

## **Parent, spouse, de facto or child of a New Zealand citizen**

A New Zealand citizen residing in Australia is considered an 'Australian resident' under the Health Insurance Act 1973. New Zealanders are not required to hold a Permanent visa and are eligible for Medicare.

Ministerial order No. 805 allows a parent, spouse, de facto or child (non-New Zealand citizen) of an eligible New Zealand citizen (residing in Australia) who has applied for permanent residency and their visa condition does **not give** permission to work, to be eligible for Medicare.

### **Eligibility for Medicare**

A parent, spouse, de facto or child of an eligible New Zealand citizen residing in Australia, who has applied for permanent residency and has **work rights** is eligible when they:

- hold a valid temporary visa
- have a continuing application for permanent residency with work rights, and
- reside in Australia

These applications are no different to any other applicant for permanent residency.

A parent, spouse, de facto or child of an eligible New Zealand citizen residing in Australia, who **has applied for permanent residency** and has **no work rights** is eligible when they:

- hold a valid temporary visa
- have a continuing application for permanent residency with **no** work rights
- reside in Australia, and
- can provide a document confirming evidence of a relationship with the eligible New Zealand citizen

A parent, spouse, de facto or child of an eligible New Zealand citizen residing in Australia, who has **not applied for permanent residency** is **not** eligible for Medicare unless they were previously residing:

- in New Zealand, or
- a country under a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement (RHCA) and can meet the country's RHCA eligibility criteria

**Note:** eligible persons covered under the RHCA with New Zealand are not enrolled in Medicare and do not get a Medicare card.

For more details about RHCA and eligibility criteria, see [Reciprocal Health Care Agreements](#).

**See also:**

- [Applicants for permanent residency eligibility for Medicare](#)
- [Document types for Medicare eligibility and enrolment](#)
- [Medicare eligibility for New Zealand citizens](#)

The [Resources](#) page contains legislation relevant to a spouse, parent or child of a New Zealand citizen for the purposes of Medicare eligibility.

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