



Office of Immigration Australia

Immigration & Citizenship

## OVERVIEW

Stay:  
**Permanently**

With this visa, you can:

- stay in Australia permanently
- work, study and live anywhere in Australia
- enrol in Australia's free, world-class, public health care scheme
- sponsor eligible relatives for permanent residence
- if eligible, become an Australian citizen

You must:

- have an occupation on the relevant skilled occupation list
- satisfy the points test with a score of 65 points or more
- have a suitable skills assessment for the occupation



**Skilled Independent Visa**  
(subclass 189)

Points-Tested Stream

## Immigration to Australia - Application Guide



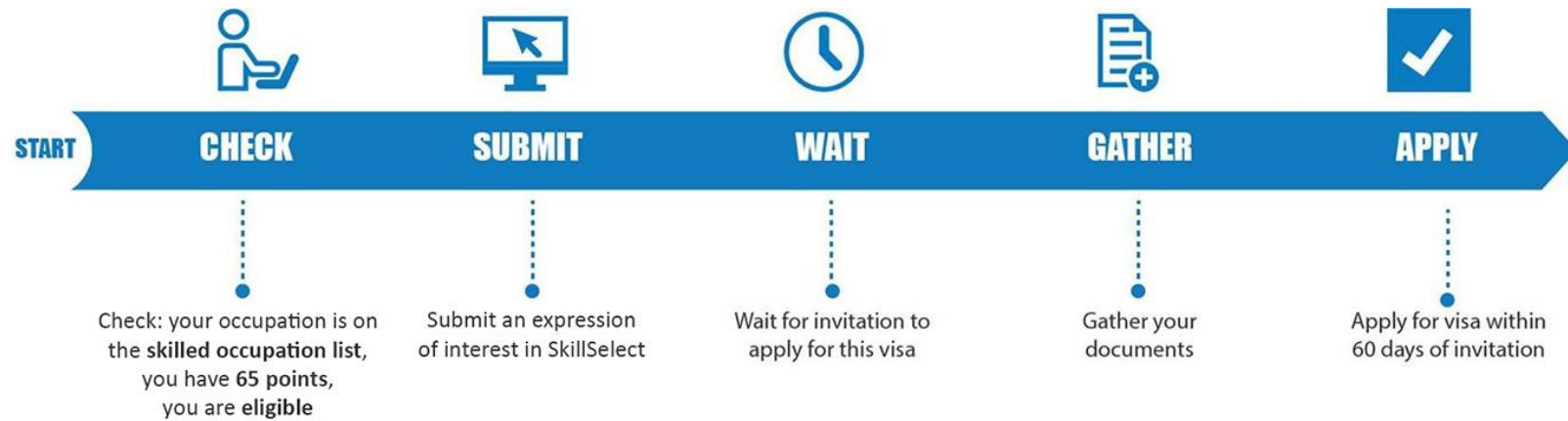
This visa lets invited  
workers with skills  
Australia need, live & work  
**permanently**  
anywhere in Australia

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# THE PROCESS



## ABOUT THIS VISA

### With this visa, you can

- stay in Australia permanently
- work and study in Australia
- enrol in Australia's free, world-class, public health care scheme
- sponsor your relatives to come to Australia
- if eligible, [become an Australian citizen](#)

Newly arrived residents may have to [wait before they can access certain Australian Government payments and benefits](#).

### How long you can stay

This is a permanent visa. It lets you stay in Australia indefinitely. The visa has a travel component that expires 5 years after the date of visa grant.

You become a permanent resident on the day the Department grants the visa.

For citizenship purposes, your permanent residence starts on the day:

- your visa is granted if you are in Australia
- you enter Australia on this visa if you are outside Australia



## Include family

You can include members of the family unit in your application. You can:

- include them when you lodge your visa application
- add them after you lodge your application but before the Department decides on your visa.

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

If your partner or dependent children are not included in this application, tell the Department the reason why (for example, they already hold Australian citizenship or are a permanent resident).

## Cost

The visa costs AUD4,240 for the main applicant.

There is also a charge for each family member who applies for the visa with you.

To work out what your visa will cost use the [Visa Pricing Estimator](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/) found at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>

You might have to pay an extra charge for any applicant 18 years old or older who has less than [functional English](#). This charge is the second instalment. Pay it only when the Department ask you to. The Department ask for the charge only if they are going to grant the visa.



The second instalment charge for family members is AUD4,885.

The Visa Pricing Estimator does not include the second instalment or other costs. You might also have to pay other costs for health checks, police certificates and biometrics.

## Apply from

You can be in or outside Australia when you apply for the visa and when the Department decides on your application, but not in immigration clearance.

If you apply in Australia, you must hold a substantive or a subclass 010 Bridging A visa, a subclass 020 Bridging B visa or a subclass 030 Bridging C visa, otherwise your application will not be processed.

## Processing times

The Department assesses applications on a case-by-case basis, and actual processing times can vary due to individual circumstances including:

- whether you have lodged a complete application, including all necessary supporting documents
- how quickly you respond to any requests for additional information
- how long it takes to perform required checks on the supporting information provided
- how long it takes to receive additional information from external agencies, particularly in relation to health, character, and national security requirements
- for permanent migration visa applications, how many places are available in the migration program



## Travel

You can travel in and out of Australia as many times as you want for 5 years from the date the Department grants the visa. After 5 years you will need a [Resident Return \(RRV\) visa \(subclass 155 or 157\)](#) to re-enter Australia as a permanent resident.

## Visa label

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



## ELIGIBILITY

### Be invited to apply

You can only apply for this visa if the Department invites you to.

Submit an [expression of interest \(EOI\)](#) to let the Department know you would like to apply for the visa.

After you have submitted an EOI, you will be ranked against other intending applicants and might be invited to apply for the visa.

Invitations are issued regularly through [SkillSelect](#).

### Have a suitable skills assessment

For your application to be valid, you must declare that you have a suitable [skills assessment](#) at the time of invitation.

You will need to provide a copy of this skills assessment with your application.

For medical and legal practitioners, the Department also accepts the following as proof of a skills assessment:





- full or unconditional or general medical registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- conditional specialist registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency. This only allows you to practise in your speciality. You need no further training or supervision
- admission to practice law in the relevant state or territory

Your skills assessment must have been obtained in the 3 years before the date of your invitation. If the assessment was for a shorter period, that period must not have passed.

If your skills were assessed on the basis of a qualification you got in Australia when you held a student visa, the qualification must be from studying a course registered on CRICOS.

## Overview of the 'skills assessment'

Skills assessments are issued by relevant [skills assessing authorities](#). A skills assessing authority is an organisation that checks that your skills meet the standards they set to work in a relevant occupation.

The [combined list of eligible skilled occupations](#) sets out all relevant occupations under 4 occupation lists. Most occupations in each list have their own skills assessing authority. The Department can only accept a skills assessment issued by the relevant assessing authority.

It is your responsibility to contact the relevant assessing authority for your occupation and obtain a skills assessment, if



required. Each assessing authority has its own assessment procedures, timeframes and charges.

Obtaining a suitable skills assessment is mandatory for some visa subclasses (and streams) and may be requested for others. You should read all of the available information about the visa you are interested in applying for. This will allow you to determine if you need to submit a skills assessment and when you need to obtain it.

## Be this age

You must be aged under 45 when the Department invites you to apply for the visa.

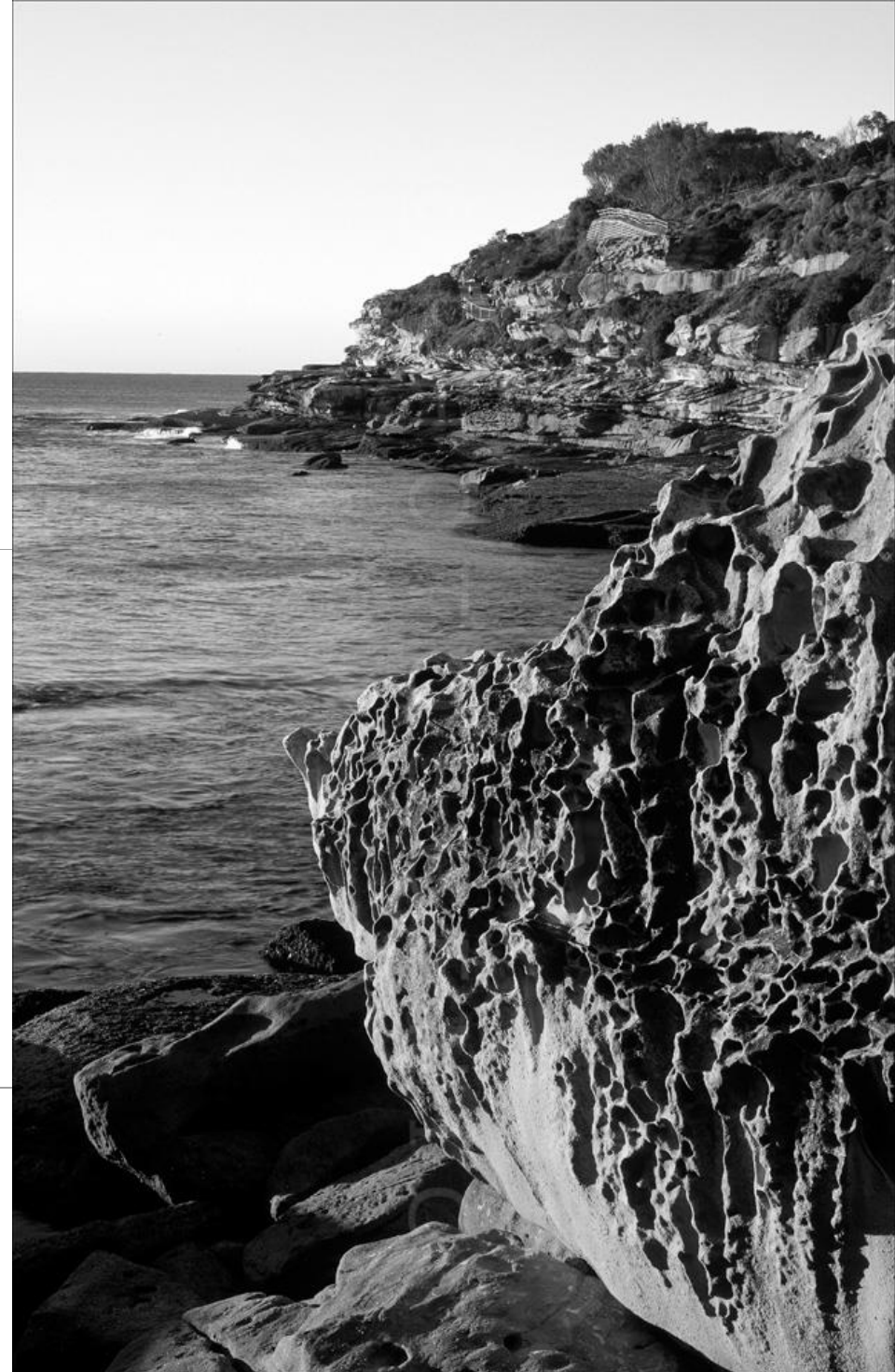
You can still apply for the visa if you turn 45 after the Department invites you to apply.

If you turn 45 after you submit your EOI but before the Department invites you to apply, you will not be invited to apply.

## Be able to score 65 points or more

This is a points-tested visa.

When you submit your EOI in SkillSelect you will be given an indicative points score based on the claims you have



made. If you do not obtain a score of 65 points you will not be invited to apply for this visa.

If the Department does invite you to apply for the visa, your invitation will state the number of points that you must score when the Department assesses your application for grant of the visa (this score may be higher than 65 points, depending on your claims in the EOI).

When you lodge your application you must provide evidence supporting your claims.

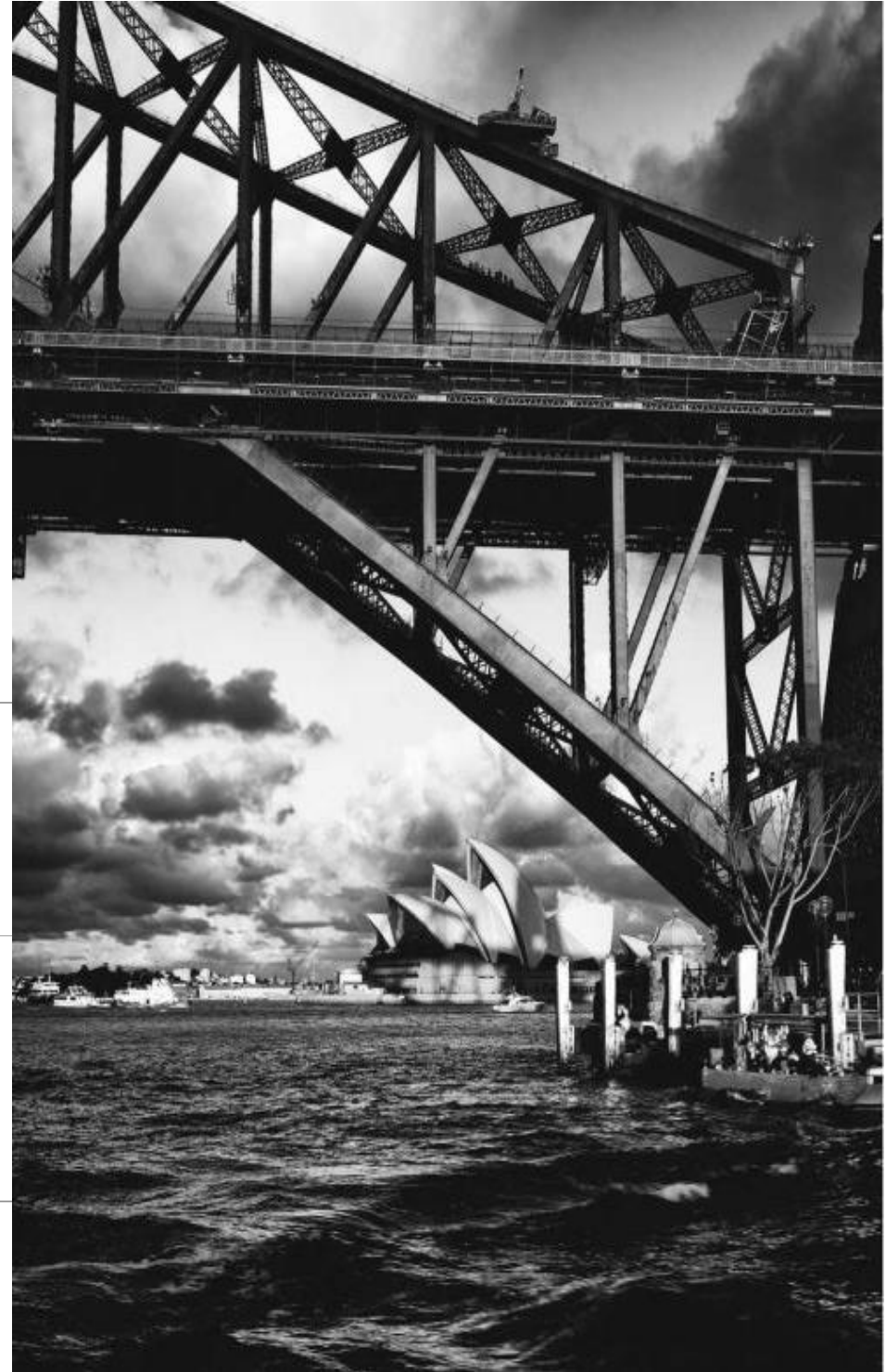
To calculate how many points you may score use the [points calculator](#).

## Have this level of English language

At the time of invitation, you must have at least [competent English](#).

## Meet the skills requirement

Your occupation must be on the relevant list of eligible [skilled occupations](#) for the Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189) Point-Tested stream.



## Meet the health requirement

You and any family who apply for the visa with you must meet our [health requirement](#).

If requested, family members not accompanying you to Australia might also need to meet the health requirement.

Australia enjoys some of the best health standards in the world. To maintain these standards, most visa applicants must meet minimum health standards before the Department will grant them a visa. The Department calls this 'meeting the health requirement'. The Department might assess your health as part of the visa application process.

## Meet our character requirement

You and family members aged 16 years and over who apply for the visa with you must meet the [character requirement](#).

Family members not accompanying you to Australia must also meet the character requirement.

You must be of good character to visit or live in Australia. This means you must pass the character test, and remain of good character.

The character requirements are set out under [section 501 of the Migration Act 1958](#). They help the Department decide if you are of good character.



## Have paid back your debt to the Australian government

If you or any family members (including those who do not apply for the visa with you) owe the Australian Government money, you or they must have paid it back or arranged to pay it back.

## Sign the Australian values statement

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

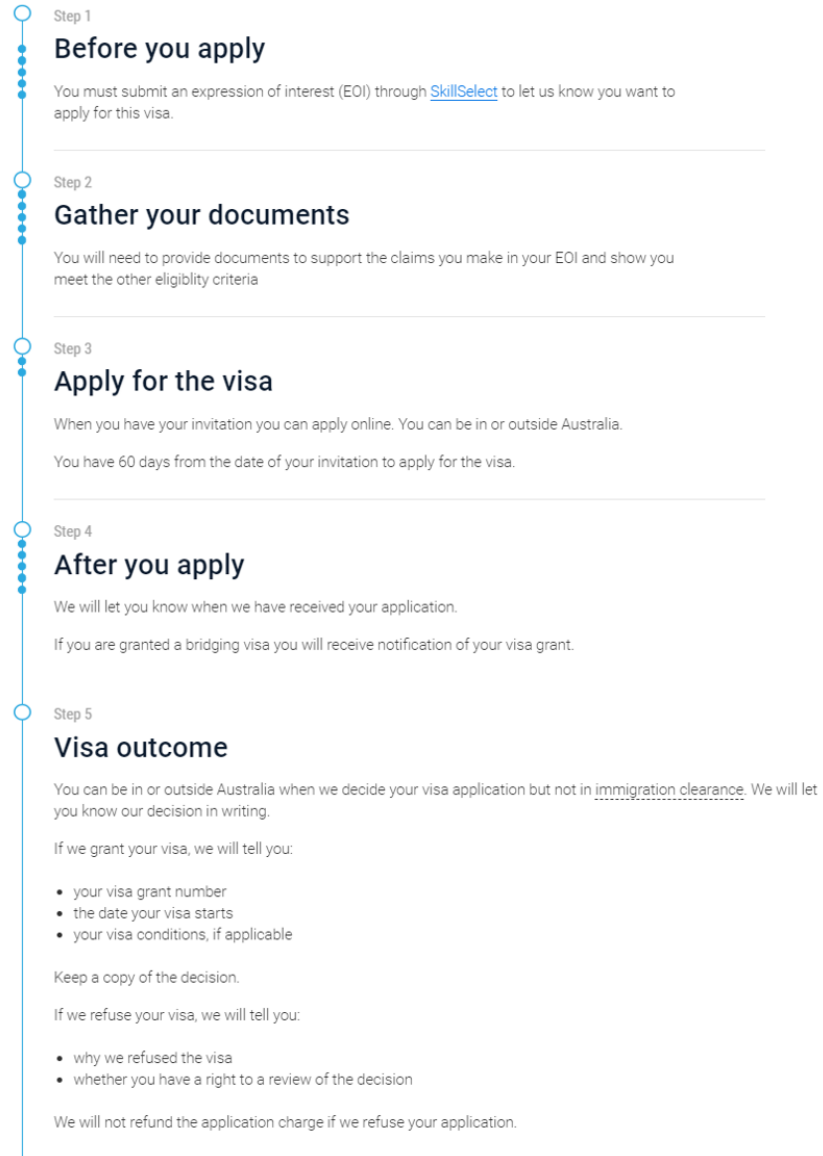
- have read, or had explained to you, the [Life in Australia booklet](#) and
- confirm you will respect the Australian way of life and obey Australian laws when you sign or accept the [Australian Values Statement](#).

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

You might not be eligible for this visa if you have had a visa cancelled or refused while you were in Australia.



## STEP BY STEP - OVERVIEW



STEP BY STEP – 5 STEPS



## Step 1

### **Before you apply**

You must submit an expression of interest (EOI) through [SkillSelect](#) to let the Department know you want to apply for this visa.

#### **Get help with your application**

You don't have to use a migration agent to apply for any visa. But if you want to, you can.

Anyone can help you fill out forms or give you general help with your application. But you must let the Department know if you want someone to:

- [receive your correspondence](#)
- provide immigration assistance and [act for you](#)

#### **Organise health exams**

The Department prefers that you have any health checks before you apply for the visa.

#### **Step 1.1 - Before you submit your EOI**

You must submit an expression of interest (EOI) to let the Department know you want to apply for this visa.

#### **Check your occupation**

Your occupation must be on the relevant [list of eligible skilled occupations](#) for the Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189).





### **Get your skills assessed**

You must have a suitable [skills assessment](#) at the time the Department invites you to apply.

The assessment must be undertaken by an assessing authority listed against your occupation in the [list of eligible skilled occupations](#). You might have to pay for the assessment.

To be eligible for a visa your skills assessment must have been obtained within the 3 years before the date of invitation. If the assessment was for a shorter period, that period must not have passed. The Department can't accept a skills assessment issued more than 3 years before the invitation date.

If your skills were assessed on the basis of a qualification you got in Australia when you held a student visa, the qualification must be from studying a course registered on CRICOS.

### **Medical practitioners**

For medical practitioners the Department accepts evidence of registration issued by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency. You must hold either:

- unconditional or general medical registration
- conditional specialist registration – which allows you to practice only in your particular specialty with no further training or supervision requirements

You must show that you hold this registration at the time the Department invites you to apply.



## **Barristers and solicitors**

A suitable skills assessment for barristers and solicitors is evidence of admission to practice as a lawyer in an Australian state or territory.

The relevant legal admissions authority must have admitted you to practice at the time the Department invites you to apply.

### **Check your points**

You must be able to obtain at least 65 points on our points test to be eligible for this visa. If you cannot obtain 65 points the Department will not invite you to apply.

If the Department invites you to apply for the visa, you must prove the claims you make in your EOI when the Department assesses your application. Use the [points calculator](#) to check how many points you might score.

### **Check you meet the other eligibility criteria**

Check that you meet all other eligibility criteria for the visa.

If the Department invites you to apply for the visa, you will have to prove the claims you make in your EOI. You will also need to show you meet the other eligibility criteria.

See what documents you will need to prove your claims before you submit your EOI in the Gather documents section.



### **Step 1.2 - Submit an EOI**

Submit your EOI through [SkillSelect](#). You can submit it from within or outside Australia.

Your EOI is not a visa application. There is no fee for submitting an EOI.

Select the Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189).

You will receive an email confirming your EOI has been submitted.

### **Step 1.3 - After you submit your EOI**

SkillSelect will estimate your points score based on the claims made in your EOI.

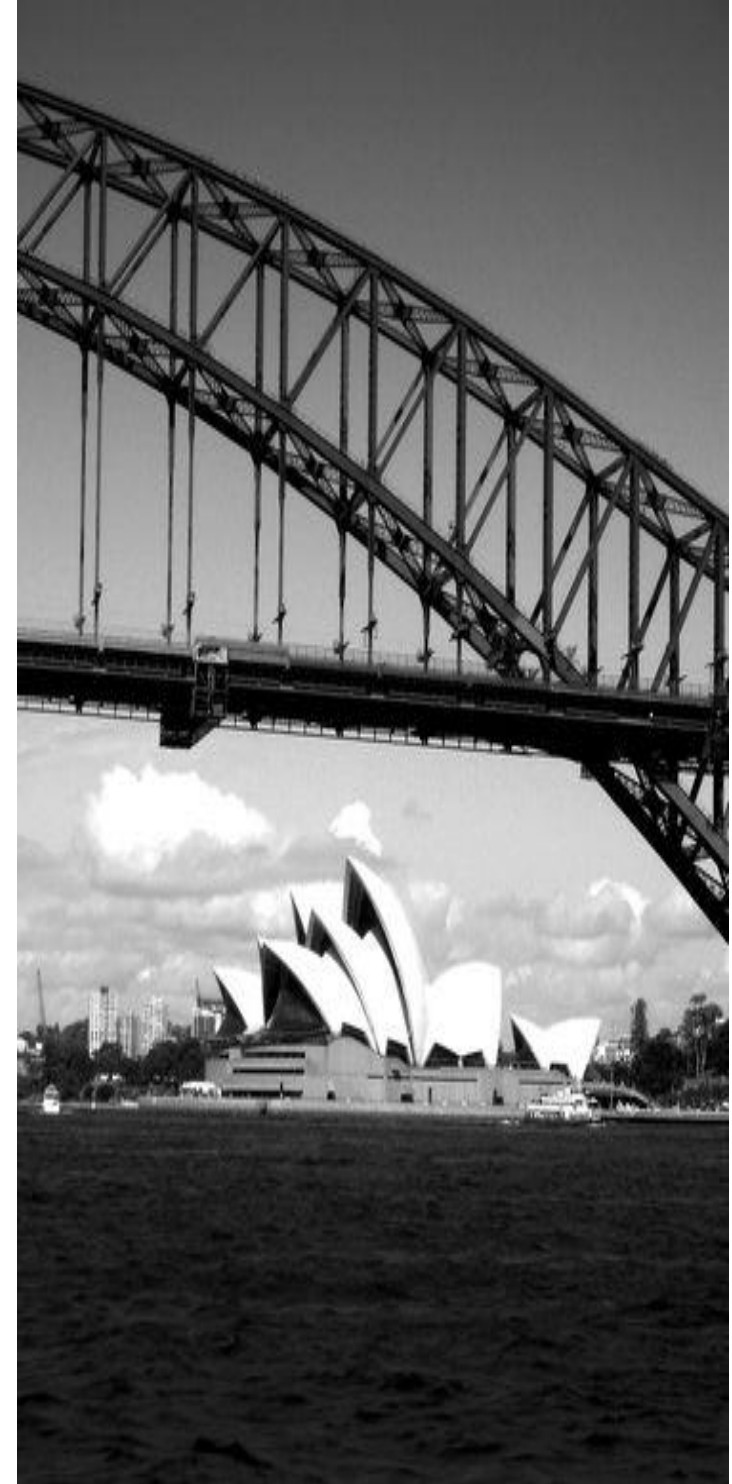
You must have an estimated score of at least 65 points to be invited to apply for this visa.

If you score enough points and there are places allocated for your occupation, the Department might invite you to apply.

### **Stay lawful**

An EOI is not a visa application. This means you are not able to get a bridging visa because you have submitted an EOI.

If you are in Australia and your current visa is about to expire, you must apply for another visa to remain in Australia lawfully. The Department will not process your visa application if you do not hold



a substantive visa or a Bridging Visa A, Bridging Visa B or a Bridging Visa C when you apply for the visa.

### **Make changes to your EOI**

Let the Department know through [SkillSelect](#) if:

- you want to apply for a different skilled visa
- your circumstances change - for example, if you change your occupation or your family structure changes
- you could score more points - for example, you have completed a higher qualification or gained new work experience
- your employment circumstances change and you are no longer working at least 20 hours per week in your nominated occupation.

You must be able to meet the points score on your invitation letter if the Department invites you to apply.

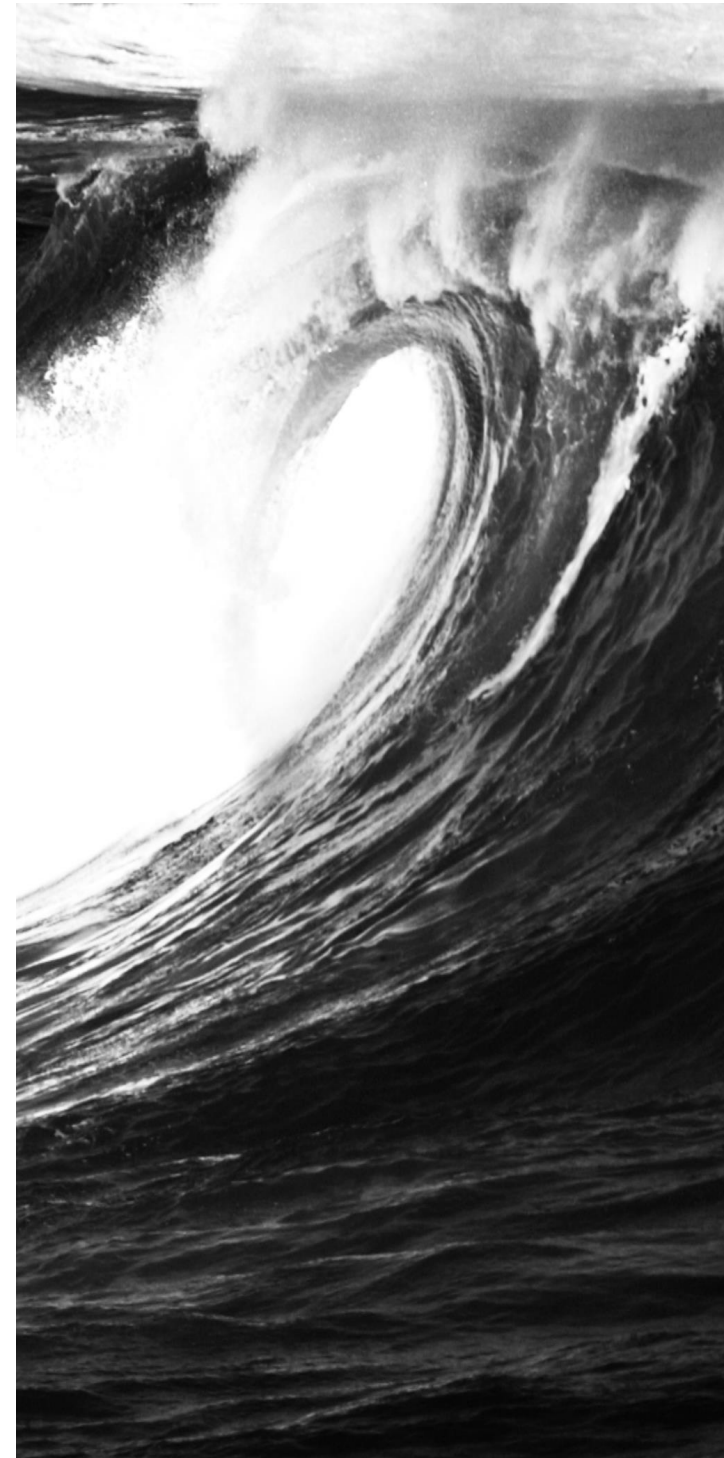
SkillSelect will update your indicative points score when you make changes to your EOI. You can change your EOI at any time before the Department invites you to apply for a visa.

### **Step 1.4 - Receive an invitation to apply for visa**

The Department will invite you to apply for the visa if:

- you score enough points on your EOI
- there are places available for your occupation.

The Department allocates places for the skilled migration program to meet the Australian Government's migration planning levels.



Once invited you have 60 calendar days to apply for the visa. The Department can't extend this time.

You could receive an invitation up to 2 years after submitting an EOI. If the Department invites you to apply you will receive an email from SkillSelect. Getting an invitation does not mean you will be granted the visa.

The invitation will include an indicative points score based on your EOI claims. When you apply for the visa, you must show that you can:

- meet the points score on your invitation; and
- meet all other eligibility criteria

The Department will only invite you to apply for the visa twice. If you don't apply after the second invitation, your EOI will be removed from SkillSelect.

The Department will not process your visa application if you are 45 at the time of your invitation.

**If you can't show you meet the invited points score or other eligibility criteria**

If you can't show you meet the indicative points score on your invitation or other visa eligibility criteria, don't apply for the visa.

Your EOI will be frozen if an invitation is issued, but you can update information once the 60-day invitation period has passed. You can also submit another EOI.



## Step 2

### **Gather your documents**

You will need to provide documents to support the claims you make in your EOI and show you meet the other eligibility criteria

#### **Provide accurate information**

Provide accurate information.

#### **Identity documents**

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

#### **Relationship documents**

If you are or have been married, widowed, divorced or permanently separated, provide proof such as marriage certificates, divorce



documents, death certificates, separation documents or statutory declarations.

If your partner or dependent children are not included in this application, tell us the reason why (for example, they already hold Australian citizenship or are a permanent resident).

### **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.

The Department only accepts complete disclosure National Police Certificates issued by the [Australian Federal Police](#). The Department does 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](#), 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 \(554KB PDF\)](#)
- [Form 1221 Additional personal particulars information \(290KB PDF\)](#)

#### **Competent English documents**

Provide proof you have at least [competent English](#) at time of invitation for this visa.

#### **Partner documents**

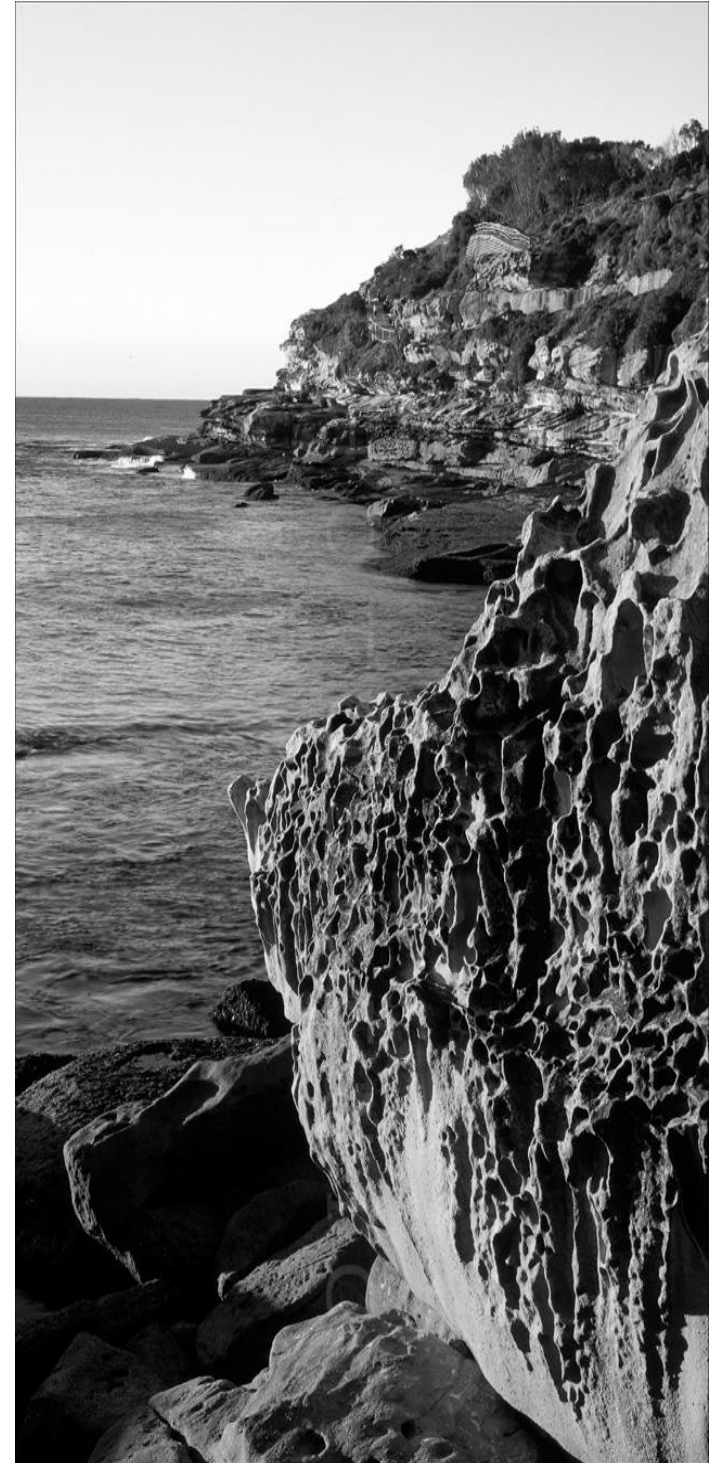
The department needs to see evidence of your partner's identity and relationship with you.

Provide:

- identity documents and photos
- character documents
- marriage certificate, if applicable
- documents about other relationships, if applicable

For de facto relationship provide either:

- evidence that your relationship is registered by an Australian State or Territory
- enough documents to prove you have been in a de facto relationship with your partner for at least 12 months before you apply





For both married and de facto applicants you must provide evidence that you are in a genuine and continuing relationship. Evidence can include but is not limited to:

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

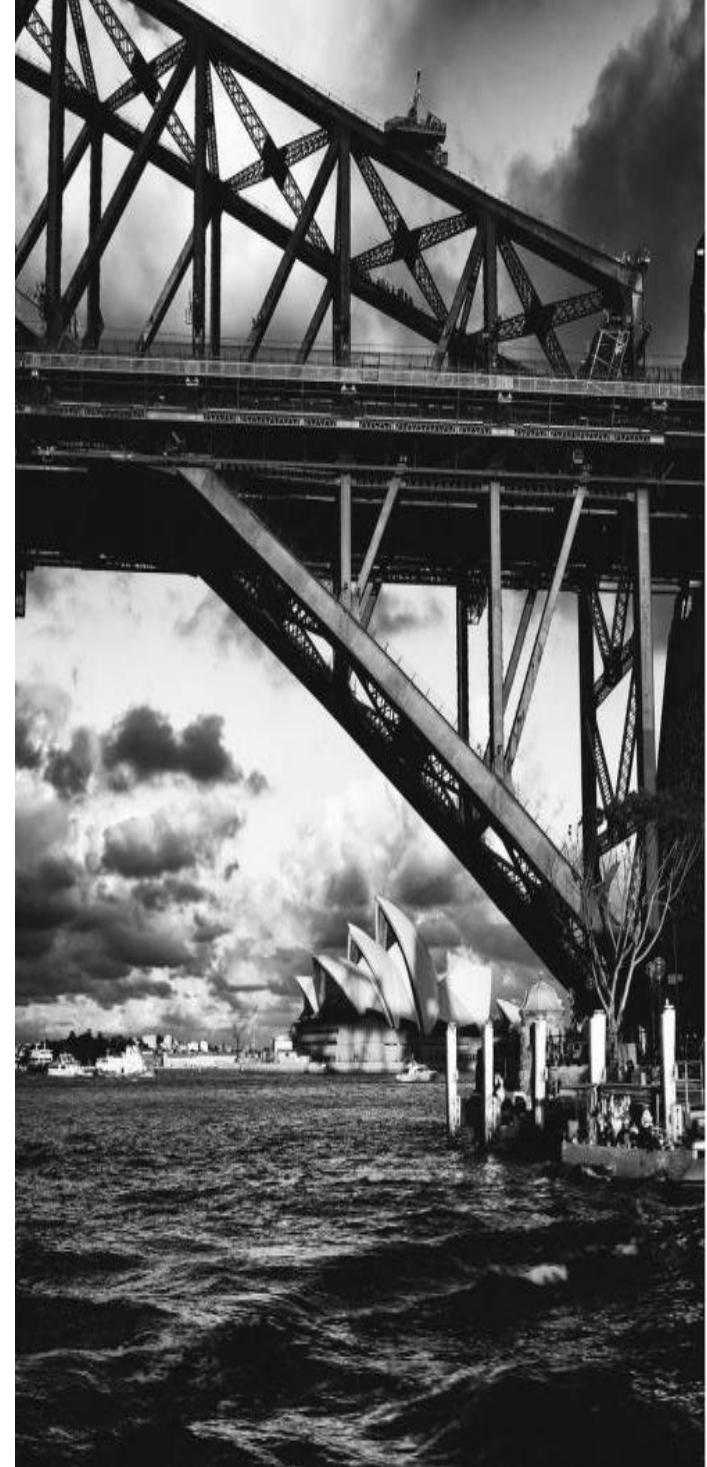
**Proof your partner has functional English**

You don't have to provide any documents to prove functional English if your partner is a citizen of and holds a valid passport from:

- the United Kingdom
- the Republic of Ireland
- the United States
- Canada
- New Zealand

Otherwise, provide proof your partner has [functional English](#).

If you can't show the Department your partner has functional English, you will need to pay the second instalment of the visa application charge when the Department asks you to.



### **Dependants under 18 documents**

For every dependant 18 years old or younger who is applying with you, provide:

- copies of birth certificates or the family book showing the names of both parents of all your dependent children
- copies of the adoption paper, if applicable.

### **Parental responsibility documents**

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

- has 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 \(168KB PDF\)](#)
- [statutory declaration](#) giving their consent for the child to migrate to Australia on this visa

Alternatively, you can show the Department:

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

Include:



- an identity document that shows the signature and photo of the person who completed the form or declaration, such as a passport or driver's licence
- adoption papers or other court documents if applicable

You don't have to prove that your dependant under 18 years of age has functional English.

Note: If your child is likely to turn 18 while your application is being processed, you will need to provide evidence they are dependent on you. See the section 'Dependants over 18 documents' below for further information. A child who turns 18 while your application is being processed and who is not dependent on you cannot satisfy the criteria for this visa.

#### **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

You must also provide proof the child is dependent on you.

- proof of your relationship with the dependant 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 \(241KB PDF\)](#)
- 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

Note: A child who turns 23 while your application is being processed and who does not meet these requirements cannot satisfy the criteria for this visa.

**Proof your dependant has functional English**

You don't have to provide any documents to prove functional English if your dependant is a citizen of and holds a valid passport from:

- the United Kingdom



- the Republic of Ireland
- the United States
- Canada
- New Zealand

Otherwise, provide proof your dependant has [functional English](#).

If you can't show the Department your dependant has functional English, you will need to pay the second instalment of the visa application charge when the Department asks you to.

#### **Skills assessment documents**

You must provide documents that support the claims you made in your EOI. Use the points table to check the documents you need. Depending on your claims this could include evidence of your:

- Skills assessment
- English language skills
- Australian and/or overseas skilled employment
- Educational qualifications
- Satisfying the Australian study requirement
- Specialist education
- Accredited community language
- Study in regional Australia
- Partner skills
- Professional Year in Australia



## Medical practitioners

One of these certificates issued by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency:

- unconditional or general medical registration
- conditional specialist registration – which allows you to practice only in your speciality with no further training or supervision requirements

You must be registered at the time the Department invites you to apply.

## Barristers and Solicitors

Proof of admission to practice as a lawyer in the relevant state or territory. You must be admitted to practice at the time the Department invites you to apply.

## Expression of Interest (EOI) documents

You must provide documents to support all of the claims made in your EOI. Use the [points test \(table\)](#) to check the documents you need.

## Tell the Department you are getting help

To nominate someone to:

- receive your correspondence, use [Form 956a Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient \(300KB PDF\)](#)



- provide immigration advice, use [Form 956 Advice by a migration agent/exempt person of providing immigration assistance \(297KB PDF\)](#)
- act for you but not provide immigration assistance, let the Department know in writing what they can do on your behalf (such as submit or withdraw an application for you). Upload your written notification in ImmiAccount

### **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](#).

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

Step 3

### ***Apply for the visa***

When you have your invitation you can apply online. You can be in or outside Australia.

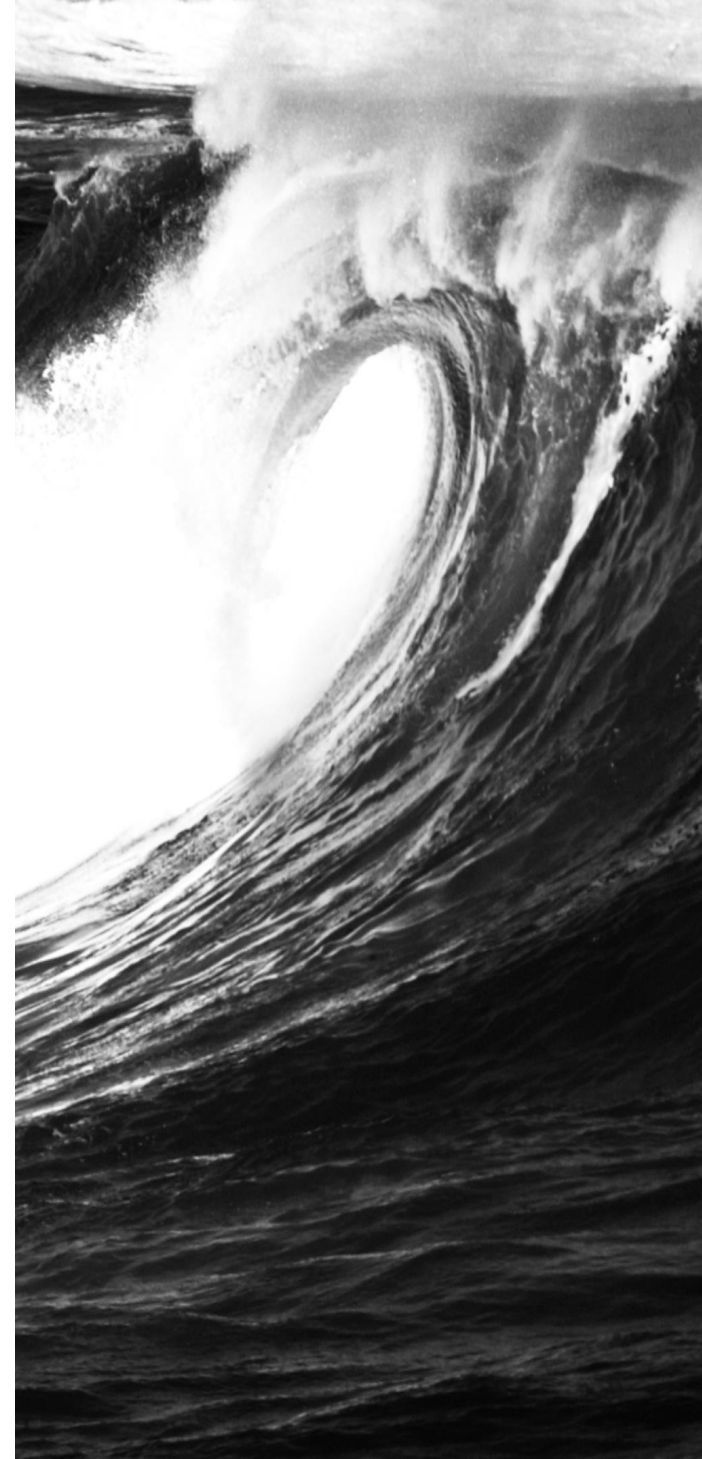
You have 60 days from the date of your invitation to apply for the visa.

#### **Provide accurate information**

You must provide accurate information in your application.

#### **Apply for the visa online in ImmiAccount**

1. Log into your [SkillSelect](#) account. In SkillSelect, click on the 'Apply for visa' button. This will take you to our online system, ImmiAccount.
2. Log in or create an ImmiAccount. Your ImmiAccount login and password will not be the same as your SkillSelect login and password.
3. [Attach your documents](#)
4. [Pay the application charge](#). The Department will not process your application until you pay the charge.
5. Note your transaction reference number (TRN).





## Step 4

### **After you apply**

The Department will let you know when they have received your application.

If you are granted a bridging visa you will receive notification of your visa grant.

#### **Status updates**

The Department does not give updates on applications within the standard processing time.

You can check if the Department needs more information from you in [ImmiAccount](#).

#### **Travel after you apply**

If you are in Australia, you don't have to tell the Department if you want to travel outside Australia while they process your application. This is because you can be outside Australia when they make a decision.

But if you leave Australia, make sure your visa allows you to return. To see if you can return on your current visa, check [VEVO](#).

If you applied outside Australia, don't arrange travel to Australia, leave your job or sell your home until the Department advises you in writing that you have been granted the visa.



### **Health exams**

If you didn't have [health examinations](#) before you applied, the Department will let you know if you need them. Check your [ImmiAccount](#).

### **Biometrics**

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

### **Attach more information**

If you did not attach all documents when you applied, attach them as soon as you can in [ImmiAccount](#).

The Department might also ask you to provide more information; however they are not obliged to do so and may make a decision on your application without asking for more documents.

### **Stay lawful**

Make sure you stay lawful in Australia by holding a valid visa while the Department processes your application.

When you applied for this visa, you were granted a Bridging visa A (BVA). If your current visa expires before the Department decides on your application, the BVA will come into effect. You can stay in Australia on the BVA while they process your new visa application.

Do not ask to have the visa you currently hold cancelled. If your visa is cancelled:

- you will be staying in Australia unlawfully
- your BVA will cease



### **Pay the second instalment**

If you need to pay a second instalment, pay it when the Department sends you the invoice.

### **Add family**

You can add members of the family unit to your application after you apply but before the Department decides on your visa.

Complete [Form 1436 - Adding an additional applicant after lodgement \(392KB PDF\)](#), pay using ImmiAccount, attach the form and supporting documents to your ImmiAccount.

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

Family members who are not coming to Australia do have to meet our [character](#) requirement and might have to meet our [health](#) requirement.

### **Newborn children**

If your child is born after you submit your application but before the Department decides on your visa, you must tell the Department as soon as possible.

### **Mistakes on your application**

You must tell the Department as soon as possible if you made a mistake on your application.



Complete [Form 1023 Notification of incorrect answers \(168KB PDF\)](#) and attach it in ImmiAccount.

#### **Help with your application**

Let the Department know if you no longer want someone to:

- receive your correspondence. Complete [Form 956a Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient \(300KB PDF\)](#)
- provide immigration advice. Complete [Form 956 Advice by a migration agent/exempt person of providing immigration assistance \(297KB PDF\)](#)
- act for you. Let the Department know in writing by uploading your advice in [ImmiAccount](#)

#### **Tell the Department if things change**

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

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



## Step 5

### **Visa outcome**

You can be in or outside Australia when the Department decides your visa application but not in immigration clearance. The Department will let you know their decision in writing.

If the Department grants your visa, they will tell you:

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

Keep a copy of the decision.

If the Department refuses your visa, they will tell you:

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

The Department will not refund the application charge if the Department refuses your application.



## WHEN YOU HAVE THIS VISA

### Coming to Australia

If you are outside Australia when the visa is granted, you must enter Australia before a date that the Department specify on your visa grant letter.

Before you leave:

#### Check your travel documents

You must have:

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

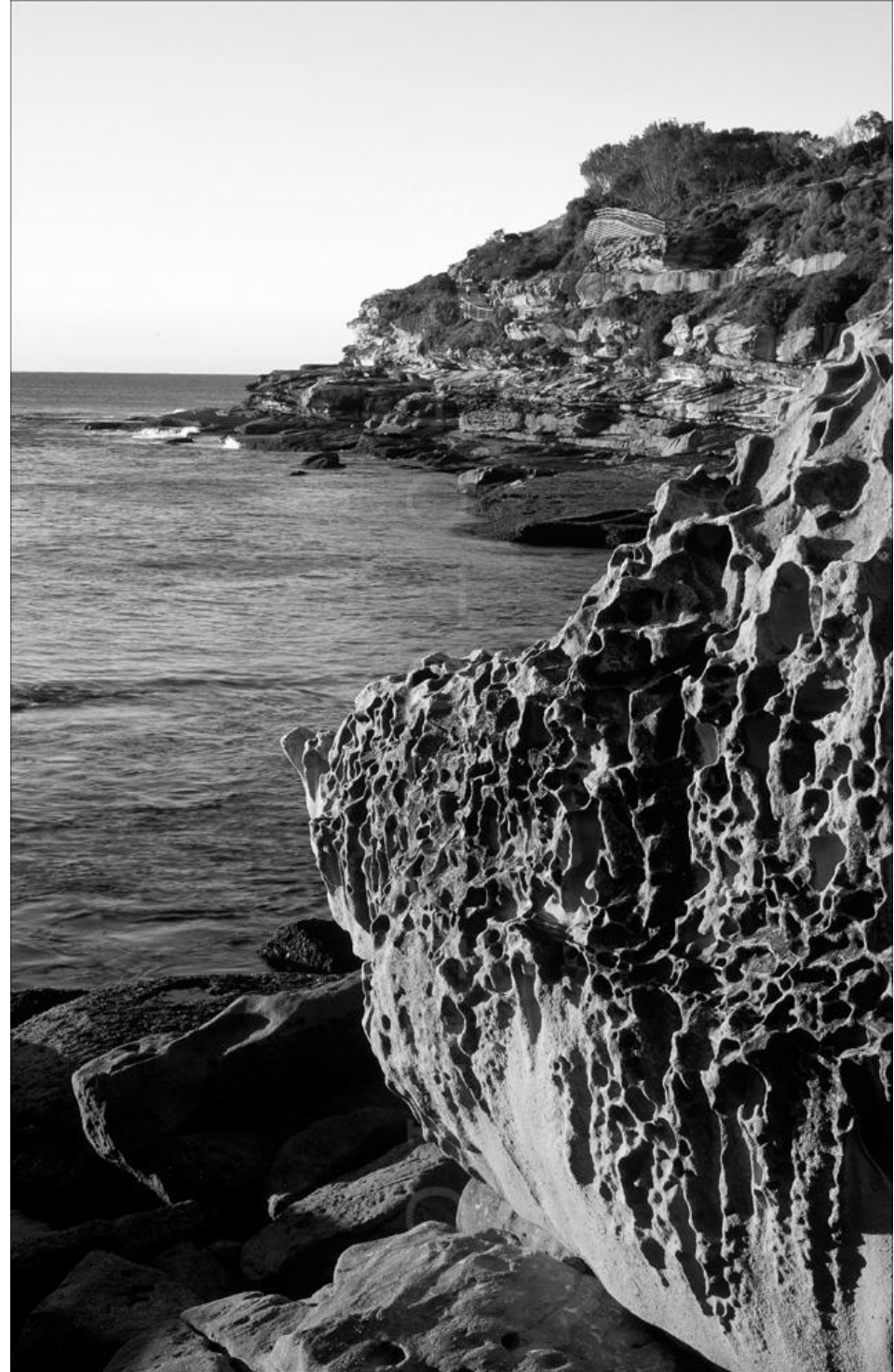
At the border:

#### Complete an Incoming Passenger Card

All people arriving in Australia must complete the [Incoming Passenger Card](#). You will be given this card onboard.

#### Leaving the airport faster

The Department has an automated process that uses facial recognition technology and



your ePassport. You might be able to leave the airport faster if you use [SmartGates](#).

## In Australia

- stay in Australia permanently
- work and study
- enrol in Australia's public health care scheme, [Medicare](#)
- sponsor your relatives to come to Australia
- if eligible, [become an Australian citizen](#)

What you must do on this visa:

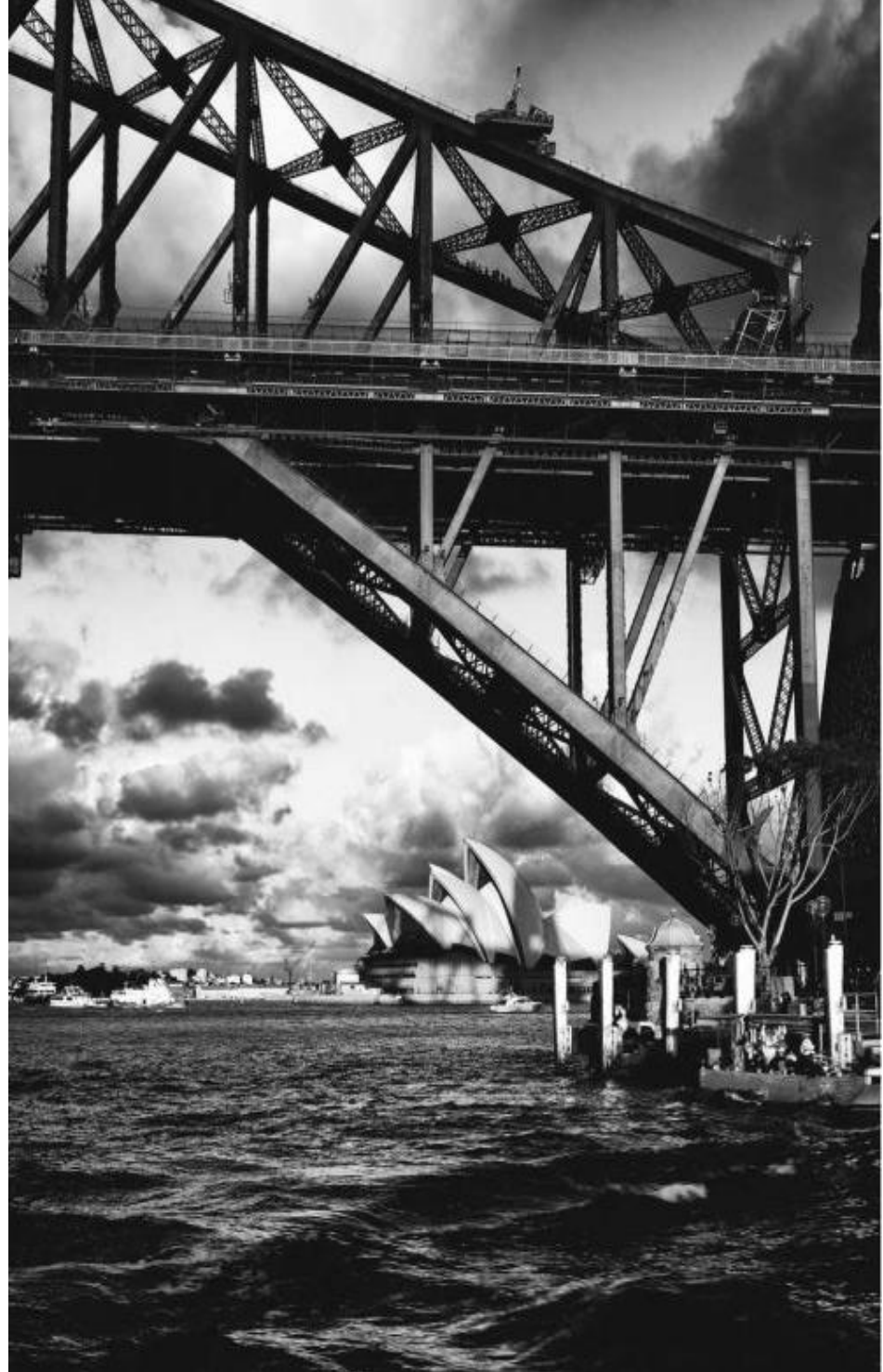
You and your family members must obey Australian laws.

How long you can stay:

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

Travelling on your visa:

You can travel to and from Australia for 5 years from the date your visa is granted. After 5 years you will need a [Resident Return \(RRV\) visa \(subclass 155 or 157\)](#) to re-enter Australia



as a permanent resident. To see when the 5 years ends, use [VEVO](#).

New Zealand passport holders:

If an immigration officer processes your clearance at our border, the Department recommends you tell them:

- you have a Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189)
- you do not want a Special Category visa (subclass 444)

If you don't tell them, you might be granted a subclass 444 visa. Grant of a subclass 444 visa will cease your permanent visa, which will then affect your eligibility for Australian citizenship.

Proving you have a visa:

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

Working:

You are protected by Australian workplace law.





Bringing family:

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

Becoming an Australian citizen:

After a certain time, you might be eligible for Australian citizenship.

For citizenship purposes, your permanent residence starts on the day:

- The Department granted the visa, if you were in Australia
- you entered Australia on this visa, if you were outside Australia when the Department granted it

## Leaving Australia

Before you leave:

### Check your travel documents

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

**Ensure your visa is still valid and allows you to re-enter Australia**



Check the travel component of your visa in [VEVO](#).

At the Border:

#### **Leaving the airport faster**

The Department has an automated process that uses facial recognition technology and your ePassport. You could leave the airport faster if you use [SmartGates](#).

After you leave:

#### **Proving you have been to Australia**

To prove you have been to Australia, request your international movement records by completing [Form 1359 - Request for international movement records \(195KB PDF\)](#).





## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information visit: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>



### Product Disclaimer

Information on the website 'www.immigrationsaustralia.com.au' (and its associated resources) and in this guide 'Immigration to Australia - Application Guide' is general in nature only and does not constitute immigration advice. This information has been sourced from <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>, and this information is susceptible to change without notice. We recommend our readers go directly to <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/> for up to date information or seek an Immigration Lawyer for professional advice specific to your personal objectives, financial situation or needs.

