

NZ Employment Help Guide

Who is Optical Recruitment New Zealand?

This is a private recruitment business operated by Peter Gates, a dispensing optician who has his own practice. The business is operated to recruit UK dispensing opticians into New Zealand due to a severe shortage of practitioners. UK dispensing opticians are ideal for New Zealand because the legislative structure and registration requirements are compatible and the respective industries have much in common albeit the lifestyles are vastly different.

Registration

The FBDO qualification is recognised under the New Zealand Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Act. This allows UK dispensing opticians to apply for registration in New Zealand. It is fundamentally an automatic process subject to the applicant being of good character and the application being thoroughly completed.

Work Visa / New Zealand Residency

Citizens from the United Kingdom are entitled to a work visa for up to three years. This window of time allows migrant worker the opportunity to experience the country and apply for New Zealand residency if they desire.

Finding Employment

Optical Recruitment New Zealand is a small recruitment company that specialises in linking practitioners and employers. The company works in two ways:

- i) by introducing practitioners and employers
- ii) by assisting an individual practitioner to locate a job in New Zealand

Step by Step Procedures

1. Find an employment opportunity and negotiate your **terms of employment**
2. **Apply for registration** with the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Registration Board.
3. **Request an application pack** for a work visa from New Zealand House in London.
4. Complete the documentation / **employment contract** with the employer such that the contract details the job role, term of employment and remuneration.
5. Your employer will need to provide you with a **Letter of Approval in Principal** which Immigration New Zealand will provide the employer upon application to recruit an overseas migrant worker
6. Complete and **submit your application for a work visa** to New Zealand House and advise that you are awaiting registration from the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Registration in accordance with Act mentioned above.

Your application must have:

- All the information required by Immigration New Zealand
- Your Formal Offer of Employment / Employment Contract
- Letter of Approval in Principal
- Advise of your pending registration as a dispensing optician / send in confirmation of your registration when it comes through

Contacts, Web Links and Time Frames

Optical Recruitment NZ's website has all the required links to access the required application forms and information packs.

The application for registration via the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board take approximately three weeks. It is beneficial to authorise Optical Recruitment NZ to act on your behalf in the event of there being a delay or complication during this application. Simply email Peter Gates via the contacts link and advise if you wish to do this and the appropriate letter will be emailed for you to complete and include in your application for registration.

The processing of your work visa will be assigned to a case manager. It is beneficial to identify who this person is as you will need to advise them of the pending arrival of your certificate of registration from the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board.

The Secretary of the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board can often email or fax confirmation of your successful registration to your case manager. This will streamline the application. The processing of you application can vary from a matter of hours to several weeks subject to whether you attend New Zealand House or post in the application. It is not appropriate to infer that your personal visitation will fast track the procedure, but experience shows that there are great variations in the time of processing.

Further Information

If you require additional information or confirmation of procedures please contact Peter Gates via email (peter@opticalrecruitment.co.nz)

www.opticalrecruitment.co.nz