

HOW TO WRITE SOP FOR NEW ZEALAND STUDENT VISA

How to Write SoP for New Zealand Student Visa

If you wish to study in New Zealand from overseas you will be required to gain a Fee Paying Student Visa, Pathway Student Visa or one of the other options depending on your circumstances and length of intended stay. Applying is pretty straightforward through their website but you will need to take great care to ensure that you provide them with everything that they want to know.

One of the requirements will be the writing of a Statement of Purpose (SoP). This is for you to explain your motivations and future ambitions so that they can judge your application reasons fairly. Get this wrong or fail to cover something that they want to know and you could find your application simply rejected

What Should Be in Your Student Visa for New Zealand?

There are multiple reasons for them asking you to complete your visa SoP. They will not only want to check your motivations for coming to the country they will also want to make sure that you have the ability to support yourself while you are there.

The following are the areas that they are going to want to see covered clearly within your immigration statement of purpose:

How will you support yourself for the duration of your studies?

- If you will be supported by your family provide details of their relationship and employment
- How will you fund your stay in New Zealand and your studies?
- Do you have any dependents that rely on you?
- Do you have any assets such as vehicle or a home?
- What are your current liabilities?

Where are you going to stay in New Zealand?

- If you are to stay with friends or relatives provide the details of the accommodation and proof
- If you are to rent or buy you must say where and how you will fund the costs

Are there any extended gaps in your education or employment?

- Explain the reasons behind any gaps and provide any evidence to support them

What course will you study?

- Explain the subject area and the level at which you intend to study

Which Institution will you study within?

- Provide the details of the school, college or university that you have been accepted to
- Explain why you have selected to study there
- Provide details of any other applications you have made and the results of those applications

Why are you looking to study in New Zealand and not your country of residence?

- Compare the program that you will study to those within your home country and why you have chosen NZ
- If you are started studying in your home country why will you continue those studies here
- Have you investigated any options in your home country? What are they and how did you research them

How is your background relevant to your proposed course?

- Show how your past studies and employment prepare you for your proposed studies
- Explain any change in the direction you are taking in your education
- Have you applied at the same or a lower level than your highest qualification? If so explain why you have done so

How do your educational plans support your future employment?

- Explain your future career goals including the country in which you hope to work
- Provide details of the research that you have conducted around possible roles

How to Write the Best SoP

These effective writing tips will help you to make sure that you get the results that you need from your application:

- Check the specific requirements for the SoP directly on the commissions website and follow them with great care to ensure nothing is missed.
- Create an outline for your writing based on the questions that they are asking of you. This will help you to cover everything thoroughly.
- Provide evidence for the information that they ask for. A statement is worthless if you do not attach evidence to support it such as bank statements or letters offering accommodation.
- Use clear and simple English that is easy to understand. Do not include any form of slang or acronyms as they may not be understood, or misinterpreted.
- Keep to the truth: there is a high probability that some of the facts in your SoP will be checked and certainly questioned within any interview.
- Don't wander off the subject: provide the information that they are requesting and do not write about unrelated subjects.
- Make it clear that you are seeking an education, not to simply live in New Zealand. Write about the program that you wish to study not concentrate on the country itself.
- Carefully proofread: they will want to know that you have a good grasp of English and this needs to be demonstrated through your writing.

As New Zealand Immigration say:

“ If you're from overseas, you can apply for a visa to study full-time in New Zealand. You'll need to pay the full cost of your courses and enroll with an approved education provider. While you're here, you can enjoy New Zealand's high-quality teaching standards and gain internationally recognized qualifications. “

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