

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO ENROL WITH A PHO ?

A person, who is eligible for publicly funded health services, as identified in section 32 of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000, can choose to enrol with a PHO. Most people are eligible because they are 'ordinarily resident' in New Zealand; that is, they live in New Zealand on a permanent or long-term (more than two-year) basis. However, some may gain access to publicly funded health services through other criteria.

A person should not be invited to enrol with a PHO when they are not intending to continue to use that provider for most of their ongoing first-level primary health care services, as defined in the Establishment Service Specifications 4. However, if a person is unsure about their future circumstances in regard to their ongoing first-level services needs, they are still eligible to enrol.

Eligible Person	Eligibility criteria requirements
New Zealand Citizen	All New Zealand citizens, except those that are not currently living in New Zealand.
Resident in New Zealand	New Zealand permanent residents.
Work Permit Holders	Hold a current work permit which, together with the time the person has already been in New Zealand lawfully, allows for a continuous stay of at least two years.
Australians resident in New Zealand	An Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia who can demonstrate an intention to remain in New Zealand for two years or more
Overseas students funded by Official Development Assistance Programme	Students funded by the NZAID ODA programme; their partners, and their children under the age of 18 years.
Commonwealth Scholarship students	Students funded by New Zealand universities or NZAID as a postgraduate Commonwealth Scholarship holder
Foreign Language Teaching Assistants Scheme	Teachers funded by the Ministry of Education's Foreign Language teaching Assistantship Scheme.
Refugees and applicant refugees	Eligible with proof of refugee/applicant refugee status
Children in the care and control of an eligible person	The parent of legal guardian must be eligible as a citizen, resident, Australian, student or visitor and the child(ren) must be lawfully present in New Zealand and be under the age of 18 years. Eligible work permit holders can pass on eligibility to dependant child(ren) 19 years of age and under.
Student or visitor permit holder eligible under 2000 Eligibility Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● holds a current student or visitor permit which, together with the time the person has already been in New Zealand lawfully, allows for a continuous stay of at least two years; or ● holds a student permit of at least 12 months and evidence of enrolment on an New Zealand course of study of at least two years; and is granted consecutive visas to remain or re-enter New Zealand; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● has been granted consecutive permits to remain or re-enter New Zealand.

Disclaimer

This information is intended as a guide only. Every effort has been made to ensure that it is accurate. However, in the event of any dispute, Government policy and legislation, including the 2003 Eligibility Direction itself, will take precedence. Further information is available at: <http://www.moh.govt.nz/eligibility>