



3. Previously submitted English evidence (still valid)



### **Who IS affected (must meet English requirements)**

#### **1. New AEWV applicants in skill level 3, 4, or 5 roles — applying on or after 1 June 2026**

- This includes anyone who:
  - Is applying for a new AEWV, and
  - The job is ANZSCO/NOL skill level 3, 4, or 5, and
  - They do not currently hold an AEWV
  - Examples: Stablehands, Trackwork Riders, Horse Trainers, and any other skill level 3–5 roles.

#### **2. Current AEWV holders whose visas expire after 1 December 2026**

- If you:
  - Already hold an AEWV, and
  - Your visa expires after 1 December 2026, and
  - You apply for a further AEWV in a skill level 3 role



- You must meet the English requirement.

Important: Even if you apply before 1 December 2026, you are still affected if your visa expires after that date.



### **Who is NOT affected (no English requirement)**

#### **1. Current AEWV holders whose visa expires on or before 1 December 2026**

- If your AEWV expires on or before 1 December 2026, and you apply for a further AEWV before your visa expires, you are exempt.
- This is the special transitional exemption.



### Why the change?

The government states the goal is to ensure migrants in mid-skilled roles can:

- Understand workplace rights
- Communicate effectively
- Integrate into communities
- Prepare for future residence pathways (which require higher English)

Skill level 3 roles now make up **around half of all AEWV applications**, making consistency important.



Contact Karen Russell at [karen@LRINZ.co.nz](mailto:karen@LRINZ.co.nz) or 027 231 6662

- if you are looking to recruit employees who will need to pass this English requirement
- or if you have current employees who may be affected by this change because their current AEWV expires after 1 December 2026.

Thank you

**Kind Regards**

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