

PHILIPPINES-NEW ZEALAND WORKING HOLIDAY SCHEME

Guidelines for Participants from New Zealand

On 5 February 2014, the Philippines-New Zealand Working Holiday Scheme (WHS) will open at 10 o' clock in the morning (New Zealand time). For the first time, one hundred (100) visas will be issued annually under the WHS allowing young people from New Zealand to stay in the Philippines for up to twelve (12) months.

TO BE ELIGIBLE

You must:

- be a New Zealand citizen and have a passport from New Zealand that is valid for a period of at least three (3) months from the expiry of your authorized stay in the Philippines;
- be at least 18 years old and not more than 30 years old at the time of application;
- not be accompanied by dependants during your stay in the Philippines;
- hold a return ticket, or a proof of sufficient funds to purchase such a ticket;
- have a minimum of PhP160,000 (or about NZ\$4,200) available funds to meet your living expenses while you are in the Philippines;
- meet the Philippines' health and character requirements;
- hold a globally recognized medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance for the length of your stay;
- be visiting the Philippines for holiday, with employment and study being incidental rather than primary reasons for your visit; and
- have not participated in the WHS before.

WHEN YOU ARE ISSUED THE CORRESPONDING 47 (a)(2) VISA

1. The 47(a)(2) visas issued by the Philippines under the WHS shall allow you to:
 - i. take on employment on a temporary basis for a maximum period of one year, but not exceeding three months for any given employer, without need to secure a Special Work Permit from the Bureau of Immigration;
 - ii. enroll in and study in short-term non-degree programs for a period not exceeding three months, without need to secure a Special Study Permit from the Bureau of Immigration; and
 - iii. stay in the Philippines without need for the i-Card issued by the Bureau of Immigration. The i-Card may be obtained at your discretion, subject to the usual fees and procedures.
2. You shall likewise be exempt from fees due under relevant immigration and alien registration laws; securing alien certificates of registration; and obtaining certificates and other related clearances required by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and Department of Justice (DOJ).
3. All privileges attached to the issuance of 47 (a)(2) visas shall be valid only as long as the visas are valid.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Qualified participants shall submit the following to the Philippine Embassy in Wellington in person or by mail:

- a. Duly accomplished DOJ General Application Form (copy attached). Fill out sections 1, 2 (a to g only), 3, 4, 5, and 6. The form must be subscribed and sworn to before a Justice of the Peace if applying by mail and before a Philippine consular officer if applying in person at the Philippine Embassy.
- b. A return ticket or proof of sufficient funds to purchase such a ticket;
- c. Proof of available funds sufficient to meet the living costs in the Philippines;
- d. A medical health certificate issued by an authorized physician, including chest x-ray;
- e. A globally recognized medical and comprehensive hospitalisation insurance for the length of your stay;
- f. A police certificate not more than six months old at the time of visa application;
- g. Photocopy of passport, valid for a period of at least three (3) months from the expiry of your authorized stay in the Philippines;
- h. Payment of the DOJ Filing Fee amounting to NZ\$81.06 in cash, bank cheque or money order; and
- i. Other requirements that the Philippine Embassy may deem necessary, including an interview of the applicant.

The Philippine Embassy in Wellington shall notify the applicant through e-mail about the status of the WHS application in due course. Upon approval of their WHS applications, participants are requested to send the following to the Embassy:

- a. Passport
- b. Photocopy of return electronic ticket receipt
- c. A self-addressed pre-paid courier bag with signature required

For queries or clarification, please call the Philippine Embassy Tel. Nos.: (+644) 8903741; (+644) 8903742; (+644) 8903744 or E-mail: embassy@wellington-pe.co.nz, attention: Vice Consul Glenn Obach and Visa Officer Mary Bel Garcia.