

Working as a Doctor in Australia and New Zealand: Are You Eligible?



Thinking of making the move to a new life as a Doctor 'down under'?

Check out your eligibility here and the different pathways open to you...

As a doctor moving over to Australia or New Zealand, you would be known as an International Medical Graduate (IMG). Your eligibility is determined by your individual circumstances - such as when you completed your primary medical degree and the countries in which you have gained clinical experience. Your starting point depends on whether you are a **NON-SPECIALIST** doctor or a **SPECIALIST** doctor...

I am a **NON-SPECIALIST** doctor, am I eligible?

To practice in Australia or New Zealand, you must be registered with the Australian Medical Council (AMC) and Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), or the Medical Council of New Zealand (MCNZ) respectively. To do this you follow one of several 'pathways.' The most common is the **Competent Authority Pathway**, which is for any doctor who has completed their primary medical training at a medical school in Ireland or the UK and which is accredited by the Medical Council of Ireland (MCI). You will also need to have successfully completed an internship in Ireland.

It is essential that you **FIRST** secure an employment offer - and **THEN** apply to register with the AMC or MCNZ for primary source verification. You'll then apply for Registration and complete 12 months supervised practice before applying for General Registration.

What **Non-Specialist Doctor jobs** can I get in Australia or New Zealand?

You can apply for the following jobs: Registrar Accredited (training), or Non-Accredited (non-training), in some locations it might also be called a Principal House Officer (PHO – non training), Trainee or Advanced trainee.

What **supervision** will I require?

There are various supervisory Levels, each necessitating a different level of supervision. Your supervision will depend on your qualifications, your previous experience, whether you have practiced recently and the position for which you are applying. At Level 1, your supervisor is always in the hospital or practice with you, while Level 3 means you have primary responsibility for your patient.

I am a SPECIALIST DOCTOR - what does the process involve?

As a qualified Specialist Doctor from Ireland, working in Australia or New Zealand, you will follow the Specialist Pathway. Once you have an offer of employment you will apply for verification by the AMC or the MCNZ. The relevant specialist college will assess your qualifications and experience and give you an outcome as to how they compare to that of a Specialist in Australia or New Zealand. You'll be told if you need to meet any other requirements to achieve full specialist registration. Before you receive full registration, you will work under peer review supervision for a minimum of six months.

What kind of costs are involved?

This table gives you an idea of some direct costs involved with a move to Australia as a Junior Doctor:

Establish Portfolio with Australian Medical Council	\$500 from 1st Jan 2023 \$600aud
Registering with EPIC and having one primary degree checked	\$100 USD per credential
Medical Board Application Fee for Provisional Registration	\$430
Medical Board Provisional Registration Fee	\$430

Some hospitals offer relocation assistance to help with the move.



Contact Details

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