



RMPP Action Groups Opening a Bank Account

Individuals and Entities such as Partnerships, Companies, Trusts, Unincorporated Groups and Incorporated Societies can open bank accounts.

All banks and financial institutions across New Zealand need to make sure that they comply with the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act 2009 (“Act”). The Act means that Banks and financial institutions need to collect information from the Individual/s or Entity opening a bank account and anyone who is acting on the Individual’s or Entity’s behalf.

RMPP Action Groups may determine that an Individual Group Member or Facilitator utilises an existing bank account on the Action Group’s behalf or the Action Group may elect to open a bank account.

If an Action Group elects to open a bank account, the Action Group may form an Unincorporated Group¹ or Incorporated Society². This however obligates proof of identity, proof of address, key management office-holders, persons acting on behalf of the Group, IRD tax number and other information about the Unincorporated Group or Incorporated Society (e.g. expected value and volume of activity on the account) and some individuals associated with the Group.

In some circumstances the Bank or financial institution may also require evidence of the source of funds or wealth of the Action Group. In addition, if the Bank or financial institution does not already have proof of identity for the Individual/s or Entity; then each Individual will need to provide an identity document such as your passport or New Zealand Firearms’ Licence, or New Zealand Driver’s Licence with an accompanying secondary form of identification. You will also need to provide a document that confirms your address (e.g. a utility bill, insurance bill or bank statement) from within the past six months.

If each individual cannot get personally into the Bank with the original identity document(s) and original document confirming address, then a certified copy of the original documents can be accepted for the purpose of verification.

¹ An **Unincorporated Group** is an organisation set up through an agreement between a **group** of people who come together for a reason other than to make a profit (for example, a voluntary **group** or a sports club). Individual members are personally responsible for any debts and contractual obligations.

² An **incorporated society** is a group or organisation that has been registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and, when incorporated, is authorised by law to run its affairs as though it were an individual person.

A certified copy of an original document means a document certified as a true likeness of the person presenting the document by a Trusted Referee.

A Trusted Referee must:

- be over the age of 16 years old; and
- be a lawyer, Chartered Accountant, notary public, Justice of the Peace, or a person who has the legal authority to take statutory declarations.

They must not be:

- related to the person identified in the document or the person presenting the document (for example a Trusted Referee cannot be their parent, child, brother, sister, aunt, uncle or cousin); or
- a spouse or partner of the person identified in the document or the person presenting the document; or
- a person who lives at the same address as the person identified in the document or the person presenting the document; or
- a person involved in the transaction or business requiring the certification.

Certification must have been carried out in the three months preceding the presentation of the copied documents.

- The Trusted Referee must sight the original identity and address verification, and make a statement to the effect that the document provided is a true copy and represents a true likeness of the of named individual (for photographic identification).
- The Trusted Referee must also include in the certification their own:
 - full name;
 - signature;
 - occupation;
 - date of certification and signature; and
 - registration number (or equivalent) and registering body (e.g. New Zealand Law Society).

Please refer to www.anz.co.nz/myid for more information. RMPP suggests Action Group Members contact an ANZ bank branch if they wish to open a Group Bank Account to discuss the best option that suits their needs. ANZ is also able to arrange for a bank manager to come to the relevant RMPP Action Network group

meeting and work through the mandates and authorities with Action Group members in one go so they can either complete arrangements at the meeting or on line when Action Group members are ready.