



General information for visa applicants

Applying for a visa

Visa application forms are available on the Department's website and many applications can be lodged online. Details about how to apply are included in the information about the particular visa you wish to apply for. A list of visas is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/Visa-listing

Health and character requirements

All visa applicants must be assessed against Australia's health and character requirements. These requirements are designed to protect the safety and security of the Australian community.

Health requirements

As part of the visa application process you may be required to undertake a medical examination, chest x-ray and/or other health checks.

The Department will advise you of the applicable health checks (if any), based on your individual circumstances. Information on health checks which may apply to you is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa/Heal

Character requirements

As part of your visa application, you might be required to provide a police clearance certificate or other evidence to satisfy character requirements. Information about character requirements and police certificate requirements is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa/Char

Requirements for applicants under 18 years of age

Visa applicants who are under 18 years of age may be required to satisfy additional criteria to ensure that their interests are protected and that Australia meets its international obligations in relation to minors.

Information about documents that may be required for persons younger than 18 years of age is available on the Department's website. Please refer to the following forms listed on the Department's website:

www.homeaffairs.gov.au/allforms

- **Form 1229 - Consent form to grant an Australian visa to a child under the age of 18 years**
- **Form 1257 - Undertaking declaration.**

Biometrics collection

If you are lodging a visa application in a selected location, regardless of your nationality, you may need to provide your biometrics in relation to your visa application, unless exempt. Information about Biometrics collection is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa/Biom

Creating an ImmiAccount

ImmiAccount is a single point of entry into the Department's online visa services. Information about ImmiAccount is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/immiaccount

Visa processing times

Information about visa processing times is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards

Immigration clearance requirements

On arrival in Australia, you must identify yourself, present your travel documents, and complete an Incoming Passenger Card (IPC). The IPC requires travellers to declare their health status and any prior criminal convictions (amongst other declarations). If you do not meet immigration clearance requirements, you may be refused entry to Australia. Information about Australia's immigration clearance processes is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Ente/GoIn/Arrival

Obligations of visa holders

You must comply with your visa validity and visa conditions while in Australia. When you receive your Australian visa, you are issued with a visa grant notice that explains the conditions of your visa (including your approved period of stay in Australia and your entry requirements). Your visa may be cancelled if you breach any of the conditions of your visa. You are advised to carry your visa grant notice when travelling for your own reference.

If your visa expires while you are still in Australia, you will become an unlawful non-citizen and may be detained and removed from Australia. You may also be subject to an exclusion period, which could prevent you from re-entering Australia. Information about your obligations as a visa holder is available on the Department's website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/complying-with-your-obligations

Travel sanctions

For information on countries subject to travel sanctions, please refer to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) website. Nationals of these countries may not be permitted to travel to and enter Australia. For further information about travel sanctions, please refer: www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/security/sanctions/Pages/sanctions.aspx



Visa options for business conferences, seminars, trade fairs and expos

Overview

This fact sheet is a general guide to the most common visa options for those travelling to Australia to participate in a business conference, trade fair, seminar, or expo.

The information contained in this fact sheet is current as at **22 May 2018**. Australian migration law may change after this time resulting in a change in visa options. Please check the Department of Home Affairs website for further information: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/

New Zealand citizens should refer to the Department's website:
<http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/444->

Visas and processing times

A list of visas is available on the Department's website:
<http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/Visa-listing>

When lodging your visa application, you will need to allow time for the application to be processed, taking into account the date you are intending to travel to Australia.

Global visa processing times are available on the Department's website:
www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards/global-visa-citizenship-processing-times

Visa options

The table on the following page of this fact sheet provides a quick reference guide to the type of visa you may be eligible for. Please refer to the information on the Department's website to ensure you apply for the most appropriate visa. Information about the visa options listed on the following page is available on the Department's website (see [hyperlinks](#) below):

- [Visitor visas](#)
- [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\)](#)
- [Temporary Work \(Short Stay Specialist\) visa \(subclass 400\)](#)

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– follow the hyperlinks in the table for further information

<u>Visitor visas:</u> – subclass 601 – subclass 651 – subclass 600	<u>Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)</u>	<u>Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)</u>	<u>Temporary Work (Short Stay Specialist) visa (subclass 400)</u>
Stream: <u>Business Visitor</u>	Activity type: <u>Invited Participant</u>	Activity type: <u>Entertainment activities</u>	Stream: <u>Highly Specialised Work</u>
You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:	You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:	You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:	You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Participant or an attendee of an event – that is: you will not be working, performing, direct selling a product or otherwise being paid to contribute. ■ Unpaid speakers, presenters (even where costs are covered by the organisation, including travel and accommodation) – where the event is non-ticketed or a fee has not been paid by the general public to attend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Speaker, presenter, exhibitor, or other contributor invited to participate in an event by an Australian organisation for a stay of up to three months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Performer or entertainer. ■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is intended for Australian audiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is <u>not</u> intended for Australian audiences. ■ Person who is otherwise working at the event - such as a project manager; site supervisor; or, in limited circumstances, a highly specialised construction worker.
Period of stay: Up to 3 months stay for each visit.	Period of stay: Up to 3 months <i>Note: This visa does not require sponsorship if the visa applicant applies while outside of Australia for a stay of up to three months. However, the inviting organisation must meet the <u>Support Test</u>.</i>	Period of stay: Up to 2 years <i>Note: This visa does not require sponsorship if the visa applicant applies while outside of Australia for a stay of up to three months. However, the inviting organisation must meet the <u>Support Test</u>.</i>	Period of stay: Up to 3 months* <i>*Note: Up to six months may be allowed in limited circumstances. This visa does not require sponsorship, but must be applied for and granted while the applicant is outside of Australia.</i>