

AUSTRALIAN VISA OPTIONS

This summary should not substitute for specific legal advice in any situation

Proposed Activity	Visa Options	Basic Eligibility Criteria	Maximum Length of Stay	Where applicant must be located
Short stay business visit Attends business meeting/negotiation conference/ training or in certain limited circumstances, urgent assignment with short duration	ETA (956, 977) eVisitor (651) Business Short Stay (456) Sponsored Business Visitor (459)	Relevant passport. Business background, skills and qualifications. Funds to cover cost of stay. Demonstrated need to attend Australia.	3 months per visit; visa usually issued for 12 months Note: shorter for 'urgent assignments'	Must be outside Australia at time of application and time of decision.
Temporary employment (up months to 4 years) Occupational Trainees Temporary workplace training program or temporary academic	Business Long Stay (457) Occupational Trainee (442)	Sponsored by an employer fulfilling relevant criteria. Position is full time, skilled and meets specified salary threshold. Employee holds relevant experience and qualifications.	Up to 4 year 457 visa and renewable; Up to 2 year 442 visa	No restriction on applicant location. However, if applying in Australia, visa must not have a condition on the visa precluding application being made in Australia.
Permanent employment Where offer of permanent position by Australian Employer	Employer Nomination Scheme (856/121) Labour Agreement (855/120) Regional Skilled Migration (857/119)	Nominated by an Australian employer. Position is highly skilled and meets salary threshold. Employee has relevant business background, qualifications and experience. Note must additionally live/work in a regional area for the 857/119 visa, and have support from relevant local government body.	Permanent Residence visa	If applying outside Australia, must be outside Australia at time of decision. If applying in Australia, must hold a prescribed visa and be in Australia at time of decision.
Work and Holiday Maximum 3 months work per employer	Working Holiday (417) Work and Holiday (462). Eg. US nationals	Hold relevant passport. Be aged 18-30 years at time of application. Meet education, English language and available funds requirements. Private health insurance.	12 months 417 visa only Renewable once for a further 12 months if have worked regionally for 3 months	Must be outside Australia when applying for first visa. Can be in Australia when applying to renew the 417 visa.
Family A Child, Spouse/ Partner, Parent, or in another way related to an Australian Citizen, Australian Permanent Resident or an Eligible New Zealand Citizen (continued next page)	Child (802/101) Adopted Child (102)	All persons with custody give permission to apply; child is under 18 yrs (or older in limited cases). 102: lived overseas 12 months.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be offshore at time of application and decision; or onshore for both. 102: offshore only.
	Partner (820-801/309-100) Includes same sex partners.	Lived together for typically 12+ months (de facto partner only. Note: a long-term relationship (3yrs cohabitation, or 2yrs plus children) can apply directly for permanent residence	Temporary visa granted initially, permanent residence visa assessed after approx 2yrs	Must be offshore at time of application and decision; or onshore at time of application and decision. 102: offshore only.
	Prospective Marriage (300) [Fiancé]	Engaged, with evidence of relationship; will marry in Australia within 9 months of obtaining visa.	9 months May then apply for Spouse visa	Must be offshore at time of application and decision.

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Family continued A Child, Spouse/ Partner, Parent, or in another way related to an Australian Citizen, Australian Permanent Resident or an Eligible New Zealand Citizen	Parent (103) Aged Parent (804) Contributory Parent (173, 143*) Contributory Aged Parent (884, 864*)	Meet balance of family test, over 65yrs for 'Aged' categories; meet health requirements.	Permanent Residence visa * interim temporary visa available	Must be offshore at time of application and decision. Exception: Contributory Aged Parent can apply onshore.
	Remaining Relative (835/115)	Applicant (and spouse) has no siblings, non-dependent children, parents (or step-equivalents) other than those in Australia.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be offshore at time of application and decision, or onshore at time of application and decision.
	For an overseas business/investment portfolio - temporary visas: Business Owner (160/163*) Senior Executive (161/164*) Investor (162/165*)	Meets requirements covering: net assets in a business; annual turnover; net business and personal assets during last 2-4yrs Under 45 yrs (except 164). * Obtain Australian State/Territory Sponsorship	Up to 4 years May apply for a permanent visa after 2 yrs where meets Australian established residence and business or investment requirements. See Permanent options below (890-893)	Must be outside Australia (unless student visa holder) when applying for first visa, and when application is decided. Renewals completed onshore.
Skilled Business Persons Own, have a shareholding in, or are involved in the senior management of a successful business, or manage a substantial investment portfolio.	For a business (either in or outside Australia) - permanent visa Business Talent (132)	Under 55 yrs (except in limited circumstances), have sponsorship by an Australian State/Territory, meet requirements covering: net assets in a business; annual turnover; net business and personal assets during last 2-4 yrs.	Permanent Residence visa	No restriction. However, if in Australia, must hold valid visa.
	For a business in Australia permanent visa Established business in Australia (845/846*) Business Owner (890/892*)	Meets requirements covering: net assets in Aus business, business turnover, net business and personal assets in Aus during last 12/24 months, and number of employees of Aus business. Australian residence requirements met. Meet points test for 845/846 only. * Obtain Australian State/Territory Sponsorship.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be in Australia at time of application and decision. Must hold prescribed visa.
	Where investment in Australia: permanent visa Investor (891/893*)	Has made and held an investment in Australia. Australian residence requirements met. * Obtain Australian State/Territory Sponsorship.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be in Australia at time of application and decision.
	Where investment in Australia: temporary visa Investor Retirement (405)	Over 55 yrs, no dependent children. Meet asset and income test. Able to make 4 yr investment in relevant sponsoring Australian State/Territory. Has private health insurance.	4 years Maximum 20 hrs work per week permitted	Can be in Australia at time of application and decision; or outside Australia at time of application and decision.

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Skilled Professionals Have business background and at least 12 months work experience, qualifications and licensing where required	Skilled-Independent (175) Skilled-Sponsored (176*)	Under 45 yrs, pass the "points" test. Meets English language requirements. Is able to obtain a positive skills assessment from relevant assessing body. * Sponsored by either an Australian State/Territory, or an eligible relative who is an Australian Permanent Resident/Citizen or eligible New Zealand Citizen, living in Australia.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be outside Australia when application is decided, unless NZ citizen.
	Skilled-Regional (887)	Have lived in designated regional area for at least 2 yrs while holding specified visa(s), including 1 yr employed.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be in Australia when applying for visa and when application is decided.
	Skilled-Independent (885) Skilled-Sponsored (886*)	Same as for 175/176 above.	Permanent Residence visa	Must be in Australia when applying for visa and when application is decided.
Recent Graduates Persons who, during the last 6 months, have completed a qualification following at least 2 yrs study at an Australian institution (Exception: 476, completed selected overseas qualifications)	Skilled-Graduate (485)	Under 45 yrs, able to obtain positive skills assessment for a 50 or 60 point skilled occupation.	18 months Cannot hold more than one 485 visa as the 'primary applicant'. May then apply for permanent visa in Australia under Skilled Professional route where requirements met	Must be in Australia when applying for visa, and when application is decided.
	Skilled - Recognised Graduate (476)	Under 31 yrs, completed studies in selected course (currently Engineering Bachelor level qualification) within the last 2 years. Meets English language requirements.	18 months Cannot hold more than one of these visas as the 'primary applicant'	Must be outside Australia when application is decided. Exception: NZ Citizens.
	Skilled - Regional Sponsored (475, 487)	Under 45 yrs, meets 2 yr study requirement or has recent employment experience. Meets English language requirements, can obtain a positive skills assessment from relevant assessing body.	3 years Must live and work in specified regional area of Aus. May apply for permanent visa (887) once requirements met	475: No restriction. However, if in Australia, must hold prescribed visa. 487: Must be in Australia at time of application and decision.

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