EXEMPT PEOPLE

Exempt people do not need to hold a licence to give you immigration advice. Some exempt people are:

New Zealand lawyers
New Zealand lawyers can give immigration advice without a licence providing they hold a current practising certificate from the New Zealand Law Society. Find a lawyer at: www.lawsociety.org.nz.

Education agents outside New Zealand
Education agents outside New Zealand may give immigration advice on student visas without a licence but must be licensed to give advice on any other visa type.

Immigration New Zealand
Immigration New Zealand can help you find visa application forms and guides online at www.immigration.govt.nz.

For a full list of exempt people visit www.iaa.govt.nz.
RISKS OF USING A PERSON WHO IS NOT LICENSED AND/OR NOT EXEMPT

The risks of using a person who is not licensed or exempt are:
› Your visa application will be returned by Immigration New Zealand (INZ). INZ does not accept applications from unlicensed people acting illegally.
› Unlicensed people may not be honest with you or INZ. Lying on your visa application is a criminal offence and dishonesty may affect your future visas or jobs.
› Your application may be declined because the unlicensed person has no immigration knowledge or skills.

Remember
Stay away from anyone who:
› refuses to put their name on your visa application
› claims to have personal contacts at INZ
› asks you to sign a visa application before it has been filled out. You should never sign a document you don’t understand.

BENEFITS OF USING A LICENSED ADVISER

If you need immigration advice, licensed advisers have specialist expertise. They have met competency standards and follow a professional code of conduct.

The code of conduct requires advisers to:
› be honest, professional and respectful
› provide you with ongoing timely updates
› charge fees that are fair and reasonable.

Licensed advisers can help you:
› explore all your visa options and choose the right visa
› prepare your visa application
› settle in New Zealand
› assess whether you can appeal a declined visa
› assess your options if you are in New Zealand unlawfully.

Fees and services
Licensed advisers vary in expertise, the fees they charge and the level of service they offer. You may wish to speak to several advisers before deciding which one best meets your needs.

LICENSED IMMIGRATION ADVISERS

Find a licensed adviser
The Immigration Advisers Authority keeps an online register at www.iaa.govt.nz that lets you:
› search for a licensed immigration adviser
› view an adviser’s contact details
› view an adviser’s licence history.

Check for a wallet card
All licensed immigration advisers have a wallet card. Only the person in the photo can give you immigration advice.

Contact the Authority for help using the online register at info@iaa.govt.nz or on 0508 422 422.