



Entrepreneur Category

IMMIGRATION & VISAS

NEW ZEALAND

BUSINESS MIGRATION

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To be eligible for residence in New Zealand under the Entrepreneur Category, you need to have successfully established, and be self-employed or working in, a business that is benefiting New Zealand.

You may have applied for, and gained, a Long Term Business Visa or Permit so that you could establish the business, and now wish to apply for residence. Or you may have held a Work Permit granted under another category that allowed you to establish your own business and you now want to apply for residence. If so, you:

- must have established, purchased, or made a substantial investment of at least 25 per cent in a business operating in New Zealand
- must have been self employed or, if you're a part-owner, have worked, in that business for two years before you apply for residence as an entrepreneur
- or any partner or children who are with you must not have sought social welfare assistance.

Where you first applied for a Long Term Business Visa or Permit, INZ will decline your application for residence if:

- your business is different from the one included in your Long Term Business Visa or Permit application
- and**
- fails to meet INZ's business plan requirements
- and**
- the business does not have at least the same level of investment as your original proposal
- and**
- you do not have previous experience in that business.

You don't need to have a Long Term Business Permit - if you have a successfully established business that's been operating for two years you can apply directly for a Residence Permit to apply under our Entrepreneur Category.

