



## Subclass 020

# Bridging visa B (BVB)

You can leave and return to Australia during a specified travel period while your application for a substantive visa is being processed.

## Overview

### Stay

Temporarily

### Cost

AUD185.00

### Processing times

There are no processing times available for this visa.

### With this visa, you can

- stay lawfully in Australia until your substantive visa application is finally determined, or where granted in association with judicial review, until those proceedings are completed
- leave and return to Australia within the defined travel period while your application for a substantive visa is being processed
- work, if your BVB permits

[See all conditions \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=020\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=020)

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

### You must

- be in Australia when you apply for this visa
- be the holder of a BVA or a BVB
- have applied in Australia for a substantive visa that can be granted while you are in Australia
- if you meet all eligibility requirements, be in Australia at the time of grant

### Help with your visa

[Ask a question](#)

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

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## About this visa

This is a temporary visa. The BVB travel facility may be granted with single or multiple travel and will be valid for use until a specified date. If the travel facility has ended or does not have sufficient validity remaining to cover your proposed journey, then you will need to apply for and be granted a new BVB prior to leaving Australia. Check if you already hold a Bridging visa B (BVB) with [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](#).

A separate application for a BVB may be necessary where you have applied for judicial review. It is not possible to apply to change conditions on your BVB. If you want to change visa conditions, then you will need to consider applying for a [Bridging visa A \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/bridging-visa-a-010\)](#) (BVA).

You can't use a bridging visa while you wait for a citizenship application to be decided.

## In effect

A BVB comes into effect when:

- it is granted (if your substantive visa has ceased since applying for the BVB or where the BVB is more beneficial than your current bridging visa)
- your current substantive visa ceases.

Visa holders must adhere to the conditions imposed on their visa. Where you are granted a BVB, you will be notified about the conditions that apply.

If you hold a substantive visa when your BVB is granted, you must continue to comply with the conditions of the substantive visa. When your substantive visa ceases, the conditions of your BVB will apply.

## Working in Australia

You might be allowed to work if the substantive visa you had or the visa you applied for lets you work. Your grant letter will tell you about the conditions that apply to your BVB.

If the visa you had, and the visa you applied for have work restrictions you will not be able to work with a BVB. See if you have work restrictions in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview).

If you are the holder of a BVB that does not permit work, and you are seeking to change conditions, you will need to consider applying for a [BVA \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/bridging-visa-a-010\)](/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/bridging-visa-a-010). As part of this process you will need to demonstrate that you are in financial hardship.

## Remaining lawful during judicial review

If a merits review tribunal upholds our decision to refuse your substantive visa application and you apply for judicial review, you will need to apply for a bridging visa to maintain your lawful status during the judicial review proceedings. If you have applied for judicial review you can only apply for a bridging visa by webform.

## With this visa you can

- Stay lawfully in Australia until your substantive visa application is finally determined, or if granted in association with judicial proceedings, until those proceedings are complete.
- Leave and return to Australia within the defined travel period while your application for a substantive visa is being processed.

## How long you can stay

One of the following outcomes will determine when your BVB ceases:

- your substantive visa application is refused
- your merits or judicial review is decided
- you withdraw your application for the substantive visa, merits review or judicial review
- a merits review tribunal tells you that it has no jurisdiction to consider your application for review
- we grant you the substantive visa that the BVB is associated with
- we cancel your BVB or the substantive visa that you held when you were granted a BVB.

Once you have been notified of an outcome you can see exactly how long you can stay in Australia in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](#).

### **BVB granted on or after 19 November 2016**

Your BVB will end 35 calendar days after:

- our refusal decision or a decision by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) in relation to your associated substantive visa application
- a determination that your substantive visa application or an application for review by the AAT is invalid
- you withdraw your substantive visa application or application for review by the AAT.

You BVB will end 28 calendar days after:

- a judicial review body upholds the decision to refuse your substantive visa application
- you withdraw a related judicial review application.

### **BVB granted before 19 November 2016**

Your BVB will end 28 days after the date that one of the following happens:

- we notify you that your substantive visa application is not valid
- we notify you that your substantive visa application has been refused
- you withdraw your substantive visa application
- a merits review tribunal notifies you that it has upheld our decision to refuse your substantive visa application
- a merit review tribunal notifies you that it has no jurisdiction to consider your application for review
- you withdraw your application for merits or judicial review from a merits review tribunal or a judicial review body
- a judicial review body upholds the decision to refuse your substantive visa application.

## **Stay longer**

You can't stay in Australia longer by extending this visa. You must apply for a new visa if you wish to stay longer. [Explore your visa options \(/visas/visa-about-to-expire\)](#).

## **Include family**

If you and your family have applied together for a substantive visa in Australia, you can include them in your BVB application providing they are members of the family unit. This means you and your family have to complete only one application form and pay one visa application charge. But, each member of the family will have to meet the requirements for a BVB in their own right.

Only those family members who have substantial reasons for needing to travel outside Australia should be included in your BVB application. If some of your family members do not need to travel outside Australia, they can stay in Australia on their current bridging visas.

## **Cost**

AUD185.00

# Apply from

You and anyone included in your BVB application must be in Australia to make a valid application and to be granted the visa.

## Your obligations

You and anyone included in your application must:

- comply with all Australian laws
- comply with the conditions of the current visa
- comply with the conditions of the your BVB when it comes in to effect

You can find your visa conditions in your grant letter or [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/check-conditions-online\)](#).

## Working

We will let you know which conditions apply to your BVB if we grant the visa.

## Travel

When we grant your BVB, we will tell you when the specified travel period will end.

If you hold a BVB where the specified travel period has ended but you need to travel outside Australia again, you will have to apply for another BVB and be granted this visa before leaving Australia.

If you are outside Australia when the specified travel period on your BVB ends, the visa will cease. You can't return to Australia with a ceased BVB.

## Visa label

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

## Eligibility

### Have had a substantive visa

You must have held a Substantive visa.

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### Hold a BVA or a BVB

You must already hold a BVA or a BVB.

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## Have applied for substantive visa or judicial review

You must have made a valid application for a substantive visa and either:

- that application has not been finally determined, or
- that application was refused and you have made an application for judicial review (within the prescribed timeframe), and the judicial review proceedings have not been completed.

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## When applying for a review, have applied in the prescribed timeframe

You must apply for review within the prescribed timeframes.

### Administrative Appeals Tribunal

You must apply for review within the prescribed timeframe.

If you have applied within the prescribed timeframe you may not need to apply for a further bridging visa.

### Judicial review

The timeframe for applying for judicial review is 35 days from the date of the Tribunal's decision.

If you have not applied for judicial review within the statutory timeframes, this may affect your eligibility to apply for a further bridging visa.

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## Have substantial reasons for wanting to travel

You must provide a reason and attach any supporting documents to explain why you need to depart and return to Australia while your substantive visa is being considered or while you are waiting for the outcome of a judicial review.

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## Age

You can be any age to apply for this visa.

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## Meet character requirement

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

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

# Step by step

## Step 1

### Step 1 - Before you apply

Check whether you hold a BVA or BVB in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions\)](#). Check your passport is valid. You should apply for your BVB no more than 3 months, and not less than 2 weeks, before the date on which you want to travel.

Usually, you must have a valid passport for us to grant you this visa. If you plan to get a new passport, you should do so before applying for your visa.

If you need to apply for a BVB, you can either apply for the visa online, or by post or courier. How you apply depends on how you applied for your associated substantive visa.

If you applied for your substantive visa online in ImmiAccount, you must apply for a BVB in ImmiAccount.

If you made an application for merits or judicial review, you must apply on paper.

#### When to apply

You should apply for your BVB no more than 3 months, and not less than 2 weeks, before the date on which you want to travel.

Some visas can only be granted while you are in Australia. If you apply for a BVB too far in advance of your travel, it could be difficult for us to assess whether your substantive visa will be ready for decision. To be granted a BVB, you must be in Australia when the decision is made on the application.

If you leave it until the last minute to apply for a BVB you risk not being granted a BVB before you are due to leave Australia. If this happens, you might not hold a visa that allows you to return to Australia.

You would then have to apply for and be granted a substantive visa before you could return to Australia and there is no guarantee that you would be granted a visa.

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

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

# Step 2 - Gather your documents

Gather the documents you need for your application.

## Provide accurate documents

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

## Identity documents

Provide colour copies of 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

## Character documents

We will tell you if and when you need to get a [police certificate \(/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character\)](/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character).

## 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.

## Parental responsibility documents

You must get consent for any child included on this application to be granted a visa from anyone who:

- has a legal right to decide where the child lives and
- is not travelling 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 \(276KB PDF\)](#) ([/form-listing/forms/1229.pdf](#))
- a statutory declaration giving their consent for the child to travel on this visa

Include a document with the signature and photo of the person who completed the form or declaration, such as a:

- passport
- driver's licence

New step description

## 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](#))
- provide immigration assistance, use [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](#)) if you applied online, or send with your paper application.

### Step 3

## Step 3 - Apply for the visa

How you apply for a BVB depends on:

- how you applied for your substantive visa (online or by paper form)
- if you have applied for review of a decision about your substantive visa application.

You must apply for the BVB in the same way you applied for your substantive visa.

If you applied for your new substantive visa through ImmiAccount, you must apply for your BVB application through ImmiAccount.

If you applied for your new substantive visa by paper form, you must submit your BVB application by [webform](#) ([/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online](#)).

If you have applied for a review of a decision about your substantive visa application, you must submit your BVB application by [webform](#) ([/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online](#)).

You, and anyone included in your application, must be in Australia when you lodge the BVB application.

## Provide accurate information

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

## Apply through ImmiAccount

If you applied for your substantive visa through ImmiAccount and a decision has not yet been made on that application, you must apply for your bridging visa through [ImmiAccount](https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login) (<https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login>).

To apply for a BVB through ImmiAccount:

1. Log in to ImmiAccount (<https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login>)
2. Attach all supporting documents
3. [Pay the visa application charge](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online/how-to-pay) (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online/how-to-pay>).

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## Apply by webform

### If you applied for your substantive visa by paper form

You must [pay the visa application charge](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/on-paper) (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/on-paper>).

Once you have made a payment, you must complete and submit your BVB application Form 1006 by [webform](/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online) (</help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online>). You need to provide receipt details of your payment on the application form to make a valid BVB application.

### If you have applied for review of a decision on your substantive visa application

If you need a bridging visa to leave and return to Australia during a review process, you must pay the visa application charge. Once you have made a payment, you must complete and submit your BVB application Form 1006 by [webform](/help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online) (</help-support/departmental-forms/online-forms/bridging-a-b-c-visa-application-online>). You need to provide receipt details of your payment on the application form to make a valid BVB application.

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## Step 4

# Step 4 - After you apply

See what you can and must do after you apply.

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## What will happen after you apply

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

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## Status updates

We do not give updates on application processing times.

Wait for us to contact you.

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## Travel

To be able to return to Australia if you travel, your BVB must be granted before you leave.

A BVB allows you to travel outside Australia until a set date. If you have not returned before that date, your BVB will cease. If this happens, you will need a new visa to return.

You, and anyone included in your application, must be in Australia for us to grant the visa.

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## Biometrics

We might ask for Biometrics (fingerprints and photo). We will tell you if you need to provide them.

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## Attach more information

If you did not attach all documents when you applied, attach them as soon as possible in ImmiAccount (</help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online>).

If you are applying by webform, you must attach all documents before you submit your BVB application. This includes colour copies of your current passport, showing your:

- photo
- personal details, and
- passport issue and expiry dates.

We need this for all applicants included in the application.

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 substantive visa application. It is important to submit your application early. This ensures enough time for us to process your bridging visa application.

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## Including family members

If you and your family have applied together for a substantive visa in Australia, you can include them in your BVB application. They need to be members of the family unit. This means you and your family have to complete only one application form and pay one visa application charge. Each member of the family has to meet the requirements for a BVB in their own right.

Only include family members in your BVB application who have substantial reasons for needing to leave Australia. If some family members do not need to leave Australia, they can stay in Australia on their current bridging visas.

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## Newborn children

Find out what to do [if your child is born after you apply \(/change-in-situation/had-a-baby\)](/change-in-situation/had-a-baby).

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## Mistakes on your application

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

Complete [Form 1023 Notification of incorrect answers. \(168KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf)

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## Help with your application

Tell us if you:

- want someone to receive your correspondence - complete [Form 956A Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient \(301KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf\)](/form-listing/forms/956a.pdf)
- have asked someone to give you immigration advice - complete [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).

If you applied for your substantive visa online, upload your written notification or your forms to [ImmiAccount \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview).

If you applied for your substantive visa by paper form, send your documents to the office assessing your visa application. You can find this information on the acknowledgement letter under Contact Us.

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

Some of the things you need to tell us about after you have applied include:

- changes to your phone number, email, address or passport
- the birth of a child, and
- if you want to withdraw your application.

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

## Step 5

# Step 5 - Visa outcome

We will let you know our decision in writing.

To be granted a BVB, you must be in Australia when the decision is made on the application.

If we grant your visa, we will tell you:

- your visa grant number
- the date your visa starts
- your visa conditions, if applicable

Keep a copy of this with you when in Australia.

If we refuse your visa, we will tell you:

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

## When you have this visa

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

## In Australia

### What you can do when you have this visa

- stay lawfully in Australia until a decision is made on your substantive visa application
- leave and return to Australia within the defined travel period while your application for a substantive visa is being processed

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

## What you must do on this visa (your obligations)

- comply with all Australian laws
- comply with the conditions of your current visa
- comply with the conditions of your Bridging visa B (BVB) when it comes into effect

## Working

We will let you know which conditions apply to your BVB if we grant the visa.

## Tell us if things change

Things you need to let us know about include:

- changes to your phone number, email, address or passport
- you want to withdraw your application

See how to let us know if there is a [change in your situation \(/change-in-situation\)](#).

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