



(New Zealand Government, 2021d)

# Travel from India suspended temporarily

The Government is temporarily suspending entry into New Zealand for anyone travelling from India from 4pm on 11 April 2021 until 28 April 2021.

Due to a current surge in cases of COVID-19 in returnees, New Zealand is temporarily suspending entry to travellers from India.

This is a temporary suspension until we are able to better manage the current situation. We are investigating options to manage this risk moving forward.

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## When the suspension begins

The suspension will take effect from 4pm (NZT) on 11 April 2021 and will remain in place until 28 April.

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## Who it applies to

This suspension is intended to apply to New Zealand citizens, residents, temporary entry visa holders, and transit visa holders who have been in India within the past 14 days.

A person has been in India even if they were only transiting through

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## Some people can still travel from India

Diplomats who hold a post in New Zealand are exempt.

Humanitarian exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis and decisions will be made by the Director-General of Health.

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## Contact your airline and MIQ

Please contact your airline directly to find out how this affects your flights.

If you have a managed isolation voucher, contact Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) at MBIE for information about how this affects your voucher.

Contact MIQ about your voucher (<https://www.miq.govt.nz/about/contact-us/>)

## Applying for an exemption

Exemptions for humanitarian reasons may be granted by the Director-General of Health. Decisions will balance the risk of a person's travel to and arrival in New Zealand causing an outbreak or spread of COVID-19, and the impacts of that, against the humanitarian impact on the individual concerned.

### Who can apply?

To be eligible for a humanitarian exemption, applicants must:

- Be legally entitled to enter New Zealand (i.e. New Zealand citizens and residents, or the holders of a border exception visa granted by Immigration New Zealand)
- Have been in India at any point in the 14 days immediately before the date of their arrival (including transit); and
- Not be able to delay or conduct the proposed activity through any other means; and
- Be required to travel on or before the 28 April 2021 (the current announced period of the temporary suspension to travellers from India); and
- Have registered (or been registered on their behalf) in the Managed Isolation Allocation System in order to be able to be allocated an emergency allocation voucher.

The following are unlikely to be considered for humanitarian exemption

- Flight cancellation
- Attendance at funerals, memorial services and tangihanga are excluded as it is often possible to make alternative arrangements such as attending a memorial via video conference
- Economic activity such as commercial/business activity
- To be reunited with family
- To attend school/university
- To attend work.

### How to apply

Applicants who believe they meet the criteria for humanitarian exemption should apply for an emergency allocation voucher via the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE). MBIE will work with the Ministry of Health to determine whether a humanitarian exemption can be granted. MBIE will advise applicants of the outcome.

[Apply for an exemption and emergency allocation voucher](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/travel-to-new-zealand/secure-your-place-in-managed-isolation/emergency-allocation-requests/) (https://www.mbie.govt.nz/travel-to-new-zealand/secure-your-place-in-managed-isolation/emergency-allocation-requests/)

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