



Patient Instructions Public Funding Eligibility

Do I have to pay for my Lab tests?

District Health Boards provide funding for laboratory testing services. Many of these services are free for eligible patients. As per the Ministry of Health, it is the responsibility of the referrer to identify patient and or testing that does not fit the Ministry of Health criteria for eligibility and state this at the time that testing is being requested.

The following table is a summary of the eligibility guide for public funded laboratory testing.

Please refer to <https://www.moh.govt.nz/eligibility> for full details

Groups	Details	Funded
New Zealand citizens and residents including those living in the Cook Islands, Niue, or Tokelau	Generally eligible for laboratory test funding	Yes
	Exclusions	
	Screening Tests	No
	Immigration/emigration or visa tests	No
	Tests for a trial or study	No
	Pre-travel screening test	No
	Pre/Employment tests	No
	Medical Certificate	No
Self or non-NZ registered doctor testing	No	
Australian citizens and residents	Australian citizens and permanent residents who live or are intending to live in New Zealand for two years or more	Yes
United Kingdom citizens ordinarily resident in UK	Testing required for medical conditions requiring prompt attention	Yes
Citizens from Other Countries	Not listed above - not eligible	No
Work Visa Holder	A person who holds a work visa that entitles them to remain in New Zealand for two years or more	Yes
People aged 17 years or younger	People aged 17 years or younger if they are in the care and control of a parent or legal guardian who is eligible	Yes
Refugees and applicant refugees	Refugees and protected persons, applicants for refugee and protection status, and people appealing against refusal of refugee or protection status	Yes
Immigration applicants	Not eligible	No
Commonwealth scholarship students	Students who are studying in New Zealand under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, funded by a New Zealand university	Yes
Maternity Patients	If eligible as listed above, or partner of eligible person	Yes