



## Subclass 836

# Carer visa

This permanent visa lets you stay in Australia to care for someone with a long-term medical condition who has no reasonable access to care options in Australia.

Personalise this page...

**For Applicants**

For Sponsors

## Overview

### Stay

Permanently

### Cost

From AUD2,055.00

### 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.

For more information, see [Other Family Visa Queue \(https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/family-visa-processing-priorities/other-family-visas-queue-release-dates\)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/family-visa-processing-priorities/other-family-visas-queue-release-dates)

### With this visa you can

- stay in Australia as a permanent resident
- work and study in Australia
- travel to and from Australia for 5 years

[See all conditions \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=836\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=836)

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

### You must

[Ask a question](#)

- be in Australia when you apply for the visa and when we decide your application
- be a carer for your Australian relative who needs care or a member of their family who lives with them and needs care and who has no reasonable access to care in Australia
- be sponsored by an eligible sponsor

## 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 \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview).

## Process



## About this visa

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

## With this visa you can

- stay in Australia indefinitely
- work and study in Australia

- enrol in Australia's public health care scheme, [Medicare](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/medicare) (<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/medicare>)
- sponsor your relatives to come to Australia
- travel to and from Australia for 5 years
- apply for [Australian citizenship](#) ([/citizenship/become-a-citizen](#)), if eligible

This visa lets you stay in Australia to provide care to someone with a long-term medical condition who does not have reasonable access to care options in Australia. The person you care for must be your Australian relative who needs care, or your relative's family member who lives with them and needs care.

## Travel to and from Australia for 5 years

You can travel to and from Australia as many times as you want for 5 years from the date we grant this visa. This is as long as the travel facility on this visa remains valid.

If you want to travel after the initial 5-year travel facility:

- you will need to apply for and be granted a [Resident Return \(RRV\)](#) ([/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/resident-return-visa-155-157](#)) so that you can re-enter Australia as a permanent resident
- you might also want to consider Australian citizenship. If you become an Australian citizen, you don't require a visa to enter Australia. You will need to apply for an Australian passport and use it to leave and re-enter Australia. See more about eligibility requirements and current processing times for [Australian citizenship](#) ([/citizenship/become-a-citizen](#))

To see when your travel facility ends, use [VEVO](#) ([/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/](#)).

## How long you can stay

This is a permanent visa. It lets you stay in Australia indefinitely.

For citizenship purposes, your permanent residence starts on the day we grant the visa.

## Include family

You can include members of the family unit in your application when you apply.

Family members who apply for the visa must meet our [health](#) ([/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health](#)) and [character](#) ([/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character](#)) requirements.

## Cost

This visa costs from AUD2,055.00 for the main applicant. There is also an additional charge for each family member who applies with you.

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.

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

Use the [Visa Pricing Estimator](#) ([/visas/visa-pricing-estimator?visa=836](#)) to work out what your visa will cost. The estimator does not take into account the second instalment or other costs.

We might consider reducing your second instalment to nil if you can show us that paying the second instalment is likely to cause you or the person you are caring for severe financial hardship.

We will not reduce the second instalment for anyone applying for the visa with you.

Send your request to us in writing.

## Apply from

You must be in Australia when you apply and when we decide your application.

## Processing times

The demand for Other Family visas is greater than the number of places available each year. As a result, processing times for these applications can be lengthy.

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 and/or
- your information takes longer than usual to verify.

We can't process your application if you don't pay the correct visa application charge. We will notify you if this is the case and if necessary return your application.

Applications for this visa are subject to capping and queueing.

Learn more about the [Other Family Visa \(https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/family-visa-processing-priorities/other-family-visas-queue-release-dates\)](#) queues and [processing priorities \(https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/family-visa-processing-priorities\)](#).

The [Reports on Migration Programs \(https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-statistics/statistics/visa-statistics/live/migration-program\)](#) have further information on Migration Program outcomes against planning for each migration program year.

## Your obligations

You and your family members must obey all Australian laws.

## Visa label

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

## Eligibility

## Be a carer

Among other things, you must be willing and able to provide ongoing substantial care and continuing support or assistance to your Australian relative who needs care or their family member who lives with them and needs care. To show this, you should fully understand your Australian relative or their family member's medical condition and what their care needs are.

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## Have a sponsor

You must be sponsored by an eligible sponsor.  
We must approve the sponsorship.

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## Hold or have held a substantive visa

You must:

- hold any substantive visa, except a Transit visa (subclass 771), or
- have held any substantive visa except a subclass 771 and made a valid application for a subclass 836 visa within a certain time

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## Meet the health requirement

You and any family members who apply for the visa with you must meet our [health requirement \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health).

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## Meet the character requirement

You, and family members aged 16 years and over who apply for the visa with you, must meet our [character requirement \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character).

We might also ask that other family members meet the requirement.

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## Have paid back your debt to the Australian government

If you or any family member owes the Australian Government money you or they must have paid it back or have a formal arrangement to pay it back.

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## Not have had a visa cancelled or a previous application refused

We will consider your immigration history when we make a decision on your application, which means you might not be eligible for this visa if you have had a visa cancelled or refused.

In some circumstances you may still apply for a permanent visa if you have had a visa cancelled or an application refused, see [Limitations on applications in Australia \(/form-listing/forms/1026i.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/1026i.pdf).

If applying for a visa from outside Australia, see [Can I go to Australia \(/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia/can-i-go-to-australia/re-entry-ban\)](/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia/can-i-go-to-australia/re-entry-ban).

If you want immigration assistance, see [Who can help with your visa application \(/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview\)](/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview).

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## Sign the Australian values statement

If you are 18 years of age or older, you must:

- have read, or had explained to you, the [Life in Australia \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values) book
- sign an [Australian Values Statement \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values) that confirms you will respect the Australian way of life and obey Australian laws

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## Best interests of the child

We might not grant this visa if it is not in the best interests of an applicant under 18.

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

## Step by step

### Step 1

## Before you apply

Check your passport. If you need help with your application, get someone to act on your behalf.

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### 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.

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## Organise a Bupa medical certificate

Your Australian relative who needs care or their family member who lives with them and needs care must be assessed by and get a medical certificate from [Bupa Medical Visa Services](http://www.bupamvs.com.au/) (<http://www.bupamvs.com.au/>). The certificate must include a statement that the person has a medical condition and requires a certain amount of care for this.

We won't accept the visa application unless we have evidence this process has at least begun.

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### Step 2

## Gather your documents

Provide evidence to support your application.

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### Provide accurate documents

Provide accurate information. See what happens if you [cannot prove your identity or do not provide true information](#). ([/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/providing-accurate-information](#))

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### 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
- we might not grant any family members you listed on your application a 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

## Bupa medical certificate

Provide a medical certificate from Bupa Medical Visa Services (<http://www.bupamvs.com.au/>) that includes a statement that your Australian relative needs care or their family member who lives with them needs care because of a medical condition.

If your Australian relative who needs care or their family member who lives with them and needs care has begun the assessment process but have not yet been assessed, give us a letter from Bupa Medical Visa Services confirming this.

We will not accept the visa application unless we have evidence this process has at least begun.

You must also give us written evidence that your Australian relative who needs care or their family member who lives with them and needs care does not have reasonable access to care in Australia.

## Character documents

Provide Australian police certificates 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>). We do not accept standard disclosure certificates or national police certificates issued by Australian state or territory police. For immigration purposes, Australian police certificates are valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

Also provide:

- an overseas police certificate from every country (</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 (</form-listing/forms/80.pdf>)
- Form 1221 Additional personal particulars information (</form-listing/forms/1221.pdf>)

## Tell us you are getting help

To nominate someone to:

- receive your correspondence, use Form 956A Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient (</form-listing/forms/956a.pdf>)



- provide immigration assistance, use [Form 956 Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person \(/form-listing/forms/956.pdf\)](#).

Send written notification or your forms with your paper application.

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## Dependants under 18 documents

For every dependent under 18 years old who is applying with you, provide:

- identity documents
- proof of your relationship with them, like a birth or marriage certificate
- character documents, if applicable

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## Parental responsibility documents

You must get consent for any applicant under 18 years of age to migrate to Australia from anyone who:

- as a legal right to decide where the child lives and
- is not coming to Australia with the child

They must complete either:

- [Form 1229 Consent form to grant an Australian visa to a child under the age of 18 years \(/form-listing/forms/1229.pdf\)](#)
- a statutory declaration giving their consent for the child to migrate to Australia on this visa.

Include an identity document that shows the signature and photo of the person who completed the form or declaration, such as a passport or drivers licence.

Alternatively, you can show us:

- an Australian court order that allows your child to migrate to Australia, or
- that the laws of your home country allow them to migrate

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## Dependants over 18 documents

To include your child who is over 18 in your visa application, they must be:

- over 18 years of age but not yet turned 23, and dependent on you or your partner, or
- over 23 years of age and unable to earn a living to support themselves due to physical or cognitive limitations and dependent on you or your partner.

If your child is likely to turn 23 while your application is being processed, you will need to provide evidence they are dependent on you due to disability.

Provide:

- identity documents
- documents about their other relationships, if applicable
- character documents

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## Proof of dependency

You need to prove that this person is dependent on you. Provide:

- proof of your relationship with the dependent such as a birth certificate or adoption papers
- a completed [Form 47a Details of a child or other dependent family member aged 18 years or over \(/form-listing/forms/47a.pdf\)](#)
- proof of financial dependency such as bank statements, money transfers and rent receipts
- If the child is aged 23 or is likely to turn 23 while your application is being processed, you must also provide a report from a qualified medical practitioner that states they are dependent on you or your partner due to the total or partial loss of their bodily or mental functions

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## Partner documents

Provide:

- identity documents
- character documents
- documents about former relationships, if applicable

Provide either:

- your current marriage certificate, or
- proof you have been in a de facto relationship with your partner for at least 12 months before you apply, except in limited circumstances

Documents that prove your de facto relationship could include:

- joint bank account statements
- billing accounts in joint names
- joint leases or mortgages
- documents that show your partner lives or has lived at the same address as you

## Photographs

Provide 4 recent photos (45mm x 35mm) of anyone included in the application.

Photographs must be:

- 45mm x 35mm
- less than 6 months old
- good quality colour. We don't accept laser copies
- a full-face view of your head and shoulders
- taken against a plain light-coloured background

You can wear untinted prescription glasses. If you wear a head covering for religious reasons, you can show only your face.

## 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](http://www.naati.com.au/) (<http://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.

### Certify

Do not certify police certificates. You need to send us the originals.

Have all other documents certified copy. This includes:

- non-English documents
- English translations

## Keep

Keep a copy of your completed application.

## Send

Send us:

- original police certificates
- certified copies of all other documents
- as much information as possible to help us decide on your application
- each document only once, even if you are using to show more than one thing
- all documents with your application, if you can

### Step 3

## Apply for the visa

You must apply for this visa on paper. You must be in Australia, but not in immigration clearance, when the application is submitted and when we decide on your application.

### Provide accurate information

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

### Apply on paper

Complete and submit with your other documents Form 470F Application for migration to Australia by other family members (</form-listing/forms/470F.pdf>).

The forms must be completed in English.

Pay for the application before it is submitted using the online portal payment function in ImmiAccount (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online>). Include evidence the application is paid for with your application. For other payment options see how to pay (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online/how-to-pay>).

Applications for this visa can't be submitted in person. Send the application by post or courier to the Child and Other Family Processing Centre in Perth at the address on the form. Include all required documents and forms with your application.

If any of the above steps are incomplete, your application may be invalid. We do not process invalid applications. We will notify you if this is the case, and if requested, return your application.

Do not send original documents with your application, only send [certified copies](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/on-paper/certified-copy) (<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/on-paper/certified-copy>). Keep a copy of your completed application for your own records, including any supporting documents.

#### Step 4

## After you apply

We will let you know when we have received your application. There are other things you need to know and might have to do.

If you did not give us the Bupa medical certificate when you applied, you should give it to us within 3 months of applying. If we don't have the medical certificate by the time we decide on your application, we will not grant you the visa.

### Status updates

We can't provide you with updates on your application's progress within normal processing times. We will let you know if you need to provide anything further.

### Travel

Tell us if you want to travel outside Australia while we process your application. We need to know because you must be in Australia when we decide on your application.

If you leave Australia, make sure you have a valid visa to return.

Learn about [visa expiry](#). ([/visas/visa-about-to-expire](#))

### Health exams

We will let you know if you need [health examinations](#) ([/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health](#))

### Biometrics

We might ask for biometrics (fingerprints and photo). We will let you know if you need to provide them.

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### Send more information

If you did not send us all documents when you applied, send them to the Child and Other Family Processing Centre in Perth at the address on the form. We might also ask you to provide more information.

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### Stay lawful

Make sure you stay lawful by holding a valid visa while we process your application.

When you applied for this visa, you were granted a bridging visa. If your current visa expires before we decide on your application, the bridging visa will start. You can stay in Australia on the bridging visa while we process your visa application.

Do not cancel your current visa. If you do, you will:

- be staying in Australia unlawfully
- not be eligible for a bridging visa

Learn more about [visa expiry \(/visas/visa-about-to-expire\)](/visas/visa-about-to-expire).

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### Pay the second instalment

Pay the second instalment when we tell you to. We will send you an invoice for the instalment after you have met all other requirements for the visa.

You must pay the instalment or we can't grant the visa.

We might consider reducing your second instalment to nil if you can show us it is likely to cause you or the person you are caring for severe financial hardship.

We will not reduce the second instalment for anyone applying for the visa with you.

Send us a request in writing.

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### Mistakes on your application

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

Complete [Form 1023 Notification of incorrect answers \(/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf).

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## 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 \(/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf)
- provide immigration advice - complete [Form 956 Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person \(/form-listing/forms/956.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/956.pdf).

Send written notification or your forms to the office you submitted your application.

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

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## Tell us if things change

Things you need to let us know about after you have applied include:

- changes to your phone number, address or passport
- changes to your marital or de facto status
- the birth of a child
- you want to withdraw your application

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

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### Step 5

## Visa outcome

You must be in Australia when we decide on your application. We will let you know our decision in writing.

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

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

## In Australia

### What you must do on your visa

You and your family members must obey all Australian laws.

### Tell us if things change

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

### What you can do on your visa

#### Check your visa conditions and expiry

See your visa expiry, conditions and work and study entitlements in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/\)](#).

### Access Australian Government benefits

As a newly arrived resident you might have to wait to access certain Australian Government payments and benefits.

Learn more about newly arrived residents' waiting periods from [Services Australia \(https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/topics/newly-arrived-residents-waiting-period/30726\)](#).

### Travel to and from Australia for 5 years

You can travel to and from Australia as many times as you want for 5 years from the date we grant this visa. This is as long as the travel facility on this visa remains valid.

If you want to travel after the initial 5-year travel facility:

- you will need to apply for and be granted a [Resident Return \(RRV\) \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/resident-return-visa-155-157\)](#) so that you can re-enter Australia as a permanent resident
- you might also want to consider Australian citizenship. If you become an Australian citizen, you don't require a visa to enter Australia. You will need to apply for an Australian passport and use it to leave and re-enter Australia. See more about eligibility requirements and current processing times for [Australian citizenship \(/citizenship/become-a-citizen\)](#)



To see when your travel facility ends, use [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/\)](#).

## New Zealand passport holders

If an immigration officer processes your clearance at our border, we recommend you tell them:

- you have a Carer visa (subclass 836)
- you do not want a [Special Category visa \(subclass 444\) \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/special-category-visa-subclass-444\)](#)

If you do not tell them, you might be granted the subclass 444 visa. Grant of a subclass 444 visa might affect your eligibility for Australian citizenship.

## Prove you have a visa

To prove you have a visa and show your conditions to someone, use [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/\)](#).

You can request your international movement records by completing [Form 1359 Request for international movement records \(/form-listing/forms/1359.pdf\)](#).

## Working

With this visa you become a permanent resident. This means you can work and study. You are protected by Australian workplace law. See your workplace rights and entitlements (<https://www.fairwork.gov.au/how-we-will-help/templates-and-guides/factsheets/rights-and-obligations/visa-holders-and-migrant-workers-workplace-rights-and-entitlements>).

## Bring a family member

As an Australian permanent resident, you might be able to sponsor eligible family members to come to Australia.

To find a visa for your family member, [explore visa options \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder\)](#).

## Become an Australian citizen

After a certain time, you might be eligible for Australian citizenship. Find out more about [becoming a citizen \(/citizenship/become-a-citizen\)](#).

For citizenship purposes, your permanent residency starts on the day we grant the visa.

## Leaving Australia

### Before you leave

#### Check your travel documents

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

#### Ensure your Resident Return visa is still valid

See when your visa expires in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/\)](#)

See what to 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

To prove you have been to Australia, request your international movement records by completing the [Request for international movement records](/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/request-international-movement-records) (</help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/request-international-movement-records>).

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