

Application Process

Introduction

This pamphlet is to help you file an application, such as a trust or a succession application, in the Māori Land Court.

Glossary

To help to clarify the legal words and phrases used in this pamphlet, there is an accompanying glossary – Glossary: Te Ture Whenua Māori. When a word or phrase that is in the glossary appears in this pamphlet for the first time, it will be in bold, e.g. **āhīdavit**.



Waikato Maniapoto district

Registry Office
Level 2, BNZ Centre
354–358 Victoria Street
PO Box 620
Hamilton
Phone: (07) 957 7880
Fax: (07) 957 7881
Email: mlcwaikato@courts.govt.nz

Waiairiki district

Registry Office
Hauora House
Haupapa Street
PO Box 3012
Rotorua
Phone: (07) 921 7402
Fax: (07) 921 7412
Email: mlcwaiairiki@courts.govt.nz

Tūrangi information office

Shop 41
Town Centre
PO Box 273
Tūrangi
Phone: (07) 386 0183
Fax: (07) 386 0183

Aotea district

Registry Office
Ingestre Chambers
74 Ingestre Street
PO Box 7178
Wanganui
Phone: (06) 349 0770
Fax: (06) 349 0771
Email: mlcaotea@courts.govt.nz

Tākitimu district

Registry Office
2nd floor, Hereaunga House
Cor Lyndon and Warren Streets
PO Box 134
Hastings
Phone: (06) 974 7630
Fax: (06) 974 7631
Email: mlctakitimu@courts.govt.nz

Te Tairāwhiti district

Registry Office
Ngā Wai E Rua
Reads Quay
PO Box 849
Gisborne
Phone: (06) 869 0370
Fax: (06) 869 0371
Email: mlctairawhiti@courts.govt.nz

Te Waipounamu district

Registry Office
76 Peterborough Street
PO Box 2200
Christchurch
Phone: (03) 962 4900
Fax: (03) 962 4901
Email: mlcwaipounamu@courts.govt.nz

National Office

Calrex Towers
Level 17,
141 The Terrace
PO Box 23-248
Wellington
Phone: (04) 914 3102
Fax: (04) 914 3000
Email: mlcnationaloffice@courts.govt.nz

1. Filing the application

- Application forms can be obtained from Māori Land Court offices. The addresses of the Māori Land Court offices are listed at the end of this pamphlet.
- Complete the application form and provide all the necessary supporting documents and the application fee. File the application at a Māori Land Court office.
- The Māori Land Court staff will check the application, ensuring that all the sections are completed and that the required documents and application fee are included.

2. Māori Land Court check and a Part IV Search

- Māori Land Court staff will check the relevant court records and prepare a draft report for the judge in preparation for a court hearing.

For succession applications

- A Part IV Search shows what shares and/or interests the deceased person had and who they were derived from.
- The deceased person's **whakapapa** is required to confirm that the deceased is the same person as the owner described in the Māori Land Court records.

3. Notification of the court hearing

- The Māori Land Court holds monthly court hearings. The applicant and the interested parties are notified of the time, date, and venue of the hearing at least two weeks before it occurs.
- Notification of the application is placed, with other applications to be heard, in the Māori Land Court Panui, also at least two weeks before the hearing.

4. The court hearing

- The purpose of the court hearing is:
 - to confirm the report compiled by the court staff
 - to receive evidence and comments from the applicant and the interested parties
 - for the Māori Land Court to make a decision on the case.

5. The court hearing minutes

- The court hearing minutes are a record of what happened at the hearing. Copies of the minutes will be sent to the applicant and the interested parties.

6. A rehearing and appeal

Rehearing

- An application for a rehearing must be made within twenty-eight days after the court order has been made, unless the judge is satisfied that the application could not have reasonably been made sooner.
- An application for a rehearing can be made orally in the open court, in writing and given to the clerk of the court during the court sitting, or in writing and filed with the Registrar of the Māori Land Court after the court sitting.

Appeal period

- An appeal against a final court order must start within two months after the date of the minute of the order or within a period that the Māori Appellate Court allows.
- An appeal against a provisional or preliminary determination of the Māori Land Court must start during the time that the determination was made, but it cannot start without the permission of the Māori Land Court.

7. The court order

- A copy of the court order is sent to the applicant and, where necessary, the interested parties.

8. The Māori Land Information System (MLIS)

- The MLIS updates the Māori land block details. The court order is entered on the MLIS and, where applicable, a duplicate of the court order is registered with the Land Registry Office.

More information

For more information about Māori Land Court applications, please write to, phone, fax, email, or visit a Māori Land Court office. Māori Land Court office addresses and email addresses follow. The staff will be pleased to assist you and discuss any matters with you.

Website: www.justice.govt.nz/maorilandcourt

Māori Land Court offices

Te Taiokerau district

Registry Office
2nd Floor, Manaia House
Rathbone Street
PO Box 1764
Whangarei
Phone: (09) 983 9940
Fax: (09) 983 9941
Email: mlctaiokerau@courts.govt.nz

Auckland information office

135 Kohmar Road
PO Box 23358
Papatoetoe
Phone: (09) 279 5850
Fax: (09) 279 5852
Email: mlcpapatoetoe@courts.govt.nz