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SKILLS & EMPLOYMENT HUB

Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub: Questions and Answers

What is the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub?

The Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub is a one stop shop to help employers access workers - including newly graduating trainees - from Canterbury and across New Zealand.

Where there are no suitable or trainable New Zealanders available, the Hub will provide employers who want to access migrant workers with confirmation which will enable the immigration process to be fast-tracked.

The Hub provides these labour market services for all sectors, but its initial focus is on industries associated with the rebuild, in particular the construction industry.

How does the Hub operate?

The Hub's Opportunity Canterbury website www.opportunitycanterbury.org.nz offers free online job listing and matching services for employers and job seekers.

Skills Brokers from the Hub are another point of contact for employers needing support for labour recruitment or planning.

Employers can contact Skills Brokers by emailing canty_skillshub@msd.govt.nz or by phoning 0800 CanHub (0800 226482).

What services does the Hub provide?

- An online tool for job matching between employers and job seekers
- Assistance with connecting employers with trainees who are graduating or are close to finishing their qualifications or work-based training
- Assistance with checking Work and Income databases for suitable job seekers who could be trained or employed for the job
- Speeding up the migration and visa application process by providing Immigration New Zealand with confirmation that the required labour market test has been carried out and no New Zealanders are available
- Market intelligence on labour supply and demand, including the flow of trainees



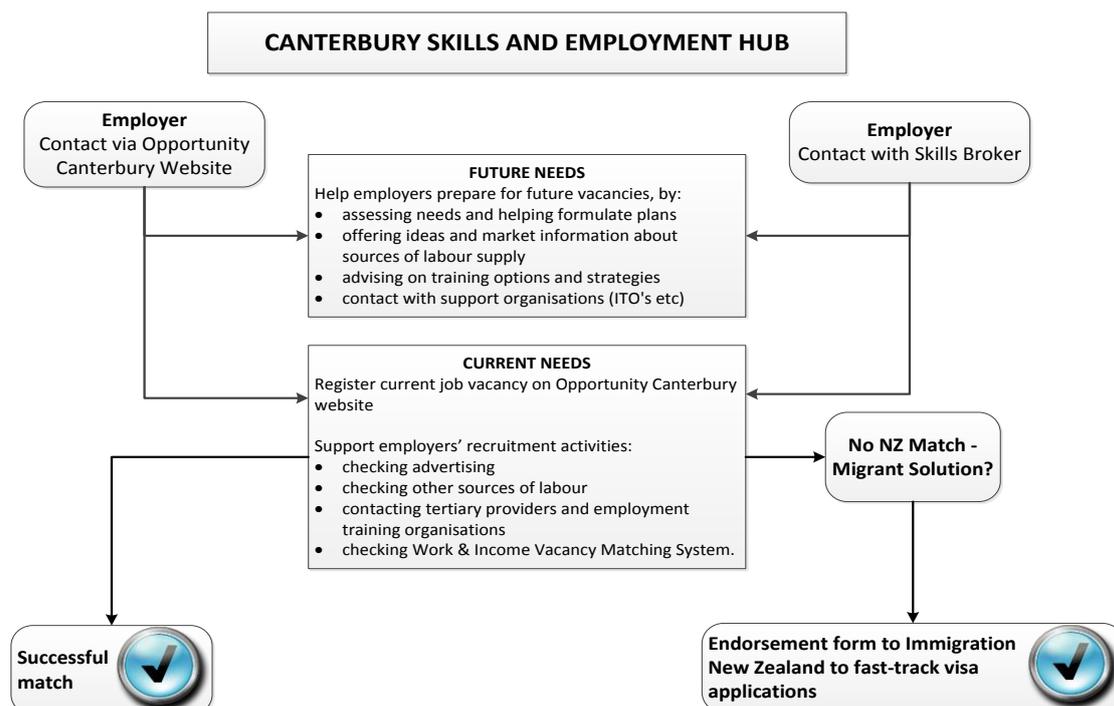
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- Assistance with planning for short and longer term workforce needs and training
- 0800 number and email address for inquiries which will be actively monitored
- Connecting employers and training organisations.

How does the Hub help employers looking for workers?

- If an employer is seeking workers, they can register their job vacancy on the Hub's *Opportunity Canterbury* job matching website www.opportunitycanterbury.org.nz. or contact the Hub (0800 CanHub (0800 226482)). Employers will be helped to look for local skills and labour before they seek migrants. They may be given advice about advertising or be connected to trainees who are graduating or are close to finishing their qualifications. Work-based training may also be an option for meeting their skills and labour needs.
- If there are no New Zealanders available to do the work, then the Hub will speed up the migration and visa application process by providing Immigration New Zealand with confirmation that the required labour market test has been carried out and no New Zealanders are available.





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How does the Hub help people looking for work in Canterbury?

- If you are looking for work in Canterbury, you can upload your CV on the Hub's Opportunity Canterbury website www.opportunitycanterbury.org.nz and receive alerts on job vacancies.
- The Skills Brokers will work with tertiary providers and Industry Training Organisations (ITOs) to encourage tertiary students nearing completion of their studies to upload their CV's on to the Opportunity Canterbury website and receive alerts on job matches.
- Skills Brokers will also be in close contact with Work and Income to continually ensure job seekers also have access to possible jobs via the Hub.
- The Hub will also work with networks elsewhere in New Zealand to promote the opportunities in Canterbury for job seekers currently in other regions wishing to move.

What types of jobs is the Hub aimed at?

The Hub's initial focus is on helping employers who are looking to fill trades and manual, semi and unskilled jobs. This includes a range of trades jobs, as well as jobs such as labourers, hospitality and retail workers, caregivers and farm workers.

While the Hub is initially focusing on semi and unskilled jobs, employers can go to the Hub for advice on their labour needs at any skill level

Depending on demand, the Hub will be able to help employers with skilled vacancies that are not on the Canterbury Skills Shortage List (see below).

How will the Canterbury Skill Shortage List work alongside the Canterbury Skills and Employment Hub?

The [Canterbury Skill Shortage List](#) complements the work of the Hub as it focuses on more highly skilled occupations where there are *known critical shortages of labour*.

- The Canterbury Skill Shortage List includes qualified occupations that generally require experience or registration and applies to those undertaking senior or managerial roles in the rebuild.



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- Suitable applicants who meet the requirements of the occupations on the list and who have a job offer in Canterbury may be granted a temporary work visa without a check needing to be done on whether there are New Zealanders available to do the work.

If in doubt, an employer can go directly to the Skills Hub and a Skills Broker will be able to advise whether the vacancy can be filled locally or from within New Zealand, whether it is on the Canterbury list for easier immigration approval, or whether another immigration channel can be used.

What do employers who wish to hire workers from overseas need to do differently when using the Hub process?

Employers need to engage with the Hub either by registering online or contacting the Hub directly before an immigration application is lodged. The Hub aims to refer suitable New Zealand job seekers to the employer for an interview. If no suitable New Zealanders are identified, a migrant can be offered the position and Immigration New Zealand can fast-track their visa application.

What other support is available for employers seeking workers for the Canterbury rebuild?

Employers may be able to access subsidies and assistance when taking on Work and Income clients, including any training programmes that exist for different industries. Information about training and wage subsidies is available [here](#).