

where do I get more information?

The following website has more detailed information on eligibility if you are unsure of your status:

www.moh.govt.nz/eligibility

Ensuring that you are eligible for free healthcare treatment is your responsibility.

Please ensure you help us to check your eligibility by making available your passport and any other relevant documents such as visas.

frequently asked questions

Q Why do we need to prove our eligibility to receive free treatment?

Tens of millions of dollars are spent every year on giving free healthcare treatment to people who are not entitled to it. This takes away money that is badly needed for operations, services and medication for people who are entitled to free care.

Q What if I have an accident or fall seriously ill and need emergency treatment?

You will be treated regardless of whether you are entitled to free care, but you may be charged for this treatment afterwards if you are not eligible.

Q Why do I have to give all my contact details and produce my passport?

We need your contact details to ensure ongoing monitoring if required and also in case we need to charge you for any services. Producing your passport makes it easier to find out if you are eligible or not.

Q What if I don't have a passport or my children don't have one?

If you are a New Zealander you can prove your eligibility with your birth certificate. If you don't have one, contact the Department of Internal Affairs to get one. If you are eligible and you can prove that you are the parent or guardian of the child, then the child will also be eligible.

Q I have received an invoice for my treatment – do I have to pay?

Yes, unless you can prove that you are eligible for free treatment – see the previous two pages.

Q I am sponsoring a relative to come to New Zealand- will they be eligible for free treatment?

If a migrant is not eligible for free treatment, the sponsor may be held responsible for the costs.

who's eligible?

Identifying and managing ineligible patients
A Guide for Health Professionals

Read this to check if you are eligible for publicly funded healthcare



NEW ZEALAND has a world leading health system which makes most services available free (or subsidised) to people who meet the eligibility criteria.

Some people in New Zealand don't qualify to have these services paid for by the New Zealand Government.

This guide is to help you find out if you or your family members qualify for free or subsidised healthcare.

The easiest way to do this is to produce your passport. You may be asked to produce other documentation if your passport alone is not sufficient.

are you eligible?

You may be eligible for limited assistance if you:	Proof required:
A New Zealand citizen or a NZ permanent resident	NZ passport or passport with permanent resident visa
A citizen of the Cook Islands, Nuie or Tokelau	Your passport
An accident victim	You may be eligible for coverage by ACC but your contact details will be collected in case you are not
Australian citizen who has lived in NZ for more than 2 years	Australian passport with proof you have spent 2 consecutive years in NZ
Holders of a work visa for 2 years or more	Work visa or work permit
Interim visa holder	Interim visa letter plus evidence of eligibility prior to letter being sent
Refugees, protected persons and victims of people trafficking	Refugee travel documents, certificate of identity and proof of refugee status e.g. letter from Immigration
NZ Aid students or Commonwealth Scholarship holders	A Passport with student visa AND documents proving status
Children	Evidence of eligible parenthood or guardianship
Young people	Birth certificate or passport showing the person is under 20, confirming relationship with eligible parent/guardian AND a work visa
Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship Scheme	Passport with work visa and letter signed by Aotearoa NZ or Uniservices



limited eligibility

You may be eligible for limited assistance if you:	Proof required:
Are an Australian or UK citizen who needs urgent care	Passport and proof of where you usually reside
Pregnant women	Proof of partnership to eligible person
HIV infected pregnant women	Proof of HIV infection
Infectious diseases	No proof required but MUST be referred to the Medical Officer of Health
People who are receiving or eligible for compulsory treatment under the Alcoholism and Drug Act, Mentally Impaired Persons Act or Intellectual Disability Act	Person must meet the criteria for a compulsory order although it does not need to be in place.
Immunisations	All children are eligible for vaccinations on the immunisation schedule
Prisoners or remanded in prison custody	Proof of being an inmate or on remand; entitled to receive services that are not provided in prison
WellChild/Tamariki Ora services	All children are eligible
Diplomats	ONLY eligible for accidents under ACC