

RIGHTS COMPARISON

New Zealand long term residents of Australia versus Australians residing in New Zealand



Issue	NZ citizens in Australia (non-protected Special Category Visa)	Australian citizens in NZ
Right to vote	No	Yes, after one year
Eligible for citizenship	New pathway from 1 July 2017, for some who arrived between 26 Feb 2001 and 19 Feb 2016	Yes, after five years
Citizenship granted to children at birth	No. Children born in Australia will only be granted citizenship if they usually reside in Australia until their 10th birthday	Yes
Unemployment benefits	No*	Yes, after two years
Sickness benefits	No*	Yes, after two years
Single parent benefits	No	Yes, after two years
Public housing	Varies by state	Yes, after two years
Disability services	Currently varies by state, but in future will be ineligible under NDIS	Yes
Student loans	Limited access after 10 years residence, if arrived as a dependent minor	Yes, after three years
Student allowances	No	Yes, after three years
Student travel concessions	Varies by state	Yes
Employment in public service	Not eligible for employment in Federal Public Service, but eligible for employment in some state public services	Yes
Employment in defence force	No	Yes

* Non protected SCV holders may be eligible after ten years of continuous residence in Australia for a one-off payment of Newstart, Sickness, or Youth Allowance of no more than six months. They are not eligible for other allowances under any circumstances.