McMillan&Co.

LAWYERS • MEDIATORS • NOTARY PUBLIC

Who Are We?

McMillan&Co. is a long-established and trusted Dunedin law firm with extensive experience across all areas of personal client law. We are one of only a few law firms in Otago with expertise in immigration law. We have a strong working relationship with Immigration New Zealand (INZ), and a proven track record in helping clients from around the world work, study, and build their lives in New Zealand.

Immigrating to New Zealand

Who Will You Trust With One of the Biggest Moves of Your Life?

New Zealand's immigration system is complex and can be difficult to navigate without professional guidance. There is a wide range of visa categories with overlapping and often confusing criteria, detailed evidential requirements, and very rigid decision-making procedures applied by INZ. Even small errors or misunderstandings can result in delays, increased costs, or declined applications. Seeking expert advice early in the process can reduce stress and help you avoid unnecessary complications, costs, and delays.

By understanding your circumstances from the beginning, we can identify potential risks in your visa applications before they escalate, help you choose the most suitable visa pathway, and assist you to prepare a clear and accurate application. Because INZ maintains comprehensive records of every person's immigration history, ensuring consistency and accuracy throughout your visa journey is especially important if you intend to stay in New Zealand on a long-term basis.

What type of visa do you need to work as a Dentist in New Zealand?

For internationally qualified dentists and dental professionals, New Zealand's *Straight to Residence* pathway is a great option. If you have a job offer from an accredited New Zealand employer in a qualifying role, this pathway enables qualifying applicants to bypass the need to first hold a temporary work visa and apply directly for residence for themselves and their family. Benefits include:

- **Direct pathway to residence**, offering the ability to remain in New Zealand indefinitely.
- **Family can be included** in the same residence application, supporting a smooth transition for partners and children.
- **Freedom from employer-tied conditions** once residence is granted, giving you flexibility in your career.

However, eligibility will depend on all applicants meeting Immigration New Zealand criteria, **including health and character requirements**, so obtaining immigration advice early is key to a smooth application.

At **McMillan&Co.** our experienced immigration team can guide you through each step of the process, identifying any potential issues early, advising on evidential requirements, and giving your application the best possible chance of success.

Ruth Wormald

Solicitor (Immigration Law)

Emily Robertson

Senior Solicitor (Immigration and Property Law)

Are You Ready to Make a Start on Your Immigration Pathway?

For all new immigration clients, we offer a one-off initial consultation for a fee of $500 (GST inclusive). This consultation includes:

- Collating and reviewing background information provided by you
- A face-to-face or video call meeting where we discuss:
  - Your personal circumstances
  - The visa pathways that may be available to you
  - Any risk factors that may require further attention

If, after your consultation, you decide to proceed with a visa application utilising our assistance, we will discuss the level of support you would like and provide information about the associated costs.

We look forward to assisting you on your New Zealand immigration journey.

Dunedin, New Zealand

Buying a Home in New Zealand

If you hold a resident visa and are looking to buy a home to live in, you *may* need approval from the Overseas Investment Office (OIO). The OIO oversees property purchases by people who are not New Zealand citizens. **If you are a resident visa holder OIO consent may be required to purchase a home to live in if you have:**

- Lived in New Zealand for less than 12 months; or
- Lived in New Zealand more than 12 months, but have spent more than 182 days outside of New Zealand in the 12 months prior to your proposed property purchase; or
- Lived in New Zealand continuously for over 12 months on a resident visa, but the home you want to purchase has particular land features which are classed as "sensitive" under the Overseas Investment Act.

This process is complex but manageable with the right guidance. Our specialist team of property lawyers at **McMillan&Co.** can help you understand whether OIO consent is needed in your circumstances and support you through each step of your purchase.

How do I set up my own dental practice?

Whether you want to purchase an existing dental practice in New Zealand, buy into an existing practice, or you plan to set up your own business, it is essential that you obtain both legal and accounting advice from the beginning.

McMillan&Co. has advised on the purchase or establishment of numerous successful dental practices throughout New Zealand. We work with your accountant to assist you through the process, from due diligence to final settlement. An accountant will review financial information, provide taxation advice and advise on the best structure to use as the purchasing entity, whether that be as a sole trader, company, trust or partnership. We will advise you on the terms and conditions of any purchase agreement, assist you through the due diligence process by reviewing the lease for the premises the practice operates from, any commercial contracts relating to the practice, and employment contracts, and we will help you decide on the right financial structure for the business.

Once your practice is established, **McMillan&Co.** can also assist you with its ongoing legal needs, including but not limited to:

- negotiating the terms of any new or renewed lease; and
- assisting with any employment issues; and
- drafting or reviewing terms of service; and
- advising you regarding the terms of any service contracts

Simon Milne

Principal (Property Law)

Do You Want Ongoing Legal Support from a Team That Knows You?

We are a full-service law firm. As well as assisting with your immigration application, property purchase, or advising you on the establishment of your dental business, our specialist team at **McMillan&Co.** can assist you with your other personal legal requirements, including but not limited to:

- Preparing a new (or replacement) will, to cover your assets held here (and overseas); and
- Advising you regarding steps you can undertake to protect you and your assets, such as the formation of a family trust, or a relationship property agreement with your partner; and
- Preparing Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPAs) for you, ensuring someone you trust can make important decisions on your behalf if you become unable to do so.
- Assisting with family law matters and providing relationship property advice.
- Providing advice to you regarding employment law matters; and
- Assisting with a wide range of other general legal services.

Many of our immigration clients continue to work with us as their trusted legal advisers long after their arrival, and we value the opportunity to support them in all stages of their lives in New Zealand.

McMillan&Co.
LAWYERS • MEDIATORS • NOTARY PUBLIC

The Donald Reid Building, 110 Vogel Street, Dunedin 9016 | P.O. Box 5547, Dunedin 9054

Phone +64 03 477 2238 | Fax +64 03 474 5588 | mcmillanco.nz

This document is a guide only. If you require a full assessment of your eligibility for a New Zealand visa, or want to enquire about any of our other legal services, please contact info@mcmillanco.nz to book an initial assessment.