

Setting up a business in New Zealand

New Zealand is a nation of small businesses – 96% of businesses employ 20 people or fewer. One reason is that the business environment here is a benign and positive one. For example, forming a company is easy – you can do it yourself online. New Zealand is also one of the easiest countries to do business in. A 2008 survey by the World Bank rated New Zealand as second only to Singapore in terms of the ease of doing business here, and in 2009 New Zealand was named as the world's least corrupt nation in Transparency International's annual index.

There are an increasingly diverse range of business opportunities. With a strong agricultural background, food production remains an important part of the New Zealand economy, but New Zealand has also forged an international reputation in a range of sectors, particularly Information Technology, tourism and the creative sector (for example film, fashion and design).

Migrants looking to establish a business in New Zealand can apply for a Long Term Business Visa. This allows you to stay in New Zealand as a self-employed person for up to three years, giving you time to establish your business and providing a step on the way to permanent residency through the Entrepreneur category.

Specialist help and support for migrant businesses from The National Bank

The National Bank has a dedicated Migrant Business Banking unit with extensive experience in helping migrants establish and grow a business in New Zealand. As migrants themselves they speak many languages and understand the issues new migrant business owners face. They can assist with setting up or buying a business in New Zealand, help with funding your business and can also introduce you to their own network of people who can help, including lawyers and accountants as well as other business owners.

The National Bank has also developed a unique Business Resource Centre on all aspects of business in New Zealand – you can view the resources available online at www.businessresourcecentre.co.nz

For more information about how The National Bank can help you set up, manage and grow a business in New Zealand, contact Migrant Business Banking Manager Will Groenewald on:

- **email** migrantbusinessbanking@nationalbank.co.nz, or
- **toll-free phone** <<number>>
- **or visit our website at** www.nationalbank.co.nz/migrantbusinessbanking

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