



Budget 2023-24

This information is accurate as of 10 May 2023.

Immigration Policy Setting for New Zealand Citizens

This measure will provide a new direct pathway to Australian citizenship for New Zealand citizens who hold a non-protected Special Category visa 444 (SCV) and meet residency requirements.

The eligible cohort will be able to apply for citizenship from 1 July 2023. Read more about this new [direct pathway to Australian citizenship for New Zealand citizens](#) on the Department of Home Affairs website.

Services Australia will support this measure by administering the increased number of citizenship test requests. The agency will also administer Australian Government payments and services for new citizens as they become eligible for them.

This measure is led by the Department of Home Affairs.

This measure is subject to legislation passing.

Who this measure affects

This affects New Zealand citizens currently on visa subclass 444.

When this starts and finishes

This measure will start on 1 July 2023 and is ongoing.