

Guidance for the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People Application Form

Please read these notes before completing this application form

What is the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People?

If you lived or worked at or near the former Ivon Watkins Dow plant in Paritutu, New Plymouth, between 1962 and 1987, you may be eligible for a health support service. The health support service:

- is based on a free annual health check delivered by a family doctor, GP, or practice nurse
- includes information and advice for health practitioners and eligible people
- supports other services depending on health needs, including referral to smoking cessation services, physical activity programmes, nutrition advice, mental health services, genetic counselling, or serum dioxin testing (under limited circumstances).

The Service is provided across New Zealand: you do not have to live in New Plymouth to use it.

Who is eligible for this Service?

You are eligible for the Service if you are entitled to publicly funded health services in New Zealand **and** you meet any one of the following five criteria:

1. You lived within the defined area (see Box 1) for at least one year between 1962 and 1969 or five years between 1970 and 1987.
2. You worked at the former Ivon Watkins Dow factory for at least six months between 1962 and 1987.
3. You worked elsewhere within the defined area (see Box 1) for at least one year between 1962 and 1969 or five years between 1970 and 1987.
4. You lived at the power station workers' camp, to the north of the former Ivon Watkins Dow factory, for at least six months between 1969 and 1974.
5. You were a pupil at Moturoa primary school for at least one year between 1962 and 1969 or five years between 1970 and 1987.

Who is entitled to publicly funded health services in New Zealand?

Generally, to be entitled to publicly funded services in New Zealand you must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be a New Zealand citizen.
- Be a New Zealand citizen whose usual place of abode is in the Cook Islands, Niue, or Tokelau.
- Be a New Zealand citizen by descent.
- Be a child born in New Zealand whose parents are entitled to access publicly funded health services.
- Be regarded as ordinarily resident (eg, you have a residence permit or a work permit valid for two or more years, you are an Australian citizen or resident living in New Zealand on a permanent basis, etc.).

More information about entitlement to health services can be found at 0800 611 116 or www.moh.govt.nz/eligibility.

Am I eligible if I only worked at IWD or elsewhere in the defined area part-time?

Eligibility depends on the period that you worked (years or months) and the amount of time you worked over an average week (days or hours) during this period. You may be eligible if you worked part-time.

Are my children or grandchildren eligible for the health support service?

Children and grandchildren are eligible if they:

- are entitled to publicly funded health services in New Zealand **and**
- meet any one of the five eligibility criteria.

Box 1. The defined area

The defined area includes the following streets:

Blyde Road, Breakwater Road (from Normas Way to the west end of the road), Bridger Lane, Buckland Place, Catherine Crescent, Centennial Drive (from Ngamotu Road to Rangitake Drive), Crownhill Street, Darwin Crescent, Eton Place, Findlay Street, Hakirau Street, Harbour Street, Herekawe Drive, Hobart Drive, Hutchen Place, Lydford Place, Marama Crescent, Maui Place, Melrose Street, Moturoa Street, Mt View Place, Naumai Place, Newton King Street, Ngamotu Road, Norton Place, Norwich Avenue, Paritutu Road, Parris Street, Pioneer Road, Pomare Place, Port View Crescent, Rangitake Drive, Rawinia Street, Renown Place, Rosendale Avenue, Rospeath Crescent, Scott Street, Seacombe Terrace, Simons Street, South Road (west or north side of the road only from Squire Place to Severn Place), Tahurangi Place, Tay Street, Tohora Place, Tohu Place, Tunai Street, Weston Street, and Wharf Street.

Who needs to fill out this application?

You must complete this application to see if you are eligible for the Service.

You must complete all the questions in the application form.

Each person must complete a separate application form.

If you have a disability or a language difficulty that prevents you filling in the form yourself, someone may fill in the form on your behalf.

You must complete the Statutory Declaration if you cannot provide evidence that you meet the eligibility criteria. A person who completes a form on behalf of someone else must also complete a Statutory Declaration.

Do I need to send any documents with this application?

You will need to prove that you meet any one of the eligibility criteria and that you are entitled to publicly funded services in New Zealand. You will either need to send documents that show this or complete the Statutory Declaration. The following are examples of the types of documents that may prove where you lived, worked or went to school:

- utilities bills (eg, gas, power, or telephone bills)
- bank statements
- rates notices
- property ownership papers
- tenancy agreements
- payslips

- employment contracts
- school records or certificates.

Contact us

If you have any questions about this form, or need help to fill it out, please call us on 0800 288 588.

Where do I send my application?

Send your completed application form to:
Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People
Ministry of Health
PO Box 5013
Wellington
New Zealand

What will happen to my application?

Your application will be processed to check that all the required information has been provided and that you meet the eligibility criteria. We may need to ask for more information if the application is incomplete.

If your application is accepted, we will write to you and tell you how to book your first annual health check. We will also write to your GP, family doctor, or medical centre to tell them that you are eligible.

If your application is not accepted we will write to you to tell you why. We will also ask you whether you would like us to send your application to an appeals panel, and whether you would like to provide further information to support your application as part of this process.

How long will it take?

A correctly completed application will take up to 20 working days to process.

What is a Statutory Declaration?

A Statutory Declaration is a declaration made before an authorised person declaring the truth of a statement's content. Statutory declarations must be witnessed by authorised persons (such as Barristers and Solicitors, or a Justice of the Peace). A list of authorised persons can be found in the Yellow Pages. Statutory Declarations are made by

virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957. It is an offence to make a false Statutory Declaration.

When must a Statutory Declaration be completed?

You must complete the Statutory Declaration on the application form if any of the following apply:

- You are unable to provide documents that prove you meet any one of the eligibility criteria.
- You completed this application on behalf of someone else.

Privacy Statement and Disclosure of Information

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The privacy of information relating to you is governed by the Privacy Act 1993 and the Health Information Privacy Code 1994. The information the Ministry of Health collects and holds about you will be used:

- to communicate with you about the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People
- for administrative purposes, such as considering your eligibility for the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People, and sending you and your GP, family doctor or medical centre information about entitlements to access services within the Service
- for monitoring and evaluating the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People.

The information about you will be collected directly from this application form and from information provided by your nominated GP, family doctor or medical centre from which you receive your annual health check. This will include information on the services you access and are referred to. It will not include information about your health status.

We will need to disclose information about your eligibility status to your nominated GP, family doctor or medical centre. We may also need to disclose information about you to evaluators who will be reviewing how well the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People is being implemented.

The Ministry of Health will endeavour to ensure that the personal information that we collect, store and use is accurate, complete, and up to date. Prompt notification of any changes to your personal contact details will help us do this. We will also endeavour to protect your personal information from misuse or loss and from unauthorised access, modification or disclosure in accordance with the Privacy Act and the Health Information Privacy Code.

Under the Privacy Act and the Health Information Privacy Code you are entitled to have access to, and request correction of, any personal information held by us. If you have any queries about privacy of information or wish to access any personal information held by us, please contact Health Support Service for People Exposed to Dioxin, Ministry of Health, PO Box 5013, Wellington, New Zealand (telephone 0800 288 588).

If any of the information requested on the application form (or as part of the application process) is not provided, it may delay the processing of your application.

If you withdraw from the Health Support Service for Dioxin Exposed People, the Ministry of Health will retain some information on your participation in the Service including background details on who you are (such as age, gender and ethnicity) and what services you accessed. This information will be used for monitoring and evaluation purposes only.