



(Subclass 870)

Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa

This temporary visa lets a parent of an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen visit Australia for up to 3 or 5 years.

Personalise this page...

For Applicants

For Sponsors

Overview

Stay

Up to 3 or 5 years

Cost

Up to 3 years AUD5,735

Up to 5 years AUD11,470

Processing times

For an indication of processing times for this visa, use the [visa processing time guide tool \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times\)](/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times). This will show the processing times for recently decided applications. It is a guide only and not specific to your application.

With this visa you

- can visit Australia for up to 3 or 5 years per visa
- can apply for further visas to visit up to a maximum period in Australia of 10 years
- **cannot** work in Australia

[See all conditions \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=870\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=870)

[Check your eligibility \(#Eligibility\)](#)

You must

[Ask a question](#)

- have an approved Parent Sponsor before you can lodge an application for this visa
- apply online for this visa
- lodge your visa application within 6 months of the sponsorship approval, or 60 days if we give you [permission to apply in Australia \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/sponsored-parent-temporary-870?tg=2&bk=aboutVisa-index-7#HowTo\)](#).

You may be eligible for [COVID-19 visa concessions \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-concessions\)](#).

Help with your visa

If you are getting help with your visa, before you pay someone, read information on [who can help with your visa application \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview\)](#).

About this visa

- [With this visa you can \(#aboutVisa-index-0\)](#)
- [How long you can stay \(#aboutVisa-index-1\)](#)
- [Stay longer \(#aboutVisa-index-2\)](#)
- [Include family \(#aboutVisa-index-3\)](#)
- [Sponsorship \(#aboutVisa-index-4\)](#)
- [Cost \(#aboutVisa-index-5\)](#)
- [Apply from \(#aboutVisa-index-6\)](#)
- [Processing times \(#aboutVisa-index-7\)](#)
- [Travel \(#aboutVisa-index-8\)](#)
- [Your obligations \(#aboutVisa-index-9\)](#)
- [Visa label \(#aboutVisa-index-10\)](#)

With this visa you can

- reunite with children
- visit Australia for up to 3 or 5 years per visa
- re-apply for further Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visas to visit up to a maximum period of 10 years in Australia

You cannot work in Australia while you hold this visa.

How long you can stay

This is a temporary visa. This visa does not lead to permanent residence. You cannot apply for a permanent or temporary parent visa when you have applied for or hold this visa.

You can apply to stay in Australia for up to 3 or 5 years at a time.

You can stay for the period or date(s) specified on the visa grant letter. We will determine the length of your visa on a case by case basis.

Things we might consider when determining your stay period include:

- how long you want to stay
- the sponsorship cessation date

You might not be granted the length of stay you want.

If you have been granted a Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa, the sponsor's other parent cannot be granted a visa with a later end date.

For example:

Parent A and Parent B are both sponsored by Child A. Parent A applies for a Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa, and the visa is granted for three (3) years. Parent B applies for a three (3) year Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa some 18 months later. In this scenario, Parent B can only be granted a Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa for the remaining period of Parent A's visa validity period (in this case, 12 months). The same amount of [Visa Application Charge \(/visas/getting-a-visa/fees-and-charges/current-visa-pricing/live?bk=#content-index-8\)](/visas/getting-a-visa/fees-and-charges/current-visa-pricing/live?bk=#content-index-8) is payable for Parent A and Parent B.

Your visa will end:

- on the date specified on the visa grant letter
- if it is cancelled by us
- if your sponsorship is withdrawn and you do not find a new Parent Sponsor
- if we cancel the sponsorship

Stay longer

You can stay for a cumulative maximum 10 year period.

You cannot stay in Australia longer by extending this visa. You must apply for and be granted a different kind of visa to remain in Australia.

You must be outside Australia for at least 90 days before being eligible to be granted another Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa, unless you have Permission to Apply in Australia.

If you have held Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visas for the cumulative maximum 10 year period, you must either depart Australia or apply for and be granted another kind of visa that will allow you to remain in Australia. You will not be eligible for the grant of a further Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa.

Include family

You cannot include family members in your visa application.

Sponsorship

You must have an approved Parent Sponsor to apply for this visa.

Your sponsor's household is limited to one sponsorship at a time.

Your sponsor's sponsorship can cover up to 2 parents per household at a time.

Your sponsor cannot lodge a new sponsorship application until their current approved sponsorship ends.

Cost

This visa costs from:

- AUD5,735 for a visa of up to 3 years; or
- AUD11,470 for a visa of up to 5 years.

You pay for this visa in 2 parts called instalments.

Pay the first instalment when you apply. Pay the second instalment when we ask you to. See more about [visa fees and charges \(/visas/getting-a-visa/fees-and-charges/current-visa-pricing/live?bk=#content-index-8\)](#).

You might also have to pay other costs for [health checks \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health\)](#), [police certificates \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character\)](#) [biometrics \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/biometrics\)](#).

To work out what this visa will cost, you can use the [Visa Pricing Estimator \(/visas/visa-pricing-estimator?visa=870\)](#). The estimator does not take into account the second instalment or other costs.

Apply from

You must be outside Australia when you apply for this visa, unless you have Permission to Apply while in Australia (but not in [immigration clearance](#)).

[Permission to Apply in Australia \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/sponsored-parent-temporary-870?tg=2&bk=aboutVisa-index-7#HowTo\)](#) may be approved in exceptional circumstances. This may include where the parent is unable to depart Australia, for example, due to:

- the parent having an accident or a serious illness (medical evidence must be provided) or
- a natural disaster preventing travel to the parent's home country.

You can be in or outside Australia, but not in [immigration clearance](#), when we decide your application.

Processing times

For an indication of processing times for this visa, use the [visa processing time guide tool \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times\)](#). This will show the processing times for recently decided applications. It is a guide only and not specific to your application.

Your application might take longer to process if:

- you do not fill it in correctly
- you do not include all the documents we need or we need more information from you
- it takes us time to verify your information

Travel

You can travel to and from Australia as many times as you want while the visa is valid.

Your obligations

You must meet all [visa conditions \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=870\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=870) and obey Australian laws.

Visa label

We will digitally link your visa to your passport. You will not get a label in your passport.

Eligibility

Be eligible to apply

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- be the biological, legal (including adoptive) parent, step-parent or parent in-law of the Parent Sponsor
- be at least 18 years of age

There is no balance of family test or Assurance of Support requirements for this visa.

Have a sponsor

You must have an approved Parent Sponsor to apply for this visa.

Have met any previous visa obligations

You must have met and complied with any previous visa obligations.

Meet the health requirement

You must meet our [health requirement \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health).

Meet the character requirement

You must meet our [character requirement \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character).

Have enough money

You must have, or have access to, enough money to support yourself while you are in Australia.

Have a genuine intention to stay in Australia temporarily

You must intend to:

- stay only temporarily in Australia
- do only the things the visa allows you to do.

If you have already lodged a permanent parent visa application, you may visit Australia, but not remain in Australia permanently while the application is being decided. This is a temporary visa only. You will not have the right to permanent residence. You cannot apply for a permanent or temporary parent visa if you have applied for or hold this visa.

Health insurance

You must have and maintain adequate arrangements for health insurance from an Australian Health Insurance provider to cover any unforeseen medical treatment you might need while you are in Australia.

See what we consider [adequate health insurance \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health/adequate-health-insurance\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health/adequate-health-insurance).

Learn more about [health insurance for overseas visitors \(https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/health_insurance/overseas/index.htm\)](https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/health_insurance/overseas/index.htm).

Reciprocal healthcare agreements

Some countries have a reciprocal healthcare agreement with Australia. Find out more from Services Australia about [reciprocal healthcare agreements \(https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements/visitors-australia/medical-care-visitors-australia\)](https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/reciprocal-health-care-agreements/visitors-australia/medical-care-visitors-australia).

Have no debt to the Australian government

If you owe the Australian Government money or you have a public health debt, you must have paid it back or have arrangements in place to pay it back.

Meet all these criteria? Check how to apply in our [step by step \(#HowTo\)](#) guide.

Step by step

Step 1

Before you apply

Before you apply, check you are eligible. Check that you have an approved Parent Sponsor. You can't apply for or be granted this visa if you do not have an approved Parent Sponsor.

Check your passport

You must have a valid passport. We will only grant the visa if you have a valid passport.

Get help with your application

Only some people can help you with your application. If you appoint someone to give you immigration assistance they must be:

- a [registered migration agent \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/using-a-migration-agent\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/using-a-migration-agent)
- a [legal practitioner \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/using-a-legal-practitioner\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/using-a-legal-practitioner), or
- an [exempt person \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/exempt-person\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/exempt-person).

You can appoint anyone to [receive documents \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/authorised-recipients\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/authorised-recipients) on your behalf relating to your visa matter.

Step 2

Gather your documents

Provide evidence to support your application.

Provide accurate documents

Provide accurate information. See what happens if [you can't prove your identity or don't provide accurate information \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/providing-accurate-information\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/providing-accurate-information).

Identity documents

We need proof of your identity. If you cannot prove your identity:

- we will refuse your visa application
- we might not grant you another visa for 10 years

Provide the pages of your current passport showing your photo, personal details, and passport issue and expiry dates.

Also provide:

- a national identity card, if you have one
- proof of change of name

Documents that prove a change of name include:

- a marriage or divorce certificate
- change of name documents from an Australian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, or the relevant overseas authority
- documents that show other names you have been known by such as a birth certificate showing the names of both parents or custody documents issued by the relevant court of law.

Permission to Apply in Australia

We will tell your approved Parent Sponsor if you have Permission to Apply in Australia (but not in immigration clearance) if we approve their sponsorship.

This advice will be provided in a Permission to Apply letter.

You must attach a copy of this letter to your visa application.

Character documents

Provide an Australian police certificate if you have spent a total of 12 months or more in Australia in the last 10 years since you turned 16.

We only accept complete disclosure National Police Certificates issued by the [Australian Federal Police](https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks#) (<https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks#>). We do not accept standard disclosure certificates or national police certificates issued by Australian state or territory police.

Also provide:

- an overseas police certificate from [every country](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/contact-us/offices-and-locations/list) ([/help-support/contact-us/offices-and-locations/list](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/contact-us/offices-and-locations/list)), including your home country, where you spent a total of 12 months or more in the last 10 years since you turned 16
- military service records or discharge papers if you served in the armed forces of any country

Complete and provide the following forms:

- [Form 80 Personal particulars for assessment including character assessment \(596KB PDF\)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/form-listing/forms/80.pdf) ([/form-listing/forms/80.pdf](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/form-listing/forms/80.pdf))

Health exams

Check ImmiAccount (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online>) if you need to do any [health examinations](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health) (</help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health>). If health examinations are required, you may wish to do them before lodging your application so that we can process your application more quickly.

Tell us you are getting help

To nominate someone to:

- receive your correspondence, use [Form 956A Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient \(301KB PDF\)](/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf) (</form-listing/forms/956a.pdf>)
- provide immigration assistance, use [Form 956 Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person \(308KB PDF\)](/form-listing/forms/956.pdf) (</form-listing/forms/956.pdf>).

Upload your written notification or your forms to ImmiAccount (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview>).

Prepare your documents

Translate

Have all non-English documents translated into English.

Translators in Australia must be accredited by the [National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters](https://www.naati.com.au/) (<https://www.naati.com.au/>).

Translators outside Australia do not have to be accredited. But on each translation, they must include their:

- full name
- address and telephone number
- qualifications and experience in the language they are translating

These details must be in English.

Note: You do not need to have any documents certified.

Scan or photograph

Scan or photograph all documents (English and non-English) in colour.

The scans and photos must be clear.

If a document is more than one page, save it all as one file.

Attach

Attach a document only once, even if you are using it to show more than one thing.

Learn more about [attaching documents \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online).

Step 3

Apply for the visa

NOTE: You cannot apply for a permanent or temporary parent visa when you have applied for or hold this visa.

You must apply:

- online
- from outside Australia within 6 months of Sponsorship approval

If you have [Permission to Apply in Australia \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/sponsored-parent-temporary-870?tg=2&bk=aboutVisa-index-7#HowTo\)](/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/sponsored-parent-temporary-870?tg=2&bk=aboutVisa-index-7#HowTo) in Australia, you must apply within 60 days of sponsorship approval. If you do not apply within 60 days, your approved Parent Sponsor may apply again for Permission to Apply in Australia, if the sponsorship is valid and there are exceptional circumstances for applying while in Australia.

If we do not approve the Permission to Apply in Australia request, you will have to:

- apply for the visa from outside Australia within 6 months of sponsorship approval, or
- apply for and be granted a different kind of visa to remain in Australia.

Apply online in ImmiAccount

1. Login or create an [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper).
2. Complete Application for a Sponsored Parent (Temporary) visa
3. [Attach documents \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online?bk=content-index-2\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online?bk=content-index-2).
4. [Pay the application fee \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online/how-to-pay\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online/how-to-pay). We will not process your application until you pay.

Complete applications might be processed quicker. Incomplete ones might be delayed or refused if there is insufficient information to show you meet the requirements.

Step 4

After you apply

We will let you know when we have received your application and documents.

Status updates

We will not give you updates on your application's progress within normal processing times. You can check your application progress in ImmiAccount. We will let you know if you need to provide anything further.

You can check if we need more information in [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online\)](#).

Travel

If you are outside Australia, do not arrange to travel to Australia until we let you know, in writing, that we have granted you the visa.

Attach more information

Attach any documents you did not provide with your application into [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online\)](#)

We might also ask you to provide more information.

Mistakes on your application

Let us know as soon as you can if you made a mistake on your application.

Attach a completed [Form 1023 Notification of incorrect answers \(168KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf\)](#) to your application in ImmiAccount.

Tell us if things change

Tell us if things change after you apply but before we've made a decision.

Things you need to let us know about include:

- changes to your phone number, email, address or passport
- changes to your marital or de facto status
- the birth of a child
- if you are convicted of a crime

See how to tell us if your [situation changes \(/change-in-situation\)](#).

Biometrics

We might ask for biometrics. We will let you know if you need to provide them.

Health exams

We will let you know if you need to do any other [health examinations \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health\)](#).

Pay the second instalment

You must pay a second instalment before we will grant the visa. We will send you an invoice when it is due. If you do not pay the invoice, we will refuse your application.

Help with your application

Let us know if you no longer want someone to:

- receive your correspondence - complete [Form 956A Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient \(301KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf\)](#)
- provide immigration advice - complete [Form 956 Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person \(308KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/956.pdf\)](#).

Upload your written notification or your forms to [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview\)](#).

For more information see [Who can help you with your application \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview\)](#).

Withdrawing your visa application

You can withdraw your visa application at any time before we decide on the application.

To withdraw your application, advise us in writing. Follow the instruction to [withdraw your visa application \(/change-in-situation/withdraw-visa-application\)](#).

You must attach the completed form to your application in [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/tools/immiaccount\)](#).

We will not refund the visa application fee if you withdraw your application.

Step 5

Visa outcome

You can be in or outside Australia, but not in immigration clearance, when we decide your application.

We will let you know our decision in writing. If we grant you the visa, we will let you know:

- your visa grant number
- the date your visa starts
- your visa conditions

Keep a copy of our decision.

If we refuse your visa we will let you know in writing. We will tell you:

- why we refused the visa
- whether you have a right to a review of the decision

We will not refund the application fee if we refuse your application.

When you have this visa

- [Coming to Australia \(#haveThisVisa-index-0\)](#)
- [In Australia \(#haveThisVisa-index-1\)](#)
- [Leaving Australia \(#haveThisVisa-index-2\)](#)

Coming to Australia

Before you travel

You must have:

- a valid visa to enter Australia
- a valid passport or other travel document

At the border

Completing an Incoming Passenger Card

All people arriving in Australia must complete the [Incoming Passenger Card](https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/crossing-the-border/at-the-border/incoming-passenger-card-(ipc))) ([https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/crossing-the-border/at-the-border/incoming-passenger-card-\(ipc\)\)](https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/crossing-the-border/at-the-border/incoming-passenger-card-(ipc))).

Using the SmartGate

We have an automated process that uses facial recognition technology and your ePassport. You might be able to leave the airport faster if you use [SmartGate](https://www.abf.gov.au/smartgates) (<https://www.abf.gov.au/smartgates>)

In Australia

What you must do when you have this visa

You must obey all Australian laws.

Tell us if things change

See what to do if your [situation changes](/change-in-situation) (</change-in-situation>).

Change of Parent sponsor

If your approved Parent Sponsor withdraws their sponsorship you will need to find a new sponsor or your visa will cease.

The new sponsorship application must be lodged within 35 days of the original sponsorship withdrawal and the new sponsor must meet the sponsor eligibility requirements.

Where a new sponsorship is approved, the previous Parent Sponsor will still need to pay any outstanding health debts incurred by the sponsored parent in Australia while they were the parent sponsor.

If a new sponsorship is not approved, you will need to either apply for and be granted a different kind of visa to stay in Australia or make arrangements to leave Australia.

Death of a sponsor

If your approved Parent Sponsor dies, a new sponsorship application can be lodged to be your new Parent Sponsor. This must be done within 90 days of death of the approved Parent Sponsor.

The new sponsor must meet the sponsor eligibility requirements.

What you can do on your visa

To see your visa expiry and conditions use [VEVO \(/vevo\)](#).

Travelling on your visa

You can travel to and from Australia as many times as you want while the visa is valid.

Visa label

We will digitally link your visa to your passport. You will not get a label in your passport.

Proving you have a visa

To prove you have a visa and show your conditions to someone, use [VEVO \(/vevo\)](#).

No work condition

You are not allowed to work in Australia while you hold this visa.

You can undertake the following unpaid work:

- providing care for grandchildren or other minor relatives in a domestic environment
- undertaking volunteer work in a non-commercial capacity such as assisting a charitable organisation
- assisting at a local school where the sponsor's children or other minor relatives attend

However, you cannot undertake any unpaid work:

- in a commercial environment
- in a family business

Leaving Australia

Before you leave

Check your travel documents

You must have a valid passport or other travel document to leave Australia.

Ensure your visa is still valid

Check your conditions and the expiry of your current visa in [VEVO \(/vevo\)](#)

See what you [can and must do if your visa has expired or is about to expire \(/visas/visa-about-to-expire\)](#).

At the Border

Leaving the airport faster

We have an automated process that uses facial recognition technology and your ePassport. You might be able to leave the airport faster if you use [SmartGate \(https://www.abf.gov.au/smartgates\)](https://www.abf.gov.au/smartgates)

After you leave

Proving you have been to Australia

Request your international movement records (<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/request-movement-records>) to get proof of your travel in and out of Australia.

Last updated:
7 November 2023