

McMillan&Co.

LAWYERS • MEDIATORS • NOTARY PUBLIC

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IMMIGRATION LAW

OUR FIRM

McMillan&Co. is a well-established Dunedin law firm with expertise in all areas of personal client law. We have the largest immigration law practice in Otago, a strong working relationship with Immigration NZ (INZ), and an excellent track record for helping clients from all over the world achieve their goals of working, studying and living in NZ. We also represent a number of NZ's companies – both large and small – ensuring the success of their enterprises by helping them to successfully bring migrant workers to NZ.

Because we are a full-service law firm we are able to offer competitive fees, and we have the expertise to manage applications at all levels, including on appeal if required. For the many successful applicants with whom we have shared their immigration journey we take real pleasure in being able to continue our business relationship by advising them on property, business, employment and other legal matters as they settle and make their home in our country.

OUR IMMIGRATION TEAM



Sally McMillan (Principal) – Sally has 20+ years' experience helping migrants come to NZ. She has represented clients in the Immigration Protection Tribunal on humanitarian appeals, and has made multiple submissions to the Minister of Immigration.



Val Farrow (Associate) – Val is our firm's employment law specialist. She is highly skilled in navigating the interface between immigration law and employment law, and advises our employer clients on the drafting of employment contracts to meet INZ's exacting criteria.



Diane Hubbard (Associate) – Diane has 7+ years' experience in immigration law, across all types of visas. She has a long and very successful history of working with clients from all walks of life to achieve their immigration goals, particularly with those coming to NZ as skilled migrants. Diane would be your first point of contact at McMillan&Co.



Kyla Mullen (Solicitor) – Kyla has expertise in research, and assists us with trouble-shooting tricky applications, with the compilation of visa applications, and with the assessment of evidential documentation.



You can view our profiles and find out more about McMillan&Co. on our firm website: www.mcmillanco.nz.

OUR WORK FOR YOU

We are ready, willing, and very able to assist you (and any partner and/or dependents) with all your immigration needs. New Zealand has one of the most complex visa systems in the world with very strict application criteria and onerous evidential requirements. We can help you navigate the NZ visa system to avoid hidden obstacles and to front-foot issues that may be an impediment to your visa success. The NZ immigration landscape is constantly subject to Government review and often changes without notice, making it difficult and frustrating for unrepresented applicants. At present, our work visa system is undergoing changes which are due to commence in mid-2020 and be fully implemented some time in 2021.

We have experience across all facets of immigration practice. We can:

- Answer your immigration questions;
- Provide you with advice on your immigration options and those for family members migrating with you;
- Review an application you have prepared yourself and advise on how that application might be improved to give you the best chance of success;
- Guide you through the immigration process;
- Prepare your visa application for you and file this on your behalf either online or on paper;
- Respond on your behalf to requests from Immigration NZ for further information;
- Seek character and medical waivers on your behalf;
- If you have been unsuccessful in an application, in some circumstances we can assist you by seeking a reconsideration, preparing an appeal to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal, making a request to the Immigration Minister for special consideration, applying to the High Court for a Judicial Review; and
- Introduce you to our McMillan&Co. colleagues who can assist you with your other legal needs which might include residential conveyancing, estate planning, business structuring, business purchasing, and employment related issues.

For new clients, we offer an initial consultation at \$300 plus GST for 60 minutes.

This consultation can be done by phone/Skype/or even email if you are unable to meet us in person at our offices. We will discuss your background circumstances including your visa plans, age, visa history, any character or health issues, your qualifications, work experience/current employment, family members, relationship status, English language ability, financial circumstances and any evidence you may have already gathered. All this information will help us identify the best visa pathway for you to achieve your immigration goals.

We require credit card or online payment in advance for an initial consultation.





OUR FEES

For our advice and work on your application we charge on a time spent basis. Our hourly rates range from \$200 to \$380 (plus GST and disbursements).

Some clients ask us why we don't have set fees, like many immigration lawyers and consultants. The answer is that after 20+ years of doing this work, we know that every person's application is different. Immigration advisers who charge a set fee are incentivised to complete your application with the least possible effort; we don't believe that this is the right way of achieving the best results for you. We will take the time that is necessary to give you the best possible chance of success, and we will only charge you for that time.

Should you decide to engage us to provide further advice after an initial consultation, it is our Firm policy to require a fee deposit of NZD\$1,000 for all immigration matters. We hold this deposit in our Firm trust account and only apply it towards our legal fees. This is not an indication of overall cost for your matter; we can provide you with a fee estimate once we have scoped the extent of the work that we need to do to file your best possible application.

We look forward to working with you to give the best chance of securing your ability to come to NZ, whether on a short-term or indefinite basis.

Diane Hubbard

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