

Temporary Residence Visa Options

VISA CRITERIA	ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORITY, SUBCLASS 956 / 977 or EVISITOR, SUBCLASS 651	BUSINESS (SHORT STAY), SUBCLASS 456	BUSINESS (LONG STAY), SUBCLASS 457	EXCHANGE, SUBCLASS 411	OCCUPATIONAL TRAINEE, SUBCLASS 442	WORKING HOLIDAY MAKER, SUBCLASS 417	WORK & HOLIDAY VISA, SUBCLASS 462	VISITING ACADEMIC, SUBCLASS 419
OVERVIEW	Foreign nationals from eligible countries can enter Australia for business reasons for up to 3 months EACH visit in conjunction with a short holiday.	Foreign nationals can enter Australia for business reasons for up to 3 months EACH visit in conjunction with a short holiday.	Overseas and Australian businesses can recruit overseas workers to Australia to fill "skilled" positions which cannot be filled from the local labour market.	Foreign nationals can enter Australia under an exchange agreement, giving an Australian resident reciprocal opportunity to work with an organisation overseas. Visa designed to broaden the skills and knowledge of the participants involved.	Foreign nationals can undertake workplace training programs, academic research or observation with an Australia organisation aimed at improving their skills in their current occupation, area of study or field of expertise.	Foreign nationals from eligible countries have the opportunity to holiday in Australia and supplement their travel funds through incidental employment.	Foreign nationals from eligible countries have the opportunity to holiday in Australia and supplement their travel funds through incidental employment.	Foreign nationals have the opportunity to observe or participate in an established Australian research project with an institute and in collaboration with other academics
ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES	Exploring business opportunities, attending business conferences, seminars and meetings, formal study or professional development training up to 3 months (cumulatively), work in very limited circumstances up to 6 weeks (cumulatively), academic related activities up to 3 months (cumulatively). Note: Academic activities may include collaborating or planning joint research with other Australian academics, guest lecturing / training less than 6 weeks (cumulatively), developing professional contacts, etc.	Exploring business opportunities, attending business conferences, seminars and meetings, professional development training up to 3 months (cumulatively), work in very limited circumstances up to 6 weeks (cumulatively), academic related activities up to 3 months (cumulatively). Note: Academic activities may include collaborating or planning joint research with other Australian academics, guest lecturing / training less than 6 weeks (cumulatively), developing professional contacts, etc.	Work with sponsoring employer (or "associated entity") in a position which is consistent with the approved occupation.	Work with sponsoring employer in a position which is consistent with the overseas exchange position.	Approved research / training program with Macquarie University.	See Conditions below	See conditions below	See conditions below
NON-ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES	See conditions below	See conditions below	See conditions below	See conditions below. Note: an exchange visa cannot be used to fill a "vacant" position, as this would be indicative of a 457 visa.	See conditions below. Assignee cannot undertake skilled and/or unsupervised work.	See Conditions below	See conditions below	Lecturing or teaching, other than presenting findings on the Australian based research, is not permitted.
GOVERNMENT FEE (Subject to change at any time)	\$0-\$90 depending on visa type. \$20 electronic / online service fee will apply for ETA visa applications.	Up to \$105 Visa	\$345 Sponsorship (one-off payment, valid 3 years) \$70 Nomination, \$260 Visa	\$345 Sponsorship (one-off payment, valid 3 years), \$140 Nomination, \$260 Visa (in Australia)	\$345 Sponsorship (one-off payment, valid 3 years), \$140 nomination, \$260 Visa	\$230 Visa	\$230	\$345 Sponsorship (one-off payment, valid 3 years), \$140 nomination, \$260 Visa
VISA DURATION	3 months at each entry for 12 months multiple travel (or over lifetime of passport for Subclass 977)	3 months single entry visa - 12 months multiple travel. A lesser period may be issued for high risk applicants. A longer period may be negotiated.	3 months up to 4 years	Up to 2 years	Up to 2 years	12 months	12 months	Up to 2 years
APPLICATION TYPE	Electronic application	Paper based application	Electronic application for Australian sponsors. Paper based applications for Overseas sponsors	Paper based application	Paper based application	Electronic application	Electronic application for US citizens only. Paper based application for all others	Paper based application
VISA PROCESSING OFFICE	Automated electronic service	Overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General	Must be processed at Melbourne, Sydney or Perth where company's head office is located (via online service) for Australian sponsors. Overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General (via paper lodgement) for overseas sponsors.	In Australia (if applicant in Australia) or Overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General (if applicant outside of Australia)	Sponsorship, nomination and visa applications lodged at Adelaide Occupational Trainee Processing Centre, South Australia.	Processed by Hobart Onshore Processing Centre (via online service)	Processed by overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General except where US applications are processed via electronic service. 2nd Work & Holiday for Iranian citizens are processed in Australia	Nomination processed at the Specialist Entry Processing Centre in the ACT, visa applications processed at overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General.
VISA PROCESSING TIME (Incomplete applications, integrity, health and/or character problems will cause processing delays. Processing times may vary from time to time, and/or from location to location)	Within 12 hours if not instantly	2 - 4 weeks, depending on overseas post and location	48 hours up to 4 weeks providing no complications arise ie health, character, etc	4-8 weeks	4-8 weeks	Up to 6 days	Within 48 hours for electronic applications. Up to 4 weeks.	8-12 weeks
SPONSORSHIP OBLIGATIONS (Non-compliance with these obligations may result in an array of penalties and sanctions, including sponsorship and visa cancellation, monetary fines, visa processing delays and/or refusals. Sponsors are subject to auditing by the Department of Immigration at any time with or without notice)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Applicable	Applicable	Applicable.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Applicable.
ASSIGNEE LOCATION AT TIME OF APPLICATION	Outside of Australia	Outside of Australia	In or outside of Australia (if in Australia, assignee must hold a valid visa and not be subject to Condition 8503) if sponsored by Australian company. Outside of Australia, if sponsored by overseas company	In or outside of Australia (if in Australia, assignee must hold a valid visa and not be subject to Condition 8503)	In or outside of Australia (if in Australia, assignee must hold a valid visa and not be subject to Condition 8503)	Outside Australia unless applying in Australia for a 2nd Working Holiday Maker visa	Outside of Australia unless Iranian citizen applying for 2nd Work and Holiday visa.	In or outside of Australia (if in Australia, assignee must hold a valid visa and not be subject to Condition 8503)

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	Work activity must be "highly specialised", an "emergency" or in "Australia's best interests" and no more than 6 weeks, cumulatively over life time of visa. Professional development training must meet the needs of employer overseas / enhance skills in current occupation, be academic in nature with very little practical / on-the-job training and not more than 3 months cumulatively over life time of visa.	Work activity must be "highly specialised", an "emergency" or in "Australia's best interests" and no more than 6 weeks, cumulatively over life time of visa. Professional development training must meet the needs of employer overseas / enhance skills in current occupation, be academic in nature with very little practical / on-the-job training and not more than 3 months cumulatively over life time of visa.	Vacant position must relate to an occupation on a list prescribed by Department of Immigration and meet market salary rates. Note: Market salary rates replaced the "minimum salary thresholds" as at 14 September 2009, with transitional arrangements in place until 31 December 2009	Exchange position must be 'skilled'. The exchange does not have to be exactly reciprocal - the employees involved in the exchange do not have to take up the same role, commence the exchange at the same time or for the same period of time - the role has to be in the same occupational grouping. The same or equivalent position currently held by the Australian citizen or permanent resident must be available to them on completion of the exchange	Training program is typically supervised, workplace based and includes a skills audit and training needs analysis designed at enhancing the trainee's skills in their occupation, area of study or field of expertise.	Not applicable. Business sponsorship or nomination is not required.	Not applicable. Business sponsorship or nomination is not required.	Have been invited to observe or participate in an established Australian research project at an Australian tertiary or research institute and in collaboration with other academics employed by the sponsoring Australian tertiary and research institute
WORK OR TRAINING ACTIVITY GUIDELINES								
ASSIGNEE: SKILL REQUIREMENT	Not applicable as no formal assessment	Qualifications, work experience and/or personal attributes relevant to the business activity. A letter of invitation from the host organisation is required.	Qualifications and/or work experience and/or professional registration (where applicable). For management / professional occupations the skill entry level is a degree and/or 5 years relevant work experience. For associate professional and trade occupations the skill entry level is a diploma / certificate III and/or 3 years relevant work experience	Qualifications and/or work experience and/or professional registration (where applicable).	Trainees must satisfy one of three streams 1. require practical work experience to obtain professional registration and licensing 2. require training to develop their skills in a prescribed occupation for which they have 12 months experience in the last 2 years 3. enrolled students overseas whose training in Australia, of no more than 6 months, will be credited towards their study overseas OR enrolled tertiary students or a former tertiary students who have graduated within the last 12 months who will conduct research as part of, or relevant to, their overseas qualification	Must be aged 18-30 years, no dependents, hold an eligible passport and have access to sufficient funds to support themselves in Australia. Eligible countries include: Belgium, Canada, Republic of Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Taiwan and United Kingdom.	Must hold a passport from the US, Iran, Thailand Chile and Turkey citizens, be aged 18 - 30 years and hold specific qualifications. Unless they are a US citizen, they must also have the support of their government.	Be employed or have formerly been employed as an academic at a tertiary or research institution overseas and have a significant record of achievement in their field. An academic would typically relate to a person who is a PhD qualified and whose research has been published in reputable academic journals or serial publications in his field
ASSIGNEE: MINIMUM SALARY REQUIREMENT	Not applicable	Not applicable	Assignee to receive equivalent terms and conditions of employment as would an Australian employee performing the same role in the same location, including commensurate base rate of pay and/or remuneration. The market salary rate for the vacant position cannot be lower than \$45,220 in the workplace.	No minimum salary level however assignees must be paid in accordance with Australia's industrial relations laws.	No minimum salary level. Unless an exemption applies, trainees must be paid in accordance with Australia's industrial relations laws	Not applicable	Not applicable	Must not receive a salary, scholarship or allowances, other than a contribution towards living and travel expenses. Persons undertaking research for commercial purposes should consider using a Business (Long Stay) (subclass 457).
ASSIGNEE: ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST	Not applicable	Not applicable	Specific only to tradespersons or occupations where English testing is a component of Australian registration and licensing. Exemptions to an English test apply.	Not applicable	Applicable. Exemptions to the English test apply.	Not applicable	Applicable. Exemptions to the English test apply	Not applicable
HEALTH INSURANCE (applies to main applicant as well as family members)	Not applicable but highly recommended.	Not applicable but highly recommended	Mandatory for visas granted on or after 14 September 2009 and payable by the assignee. Sponsors are obliged to pay for employee (and family members) medical and hospital costs which are not covered by private health insurance or reciprocal health care arrangements, if they hold a visa granted before the 14 September 2009.	Mandatory. Required pre-visa grant.	Mandatory. Required pre-visa grant.	Not required but recommended	May be a requirement of some overseas Embassy, High Commission or Consulate General	Mandatory. Required pre-visa grant
HEALTH: MEDICAL EXAMINATION (may be required if an applicant has a known health problem, has lived / visited high risk TB country, will be involved in health care, will enter a hospital, nursing home or education institute or is over 70 years of age).	Not required	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance
HEALTH: X-RAY EXAMINATION (normally applies to applicants over 11 years. Where applicant is a TB risk an x-ray may be requested regardless of age)	Not required	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless health is of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance	Not required unless applicant has health of special significance
CHARACTER ASSESSMENT: May be required where stay in Australia exceeds 12 months. (National security checks may be initiated where applicant is deemed 'high risk' which could result in further processing delays)	Not required	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history	Not required unless assignee has a criminal history
FAMILY MEMBERS	Not applicable. NB: Family members must apply separately for their own business / visitor visa.	Immediate family (including same sex partners)	Immediate family (including same sex partners) and eligible extended family members	Immediate family (including same sex partners) and eligible extended family members	Immediate family (including same sex partners) and eligible extended family members	Family members cannot be included	Family members cannot be included	Immediate family (including same sex partners) and eligible extended family members

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<p>ASSIGNEE: VISA CONDITIONS (Discretionary) Condition 8503 may apply to any of these visas other than subclass 457 and 476. Persons subject to this condition cannot apply for another Australian visa while they remain in Australia)</p>	<p>Condition 8112. Must not engage in work in Australia that might otherwise be carried out by an Australian citizen or an Australian permanent resident. Note: Work refers to an activity which would normally attract remuneration in Australia. On-the-job / practical training and/or unskilled / semi skilled work is not acceptable.</p>	<p>Condition 8112. Must not engage in work in Australia that might otherwise be carried out by an Australian citizen or an Australian permanent resident. Note: Work refers to an activity which would normally attract remuneration in Australia. On-the-job / practical training and/or unskilled / semi skilled work is not acceptable.</p>	<p>Condition 8107. Must not work in a position inconsistent with the nominated position, must not work for another person or for themselves other than the sponsoring employer (or associated entity) and must not cease work for more than 28 days.</p>	<p>Condition 8107. Must not cease working for their sponsoring employer, work in a position inconsistent with the nominated position, work for another person or for themselves, other than their sponsoring employer</p>	<p>Condition 8102. Trainee must not engage in work in Australia (other than in relation to their course of study or training).</p>	<p>Condition 8547. Assignee must not be employed by any 1 employer for more than 6 months, without the prior permission in writing of the Secretary. Note: Workplace based training up to 6 months is also acceptable. Condition 8548: Assignee must not engage in any studies or training in Australia for more than 4 months (ie. classroom studies or training which may be credited towards a formal qualification)</p>	<p>Condition 8547: Assignee must not be employed by any 1 employer for more than 6 months, without the prior permission in writing of the Secretary. Note: Workplace based training up to 6 months is also acceptable. Condition 8548: Assignee must not engage in any studies or training in Australia for more than 4 months (ie. classroom studies or training which may be credited towards a formal qualification)</p>	<p>Condition 8103. Academic must not receive salary in Australia without the permission in writing. 8107. Assignee must not cease their approved activity, undertake an activity which is inconsistent with the approved activity, work for another person or for themselves other than their sponsoring employer</p>
<p>FAMILY MEMBERS: VISA CONDITIONS (Discretionary) Condition 8503 may apply to any of these visas other than subclass 457. Persons subject to this condition cannot apply for another Australian visa while they remain in Australia)</p>	<p>Not applicable. NB: Family members need to apply for their own business / visitor visa.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Various discretionary conditions may apply.</p>	<p>Various discretionary conditions may apply.</p>	<p>Condition 8104. Secondary holders must not engage in work for more than 20 hours a week while in Australia</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Various discretionary conditions may apply.</p>
<p>BENEFITS / ADVANTAGES</p>	<p>Streamlined / electronic processing: minimal legal requirements and visa documentation required. Generally, no health and character assessment required - If intending to use this visa for work/training as defined above, please refer to SIRVA to facilitate a "pre-approval" from the Department of Immigration for compliance purposes in the long term</p>	<p>Minimal legal requirements and visa documentation required. Generally, no health and character assessment required</p>	<p>Streamlined processing: minimal visa documentation and health assessments. Generally no character assessment required.</p>	<p>"Skilled" is not defined for this visa so it allows for more flexibility in terms of the position to be filled and the assignee's skills set than the 457 visa. It can be any professional, associate professional or trade occupation ie. is not restricted to a prescribed Immigration list</p>	<p>Facilitates entry of semi skilled foreign nationals who want to improve their skills set. A salary waiver may apply to enrolled students, recent graduates, non-commercial post graduate researchers, observers, etc.</p>	<p>Streamlined processing: minimal legal requirements and visa documentation required. Generally, no health and character assessment required</p>	<p>Streamline processing for US citizens: Minimal legal requirements and visa documentation required. Generally, no health and character assessment required</p>	<p>n/a</p>