



Cook Islands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Sponsor Application

Use this form if you are applying to sponsor a person to reside, visit, work or study in the Cook Islands.

To be a sponsor, you can be a natural person, a department or state-owned enterprise, island government, other government agency, or anybody that has a legal identity recognised under Cook Islands law and can be sued in their own right.

Natural person sponsors cannot be a sponsored person themselves at the same time as they act as a sponsor to another person.

Natural person sponsors can be persons with continuing rights or a person who holds a resident, work or investor permit currently residing in the Cook Islands.

Have you completed a sponsor application before?

If **No**, complete the remainder of this form. If **Yes**, you do not need to complete this form if your last application was approved within the last 3 years, and the declaration is still true and correct.

Yes No

Sponsor's responsibilities:

When you agree to be a sponsor, you undertake and agree to:

- make sure the sponsored person has financial support for maintenance for the duration of their stay (e.g. food, clothing, and health care) and
- make sure the sponsored person has suitable accommodation for the duration of their stay, and
- not enter into an agreement with any person for the reimbursement of costs incurred as a result of the sponsorship
- pay any amounts incurred as a debt to the Crown as a consequence of the sponsorship.

As a sponsor, you are responsible for the sponsored person from the day they arrive in the Cook Islands until the day they get a new visa and permit with a different sponsor or no sponsor, or the day they leave, whether they are on a valid permit or in the Cook Islands unlawfully.

You must provide evidence:

- that you do not owe any debt to the Immigration Department, are not insolvent and have not been declared bankrupt
 - that you have sufficient funds to pay for the maintenance of the sponsored person, and the sponsored person's accommodation for the duration of their stay in the Cook Islands*
- *Note: If the sponsored person is providing some of the costs themselves, evidence of this must be included with their application and sponsorship form. If what they provide is not sufficient for their needs, you will be responsible for providing the rest of the costs.

What happens if you do not honour your sponsorship?

- If you fail to carry out the responsibilities above, the sponsored person will be in breach of their permit conditions and may become liable for deportation.
- If the sponsored person incurs costs to the Cook Islands Government or a third party to cover any part of their maintenance, accommodation or travel, you will be responsible for repaying those costs.
- If you breach your sponsorship undertakings, you may be deemed ineligible to sponsor in the future.

Section A: Sponsor's details			
A1. The sponsor is:			
A natural person <input type="checkbox"/>	An organisation <input type="checkbox"/>	A government agency <input type="checkbox"/>	
Sponsorship by a natural person			
<i>Complete questions A2-A12 if the sponsor is a natural person. Otherwise go to A13.</i>			
A2. Family/last name:			
A3. Given/first name(s):			
A4. Other names you are known by:			
A5. Gender:	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	A6. Date of birth (DD/MM/YY):	/ /
A7. Town/city of birth:		A8. Country of birth:	
A9. Current address:			
A10. Phone Number/s:		A11. Email:	
A12. What is your current status in the Cook Islands? Tick the one option that applies to you:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a Cook Islander or permanent resident		<input type="checkbox"/> I am a resident or investor permit holder	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please state</i>) _____			
Sponsorship by an organisation or government agency			
A13. Full name of organisation			
A14. Name and address of the authorised contact person acting on behalf of the sponsoring organisation/agency:			
Family/last name:			
Given/first name(s):			
Position/title:			
Organisation address:			
Phone Number/s:		Email:	

All sponsors must complete questions A15-A17			
A15. Name and address for communication about this sponsorship form:			
Same address as at A9: <input type="checkbox"/> <small>Go to A17</small>	Same address as at A14: <input type="checkbox"/> <small>Go to A17</small>	As below: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Family/last name:		Given/first name:	
Company name:		Phone Number/s:	
Address:		Email:	
A16. Do you authorise the person stated at A15 to act on your behalf?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
A17. Have you sponsored anyone to come to the Cook Islands before?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If Yes, provide details below or attach separate listing. If the sponsored person did not arrive, write 'N/A' in 'Date of arrival'</i>			
Name	Date of birth	Date of arrival	Date of departure
1.	/ /	/ /	/ /
2.	/ /	/ /	/ /
3.	/ /	/ /	/ /
4.	/ /	/ /	/ /
5.	/ /	/ /	/ /
Section B: Sponsor's eligibility			
Sponsor is a natural person			
B1. Will you be ordinarily resident in the Cook Islands during the term of sponsorship?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
B2. Character			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Have you ever been convicted of any offence(s) under Cook Islands immigration law?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Have you previously breached sponsorship obligations?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Do you have an outstanding debt to the government or other third parties because of another sponsorship arrangement?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Have you ever entered into insolvency procedures or been declared bankrupt?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Are you liable for deportation?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Are you serving a prison sentence or awaiting sentence for a crime which carries a prison sentence?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
• Are you sponsoring a person for the purpose of receiving a financial reward or fee?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Go to question B4</i>			

Sponsor is an organisation or government agency	
B3. Organisational practice	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has your organisation or its listed directors, trustees or management been convicted of any offence(s) under immigration law? 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has your organisation previously breached sponsorship obligations? 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does your organisation have an outstanding debt to the government or other third parties because of another sponsorship arrangement? 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is your organisation in receivership or liquidation? 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is your organisation sponsoring a person for the purpose of receiving a financial reward or fee? 	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
B4. If you answered 'Yes' to any of the questions at B2 or B3, please provide an explanation.	
Section C: Sponsorship undertakings	
C1. I/my organisation undertakes to ensure that every sponsored person I sponsor has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • suitable accommodation for the duration of their stay, and • financial support for their maintenance for the duration of their stay, and • the means to leave the Cook Islands at the end of their stay, including any reasonable costs associated with deportation 	<input type="checkbox"/>
C2. I have attached evidence that I/my organisation have sufficient funds to meet the required sponsorship undertakings	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section D: Declaration by Sponsor – from Schedule 7 Cook Islands Immigration Regulations

- (1) I [full name of sponsor] _____ state that:
- (a) all the information I have provided to Cook Islands Immigration is true and correct;
 - (b) all the documents I have provided to Cook Islands Immigration are original and unaltered, or if a copy is provided instead of the original, the copy is certified in accordance with the requirements of those regulations;
 - (c) I am of good character;
 - (d) I do not owe any money to Cook Islands Immigration for any matter, including any fine or fee;
 - (e) I have sufficient funds and resources to—
 - (i) uphold my sponsorship obligations, including paying any wages, salaries, or stipends; and
 - (ii) covering any other costs associated with the sponsored persons' maintenance and well-being, including accommodation, living, and health-related expenses;
 - (f) I have not, and will not, enter into an agreement with the sponsored person or any other person for the reimbursement of any surety for costs that may be incurred by me as a result of the sponsorship;
 - (g) I acknowledge that information and documents are being collected, and further information and documents may be requested, with good reason, to:
 - (i) decide my application and determine my eligibility to be a sponsor; and
 - (ii) detect, prevent, investigate, prosecute, and respond to offences or suspected offences against the Cook Islands Immigration Act 2021 or other Acts; and
 - (iii) support the effective governance of the Cook Islands and to support the effective operation of other Government agencies; and
 - (iv) support the health and well-being of the Cook Islands and the Cook Islands' community (in particular to manage risks to public health, and the cost of, and demands on, the publicly funded health services);
 - (h) I agree that the sponsorship application information and documents can be shared with Government agencies in order to support the success, safety, and security of the Cook Islands, including to manage risks to public health, and the cost of, and demands on, the publicly funded health services; and
 - (i) I agree that by making an application, Cook Islands Immigration can receive information, such as criminal records, health tests, and financial information from third parties. This includes information from the Ministries of Health, Justice, and Internal Affairs, the Cook Islands Customs Service, and the Police Service;
 - (j) I agree to advise the principal immigration officer of any change to information or material change in my circumstances during and after the application process that might affect me or my sponsorship;
 - (k) I acknowledge that if all the required information and documents are not provided, or the declaration is not signed, Cook Islands Immigration may be unable to decide the application. If this is the case, it will be declined;
 - (l) I agree, and acknowledge that if I do not acknowledge my sponsorship obligations:
 - (i) I can be sued for any money that I owe; and
 - (ii) I may be prevented from undertaking any further sponsorship; and
 - (iii) I cannot ask the person I sponsored to repay their debts to me for any costs I incur.

Signature of sponsor: _____

Date: _____

Print full name of signatory: _____

Role/Position: _____

Place: _____

*On own behalf (if a natural person)

*On behalf of [name of Department, state-owned enterprise, island government, other government agency, body corporate, or other body having a separate legal status under Cook Islands law] ***Delete whichever is inapplicable.**

Section E. Declaration by person assisting the sponsor			
<i>If no one helped the applicant to fill in this form, this section does not have to be completed.</i>			
E1: Name and address of person assisting sponsor:			
Family/last name:		Given/first name(s):	
Organisation name (if applicable) and address:			
Phone Number/s:		Email:	
E2. Declaration			
<i>The person assisting the applicant must read and sign their agreement to this declaration in the space below.</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I understand that after the applicant has signed this form it is an offence for me to change or add further information, or change or add any documents attached to the form, without making a statement identifying what information or material has been changed, added or attached and by whom. If I make these changes or additions, I must state on the form what they were, who made them and the reason they were made. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I understand that the maximum penalty for this offence is a fine of up to NZ\$100,000 and/or a term of imprisonment of up to 7 years. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I certify that the applicant asked me to help them complete this form and any additional forms. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I certify that the applicant agreed that the information provided was correct before signing the declaration 			

Signature of person assisting _____

Date: _____

About the information you provide

<p><u>Deciding whether you are eligible to be a sponsor</u></p> <p>The information about you on this form is collected to determine your eligibility to be a sponsor of an applicant for temporary entry to the Cook Islands. The main recipient of the information is Cook Islands Immigration, but it may also be shared with other Government agencies, which are entitled to the information under applicable legislation. Collecting this information is authorised by the Cook Islands Immigration Act 2021 and the Cook Islands Immigration Regulations made under that Act. You do not have to provide the information, but if you do not then the sponsored person's visa and permit application may be declined. You are able to ask for the information we hold about you and have any of it corrected if you think it is necessary. The address of Cook Islands Immigration is Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration, Government Building, Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.</p>
<p><u>Health and disability services</u></p> <p>Temporary visa and permit holders generally are not eligible for publicly funded health services. We strongly recommend that visitors, students and workers have comprehensive health insurance for the duration of their stay.</p>
<p><u>Returning your documents</u></p> <p>We will return original documents to the address given at B15 above.</p>

Office Use Only				
Fee breakdown – tick required fee/s				
Processing application	\$470 <input type="checkbox"/>	Receipt No.		Date: / /
Receiving Officer				
Name				
Date:	/ /	Application scanned to file	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Allocating Officer				
Name				
Date:	/ /	Application entered into CMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Applicant CMS No.				
Principal Immigration Officer Check				
Comments				
Signature:				
Date	/ /			
Communication				
Decision letter sent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date:	/ /	
Start	/ /	Expiry	/ /	