



Subclass 030

Bridging visa C (BVC)

This temporary visa generally allows you to stay in Australia after your current substantive visa ceases and while your new substantive visa application is being processed.

Overview

Stay

Temporarily

Cost

Free

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
- work, if you meet the requirements for work

[See all conditions \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=030\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions?product=030)

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

You must:

- be in Australia when you apply
- if you meet all the eligibility requirements, be in Australia at time of grant

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).

[Ask a question](#)

About this visa

- [About this visa \(#aboutVisa-index-0\)](#)
 - [In effect \(#aboutVisa-index-1\)](#)
 - [Working in Australia \(#aboutVisa-index-2\)](#)
 - [With this visa you can \(#aboutVisa-index-3\)](#)
 - [How long you can stay \(#aboutVisa-index-4\)](#)
 - [Stay longer \(#aboutVisa-index-5\)](#)
 - [Include family \(#aboutVisa-index-6\)](#)
 - [Cost \(#aboutVisa-index-7\)](#)
 - [Apply from \(#aboutVisa-index-8\)](#)
 - [Your obligations \(#aboutVisa-index-9\)](#)
 - [Travel \(#aboutVisa-index-10\)](#)
 - [Visa label \(#aboutVisa-index-11\)](#)
-

About this visa

This is a temporary visa. Nearly all bridging visas are applied for automatically as part of applying for a substantive visa. We may grant you a BVC if you have made a valid application in Australia for a substantive visa but you do not already hold a substantive visa.

A separate application for a BVC might be necessary where:

- you are seeking a further BVC without work restrictions
- you have applied for judicial review.

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

In effect

A BVC comes 'into effect' when:

- it is granted; or
- your current substantive visa ceases; or
- another bridging visa that is more beneficial than your current bridging visa ceases.

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

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

The BVC does not support return travel to Australia.

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.

Working in Australia

The initial BVC we grant when you apply for your substantive visa will not let you work, unless the substantive visa you have applied for is one of the following SkillSelect visas:

- Business Talent visa (subclass 132)
- Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) visa (subclass 188)
- Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa (subclass 888)
- Employer Nomination Scheme visa (subclass 186)
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme visa (subclass 187)
- Skilled – Independent visa (subclass 189)
- Skilled – Nominated visa (subclass 190)
- Skilled – Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 489).

If your BVC does not let you work, or has restrictions on working, you can apply for another BVC that lets you work. To be considered for a BVC that lets you work, you will usually have to demonstrate that you are experiencing financial hardship.

We will assess your circumstances in relation to your claim that you need to work. If you do not meet the requirements for work and you are still eligible for a BVC, we will grant you a new BVC with the same work prevention or restriction condition that was on your previous BVC.

If you are a Protection visa applicant and you apply for a BVC for judicial review, we can only grant you a new BVC that allows you to work if the last BVC you held allowed you to work.

If you are a SkillSelect visa applicant and you are granted a BVC for judicial review, this visa will not initially allow you to work. To be considered for a BVC that lets you work, you will need to make a further BVC application and demonstrate that you are experiencing financial hardship.

If you are not a Protection or SkillSelect visa applicant and you apply for a BVC for judicial review you will only be granted a new BVC that does not allow you to work, even if your last BVC allowed you to work.

With this visa you can

Stay lawfully in Australia until your substantive visa application is finally determined, or it granted in association with judicial proceedings, until those proceedings are complete.

A BVC will end immediately if the following situations occur:

- you leave Australia while your BVC is in effect
- you are granted the substantive visa you applied for

- you are granted another bridging visa in relation to the same substantive visa application that this BVC is associated with, or
- we cancel either your BVC or the substantive visa that you held when you were granted the BVC.

How long you can stay

In all other situations one of the following outcomes will determine when your BVC ceases:

- your substantive visa application is refused or deemed invalid
- 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.

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

BVC granted on or after 19 November 2016

Your BVC will cease 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 BVC will cease 28 calendar days after:

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

BVC granted before 19 November 2016

Your BVC will cease 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 merits 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 might have also applied together for a BVC. Check if family members already hold a BVC in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](#).

If you apply separately for a BVC, you can include members of the family unit in your BVC application, if they are included in your substantive visa application.

We will assess each member of the family unit's application and decide which bridging visa they can be granted.

Cost

Free

Apply from

You and anyone included in your application must be in Australia when the BVC application is submitted and granted.

Your obligations

You and anyone included in your application must:

- comply with all Australian laws
- comply with the conditions of the current visa (if any held)
- comply with the conditions of your BVC when it comes in to effect

See the [conditions that will and might be applied to a BVC \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/see-your-visa-conditions\)](#).

Travel

If you leave Australia on this visa when it is in effect you will not be able to return on it. A BVC that is in effect will cease upon departure from Australia. To see if your BVC is in effect, see [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](#).

As BVC holder, we **cannot** grant you a [Bridging visa B \(BVB\) \(/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/bridging-visa-b-020\)](#) that allows you to travel and return to Australia whilst your substantive visa application is being processed.

If you leave Australia and you do not hold another visa that allows you to return, you will have to apply for and be granted a substantive visa before you can return to Australia. There is no guarantee that you will be granted a visa.

Visa label

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

Eligibility

These are some of the common eligibility criteria:

Do not hold a Bridging visa E

You must not hold a Bridging visa E (BVE) and you must not have held a BVE since you last held a substantive visa.

Do not hold a substantive visa

When you lodged your application for a substantive visa, you must not have held a substantive visa.

Apply in Australia

You will need to be in Australia when you apply.

Applied for a substantive visa or judicial review

You must have made a valid application for a substantive visa that has not been finally determined or you have made an application for judicial review of a decision relating to your substantive visa application, within the prescribed timeframe, and the judicial review proceedings have not been completed, and you previously held a BVC in relation to the substantive visa application.

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

You must apply within the prescribed timeframe.

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 time limits, this may affect your eligibility to apply for a further Bridging Visa.

Age

You can be any age to apply for this visa.

Meet character requirement

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

For all criteria see [Schedule 2 in Migration Regulations 1994 \(https://www.legislation.gov.au/F1996B03551/2018-12-13\)](https://www.legislation.gov.au/F1996B03551/2018-12-13).

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 if you already hold a BVC with [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview).

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

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

Proof of hardship

Provide proof to support your claims of hardship if you are applying to change to your visa conditions.

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 \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/overview) if you applied online, or send with your paper application.

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 1 page, save it all as 1 file.

Step 3

Step 3 - Apply for the visa

How you apply for a BVC depends on:

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

You must apply for the BVC 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 BVC application through ImmiAccount.

If you applied for your new substantive visa by paper, you must submit your BVC application 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).

If you have applied for a review of a decision about your substantive visa application, you must submit your BVC application 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 and anyone included in your application must be in Australia when the BVC application is lodged.

Provide accurate information

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

Apply through ImmiAccount

If you applied for your substantive visa through ImmiAccount

You must apply for the BVC through ImmiAccount:

1. log in to [ImmiAccount \(https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login\)](https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login)
2. [attach documents \(/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online\)](/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online)

Apply by webform

If you applied for your substantive visa by paper

You must complete and submit your BVC application Form 1005 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).

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

You must complete and submit your BVC application Form 1005 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)

Step 4

Step 4 - After you apply

See what you can and must do after you apply.

What will happen after you apply

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

Status updates

We do not give updates on application processing times.

Wait for us to contact you.

Travel

If you leave Australia while your BVC is in effect you will not be able to return. A BVC that is in effect will cease upon departure from Australia. To see if your BVC is in effect, see [VEVO \(https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview).

You cannot apply for a Bridging visa B (BVB) to travel if you hold a BVC.

Attach more information

If you are applying through ImmiAccount and did not attach all documents when you applied, attach them as soon as possible in [ImmiAccount \(https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login\)](https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login).

If you are applying by webform, you must attach all documents before you submit your BVC application. You cannot attach extra documents after you have submitted your application.

We may also ask you for more information. You should provide that information in the way we ask you to in the request letter.

Newborn children

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

Stay lawful

Make sure you stay lawful by holding a valid visa while we process your bridging visa and your substantive visa application. It is important to submit your application early. This ensures enough time for us to process your bridging visa application.

Including family members

If you and your family have made a combined application for a substantive visa in Australia, you may have also applied for a Bridging visa. Check if family members already hold a Bridging visa in [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions/overview\)](#).

Newborn children

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

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 \(168KB PDF\) \(/form-listing/forms/1023.pdf\)](#).

Help with your application

Tell us if you:

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

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

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

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
- 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 in writing our decision about your visa application.

You and anyone included in your application must be in Australia when we make a decision.

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

In Australia

How long you can stay

To see when you must leave after you are notified of an outcome, use [VEVO \(/visas/already-have-a-visa/check-visa-details-and-conditions\)](#).

When you have this visa

- stay lawfully in Australia until we make a decision on your application for a visa review

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 including all visa conditions applied to your visa

Working

If you are granted a BVC that does not permit work, you can apply for a further Bridging Visa with no conditions if you can demonstrate financial hardship.

We will assess your circumstances in relation to your claim that you need to work. If you do not meet the requirements for work, and you are still eligible for a BVC, we will grant you a new BVC with the same work prevention or restriction condition that was on your previous BVC.

If you are a Protection visa applicant and you apply for a BVC for judicial review, we can only grant you a new BVC that allows you to work if the last BVC you held allowed you to work.

If you are a SkillSelect visa applicant and you are granted a BVC for judicial review, this visa will not initially allow you to work. To be considered for a BVC that lets you work, you will need to make a further BVC application and demonstrate that you are experiencing financial hardship.

If you are not a Protection or SkillSelect visa applicant and you apply for a BVC for judicial review you will only be granted a new BVC that does not allow you to work, even if your last BVC allowed you to work.

Travelling

If you leave Australia on this visa when it is in effect you will not be able to return on it. To see if your BVC is in effect, see VEVO. A BVC that is in-effect will cease upon departure from Australia

Tell us if things change

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

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

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

Proving you have a visa

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

Leaving Australia

Before you leave

If you leave Australia on this visa when it is in effect you will not be able to return on it. To see if your BVC is in effect, see VEVO. A BVC that is in-effect will cease upon departure from Australia

At the Border

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 \(https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/smartgates\)](https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/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:
23 September 2024