**Lodging your protection visa application**

This information is available to download in [other languages](https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Refu/protection-application-information-and-guides-paig/lodging-your-protection-visa-application#download).

Once you have filled out your protection visa application form, it is a good idea to review what you are sending so that you can be sure your application will be valid.

Make sure you have filled out the correct application form:

* If you want to apply for a Temporary Protection visa, you should have filled out [form 866—*Application for a protection visa*](https://www.border.gov.au/Forms/Documents/866.pdf).
* If you want to apply for a Safe Haven Enterprise visa, you should have filled out [form 790—*Application for a Safe Haven Enterprise visa (SHEV)*](https://www.border.gov.au/FormsAndDocuments/Documents/790.pdf)*.*

For your application form to be considered valid, you must:

* not be prevented from lodging an application because of any application bars
* pay the [visa application charge](https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa/Fees)
* be in Australia
* provide your residential address
* provide personal identifiers if required, and
* put forward reasons for claiming protection, or be a member of the family unit of someone who is claiming protection.

Completing the checklist in Part B of your application form will help you with this. For more information on filling out a protection visa application form, read [Protection Application Information and Guides (PAIG): The protection visa application forms](https://www.border.gov.au/Refugeeandhumanitarian/Pages/the-protection-visa-application-forms.aspx).

You will be asked to provide scanned certified copies of any documents you provide to support your application, with English translations from a translator accredited by the [National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters](http://www.naati.com.au/) (NAATI), when you lodge your application for a protection visa. You will then be asked to bring the original documents with you later to an interview. For more information on the interview, read [PAIG: The interview](https://www.border.gov.au/Refugeeandhumanitarian/Pages/the-interview.aspx).

Before you send in your application, ask yourself:

* Is your application completed in English?
* Have you completed all of the sections? Remember, if a question does not apply to you then you must write 'N/A', which means not applicable.   
  Make sure that you have provided as much detail as possible. Use the[PAIG](https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Refu/protection-application-information-and-guides-paig) to help you fill out the form.
* Have you outlined all the reasons why you might need protection in Australia (that is, your protection claims)?
* Have you signed the application?
* Have you provided a recent, passport-sized certified photograph for everyone on your application?
* Have you included enough copies of documents to support your protection claims?
* Have you included enough copies of documents to support your identity, nationality and citizenship?
* Are your supporting copies of documents certified and accompanied by an English translation from an accredited translator?
* Have you filled out any other forms you have been asked to provide?
* If you have a migration agent, have you filled out [form 956—*Advice by a migration agent/exempt person providing immigration assistance*](https://www.border.gov.au/FormsAndDocuments/Documents/956.pdf)?
* If you are posting your application, have you checked the postal address? Do you want to [track your application](http://auspost.com.au/parcels-mail/our-tracking-service.html) through Australia Post?

Remember, you do not need to send original documents with your protection visa application form. You need to send certified copies with English translations. You will then be asked to bring the original documents with you to your interview.

You might want to keep a copy of your protection visa application for your records.

We prefer that you lodge your completed application form, supporting evidence and any other documents by sending the addressed envelope provided with your invitation to apply to:

* IMA Protection Support
* The Department of Immigration and Border Protection
* GPO Box 9984
* Sydney NSW 2001

You can also lodge your application in person or by mail to any of [our offices](https://www.border.gov.au/about/contact/offices-locations/australia) in Australia.

If you cannot lodge your completed application form yourself, someone else, such as a migration agent, can lodge an application on your behalf.

For more information about what happens after you have lodged your application, read [PAIG: After you have lodged your application](https://www.border.gov.au/Refugeeandhumanitarian/Pages/after-you-have-lodged-your-application.aspx).