



Trans-Tasman Proceedings Act 2010

Fact sheet - Trans-Tasman Proceedings Act 2010

Registering and enforcing civil court judgments across the Tasman

From 11 October 2013, there is a streamlined process for registering and enforcing civil court judgments across the Tasman.

What types of Australian judgments can be registered in New Zealand?

A final and conclusive judgment given in a civil proceeding by an Australian court can be registered in a New Zealand court for enforcement in New Zealand.

You can register:

- judgments requiring a person to pay money
- judgments ordering a person do to something (for example, to return specific property)

Some types of judgments are not covered by this process. Examples of judgments you can't register include:

- judgments relating to wills
- judgments relating to the care of children or people who aren't capable of managing their own personal affairs
- judgments ordering child support
- certain orders relating to cross-border insolvency.

How do I register and enforce an Australian civil court judgment in New Zealand?

Final and conclusive judgments given in Australian civil court proceedings can be registered in a New Zealand court for enforcement in New Zealand. The fee to register a judgment in the New Zealand High Court or District Court is NZ\$100.

Application forms are prescribed in the New Zealand [Trans-Tasman Proceedings Regulations and Rules 2013](#).



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If the court registrar refuses to register an Australian judgment, you may apply to a judge for a review of the registrar's decision. This application is free and must be filed within five working days after you received notice of the registrar's decision.

New Zealand judgments can also be registered and enforced in Australia

You can apply directly to an Australian court to register a civil court judgment. You can register the judgment in an Australian superior court, or in an inferior court that has the power to give the remedy contained in the New Zealand judgment.

The same rules set out above regarding the types of judgments that can and can't be registered apply to registering New Zealand judgments in Australia.

Application forms are prescribed in the Australian [Trans-Tasman Proceedings Regulation 2012](#).

Can I stop a New Zealand judgment being enforced against me in Australia?

You can ask the court to review a registrar's decision to register a New Zealand judgment if you think it was registered using information that was incorrect or incomplete.

You can apply to the Australian court to 'stay' (that is, suspend) enforcement while you are appealing against the New Zealand judgment or asking the New Zealand court to vary or set aside the decision.

You can apply to the Australian court to set aside registration of the judgment. The limited grounds for setting aside registration include the court being satisfied that:

- the judgment was registered wrongly, or
- enforcing the judgment would be contrary to 'public policy' in Australian court.

These applications must be filed within 30 working days after you received notice that the New Zealand judgment was registered, unless you apply for and are granted a longer period.