

New Zealand



Personal Background

- BSc (Physio) UCD '03-'07
- Uncertain Job prospects
- NZ Physio clinic 'CAPE Physio' recruiting in Ireland
- Spent 12 months in Hawkes Bay, NZ.
Sept 07 – Sept 08
- Approximately 50% of my year are now working in NZ or Oz
- Great experience, great time, highly recommend it!
- However the job prospects in NZ have changed since I was there

Requirements to Work in NZ



- Registration
- Working Visa
- Plane Ticket

- Desirable to have job set up before you leave

Registration

- <http://www.physioboard.org.nz/>
- NZ\$1200 = 627e
- Eligible w/ degree from UCD
- Certify docs correctly! – details on application form
- Translations – degree – order from National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, Ireland
- <http://www.nui.ie/services/document-services.asp>



Documentation

- Application form
- Copy of passport (certified from solicitor)
- Degree cert (copy certified)
- Translation of degree (official & original)
- Academic Transcript (original - from admin)
- Curriculum (original - Physio secretary)
- Bank Draft NZ\$1200
- Letter of good standing from ISCP
- Garda screening – not the same as garda clearance – doesn't take as long
- 2 letters of professional referees (haven't yet been employed as a physio – therefore use clinical tutors – don't need to fill in employment form but they write letter & send directly to board)
- Portfolio:
 - CV
 - Competencies
 - Evidence (incl any assignments, placement details, inservices, thesis – all stamped by college)
 - Evidence Based Practice – final year project.

- Then apply for an APC : Annual Practising Cert
- If registered in NZ can get easy registration in OZ (in the majority of states)
- Leave time to complete application & allow plenty of time for it to process. Start looking at process now!
- Be sure to certify everything correctly
- Avoid putting in unnecessary docs
- ruth.mills@yahoo.com

VISA's

- 12 month working holiday VISA = apply online, easy
- If want to stay longer then you can apply for a 2 year work to resident visa – need to complete medicals etc – can start on 12 month working visa and then change to this one
- Residency – points system & lotto – physio previously on long term shortage list so good chance of getting



Awesome!



Employment Prospects

- Pre 2008 Huge shortage of Physios in NZ
- More competitive job market now due to a number of factors
 - Decline of ACC
 - NZ grads less likely to emigrate
- However still opportunities.

Where to look for a job in NZ

- Research before you go
- Cape Physio www.capephysio.co.nz
- www.therapylink.co.nz
- www.enedparamedical.co.nz
- www.physiobobs.com
- Apply to major Hospitals HR depts
eg. <http://www.ccdhb.org.nz/>
<http://www.adhb.govt.nz/>

Choice Bro



Working Environment

- Wages poor in comparison to Ireland
- Typically between \$40000-\$48000 for new grad.
- Pay per pt – worthwhile depending on season and busyness of clinic
- Conversion to NZ dollars good => money you bring over will go further
- 40 hour working week + team work at weekends

- Cape – good support structures
- Weekly in-services, monthly tutorials
- Senior Support
- Friendly young people
- Good working environment
- Manual therapy common



Sheep! 10 Million of them!



NZ Lifestyle

- Active!
- Generally non materialistic
- Sports obsessed
- BBQ's
- Friendly
- Maori Culture mostly on North Island
- Many folk w/ Irish or British roots
- Love the Irish!



Skiing



Location in NZ

- Be careful rural areas – plenty of jobs in these locations, however may be working on your own with little social life
- Wellington, Christchurch, Auckland, Queenstown (ski season) good bets
- Research the place before you go. Know what your looking for.



Weather

- Huge variation across the country
- Hot summers – cold winters (Hawkes Bay very mild winters – Mediterranean climate)

- Despite the hassle of registration, distance and cost of getting set up, New Zealand has lots of offer
 - Good physiotherapy experience
 - Weather and lifestyle
 - Working abroad experience

However be aware that no guarantee of job

Opportunities after graduation

- Keep an eye on iscp website
- Voluntary work provides opportunities
- Opportunities in other parts of the world – Canada, Singapore
- Think outside box : Strength + Conditioning qualification, other skill in combination w/ degree