immigration levy	\$14	\$21	\$7
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	\$130 – \$149	\$171	\$22 – \$41



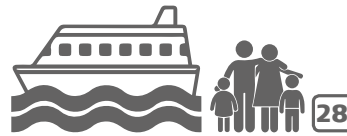
FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR FROM A VISA REQUIRED PACIFIC COUNTRY TRAVELLING ON VISITOR VISAS

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	\$116 – \$135	\$150	\$15 – \$34
Immigration levy	\$14	\$21	\$7
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Combined	\$130 – \$149	\$171	\$22 – \$41



INDIVIDUAL NON-AUSTRALIAN TRAVELLER ON A CRUISE VESSEL (ARRIVING AND DEPARTING ON THE SAME SHIP WITHIN 28 DAYS)

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$9	\$9
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$30	\$30
Combined	n/a	\$39	\$39



FAMILY GROUP OF FOUR NON-AUSTRALIAN TRAVELLERS ON A CRUISE VESSEL (ARRIVING AND DEPARTING ON THE SAME SHIP WITHIN 28 DAYS)

CHARGE TYPE	CURRENT	PROPOSED	CHANGE
Visa fee	n/a	n/a	n/a
Immigration levy	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic Travel Authority fee	n/a	\$36	\$36
International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy	n/a	\$120	\$120
Combined	n/a	\$156	\$156