



Australian Government

Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Application for evidence of resident status in Australia

Form

164

What is a Certificate of Evidence of Resident Status (CERS)?

A CERS is documentary evidence of the date on which you were granted Australian permanent resident status. It is not an identity document. It can also confirm that you are not an Australian citizen.

Who should use this form?

If you are currently an Australian permanent resident, **you acquired that status on or after your arrival in Australia**, and you want documentary evidence of your status, you can apply for a CERS.

A CERS cannot be issued to an Australian citizen.

Australian citizens requiring evidence of their Australian citizenship must apply for evidence of Australian citizenship by completing form 119 *Application for evidence of Australian citizenship*.

New Zealand citizens who have not applied for and been granted a permanent resident visa cannot be issued a CERS.

About this form

Important – Please read this information carefully before you complete your application. Once you have completed your application we strongly advise that you keep a copy for your records.

How to apply

Complete the form in English using BLOCK LETTERS.

Please ensure you sign the form and include all required supporting documents.

If your documents are not in English you must provide an English translation that has been completed by an accredited translator. If you provide photocopies of original documents, they must be certified as true copies by an authorised person. In Australia, authorised people include a magistrate, Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Declarations, Commissioner of Affidavits, solicitor, registered medical practitioner, bank manager or a State or Public Service officer with at least 5 years service.

This application should be lodged by registered post or in person, with the required payment, at the nearest office of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (the department). More information on where to lodge this application is available from the department's website

www.immi.gov.au/contacts/offices/htm

Charges

Payment must accompany your application and is generally not refunded if the application is unsuccessful.

Fees may be subject to adjustment at any time. Application charges may be subject to adjustment on 1 July each year. This may increase the cost of a CERS.

To check the application charge, refer to the department's website www.immi.gov.au/fees-charges or check with the nearest office of the department.

Fee exemption

There are only 2 categories which are eligible for a CERS fee exemption:

- British Child Migration Scheme (BCMS); and
- Victorian Bushfires (7 February 2009).

More information is available from the department's website www.immi.gov.au/migrants/cers/applying-cers.htm

Method of payment

In Australia

To make a payment, please pay by credit card, debit card, bank cheque or money order made payable to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Debit card and credit card are the preferred methods of payment.

Outside Australia

Before making a payment outside Australia, please check with the Australian Government office where you intend to lodge your application as to what methods of payment and currencies they can accept and to whom the payment should be made payable.

Integrity of application

The department is committed to maintaining the integrity of the visa and citizenship programs. Please be aware that if you provide us with fraudulent documents or claims, this may result in processing delays and possibly your application being refused.

What documents do you need?

You will need to provide the following documents with your application:

- Proof of your identity, eg. passport, driver's licence.
- Proof of change of name, if applicable, eg. marriage certificate, deed poll.
- If available, the passport or travel document you used when you first travelled to Australia, and any other passports issued since your arrival.
- If lodging this application by post, certified copies of the above documentation should be provided.
- If you require another person to collect your certificate on your behalf you must provide them with authorisation at Question 15. The person will be required to provide proof of their identity.

Requesting a CERS in the name of deceased person

If you are applying for a CERS in the name of a deceased person, you may be asked to provide a legitimate reason for requesting the CERS. You will also be asked to provide a certified true copy of the death certificate for the deceased person, proof of relationship and proof of your identity.

This form should be completed in the deceased person's name and you should attach a covering letter and supporting documentation outlining your reasons for requesting the CERS.

A CERS will not be issued if the deceased person was an Australian citizen.

About the information you give

The information provided will be used for assessing your eligibility for evidence of resident status and for other purposes relating to the administration of the Migration Act. The storage, use and disclosure by the department of the information you provide in this form is governed by the *Privacy Act 1988*. If you want more information about this, you should see the information form 993i, *Safeguarding your personal information*, available from any office of the department.

The department is authorised under the *Migration Act 1958*, in certain circumstances, to collect a range of personal identifiers including a facial image, fingerprints and a signature from non-citizens. The department requires personal identifiers to assist in assessing your identity. The department is authorised to disclose your personal identifiers and information relating to your name and other relevant biographical data to a number of agencies including law enforcement and health agencies and to other agencies who may need to check your identity with this department. Where the department obtains personal identifiers they will become part of your official record with the department.

The department is involved in international information exchanges with a number of countries, including the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada and New Zealand. These international information exchanges may involve the sharing of personal identifiers, including facial images and fingerprint data, collected by immigration agencies such as this department. If, as a result of this sharing between countries, there is a match with your personal identifiers, the department will disclose your biographical data, copies of travel and other identity documents or information from such documents, your immigration status and immigration history (which may include any immigration abuse and offences) and any criminal history information relevant to immigration purposes. The purpose of such disclosure would be to help confirm your identity and determine if you have presented to the department and the other agency under the same identity and with similar claims.

For more detailed information you should read information form 1243i *Your personal identifying information*, which is available from the department's website www.immi.gov.au/allforms/ or from any office of the department or Australian mission overseas.

Home page **www.immi.gov.au**

General enquiry line Telephone **131 881** during business hours in Australia to speak to an operator (recorded information available outside these hours). If you are outside Australia, please contact your nearest Australian mission.

Please keep this information page for your reference



Please use a pen, and write neatly in English using BLOCK LETTERS.

Tick where applicable

1 Your full name

Family name

Given names

2 Your name as shown in your travel document on entry to Australia
(If the same as your present name, write 'AS ABOVE')

Family name

Given names

Reason for change: Deed poll Marriage

Other

3 Have you been known by any other names?
(including name at birth, previous married names, aliases)

No

Yes Give details

Family name

Given names

Reason for change: Deed poll Marriage

Other

If you have been known by any other names, attach a page giving the required details

4 Date of birth

5 Country of birth

6 Are you an Australian citizen?

No

Yes Date granted

You cannot be issued a CERS. Australian citizens requiring evidence of their Australian citizenship must apply for evidence of Australian citizenship by completing form 119 *Application for evidence of Australian citizenship*.

7 Do you hold any other citizenship?

No

Yes Which countries?

8 Current residential address

POSTCODE

9 Address for correspondence
(If the same as your residential address, write 'AS ABOVE'.)

POSTCODE

10 Telephone numbers

Office hours (AREA CODE)

After hours (AREA CODE)

11 Do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail, or other electronic means?

No

Yes Give details

Fax number (AREA CODE)

E-mail address

12 Details of entry to Australia

Date of first arrival

Place of arrival

Flight number/name of ship (if known)

Citizenship on arrival

13 If you arrived as a child (under 18) and no longer hold the passport or travel document you used on your first arrival, please provide the details of both your parents

Parent's full name

Parent's former name (if applicable)

Parent's date of birth

Sex Male Female

Parent's full name

Parent's former name (if applicable)

Parent's date of birth

Sex Male Female

14 Why do you require evidence of resident status in Australia?

15 The certificate should be collected in person and signed for at issue. Complete this section if you require another person to collect your certificate on your behalf. Your certificate will not be given to your representative unless you provide this authorisation.

Name of representative

Relationship to you

Signature of representative

Date

I authorise the person named above to collect my certificate.

Signature of applicant

Date

16 How will you pay your application charge?

If applying **in Australia**, debit card or credit card are the preferred methods of payment. Debit cards cannot be used for applications lodged by mail. If paying by bank cheque or money order please make payable to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

If applying **outside Australia**, please check with the Australian Government office where you intend to lodge your application as to what methods of payment and currencies they can accept and to whom the payment should be made payable.

Bank cheque

Money order

Debit card **▶ Cannot be used for applications lodged by mail**

Credit card **▶ Give details below**

Payment by (tick one box)

Australian Dollars

MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/>	Diners Club <input type="checkbox"/>	AUD
American Express <input type="checkbox"/>	JCB <input type="checkbox"/>	
Visa <input type="checkbox"/>		

Credit card number

Expiry date /

Cardholder's name

Telephone number () ()

Address

Signature of cardholder

Credit card information will be used for charge paying purposes only.

17 Declaration

WARNING: Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

I declare that the information I have supplied in this form is complete, correct and up-to-date in every detail.

Signature of applicant

Date

We strongly advise that you keep a copy of your application and all attachments for your records.

Office use only

Official receipt number

DAY MONTH YEAR

Date of issue / /

Certificate number

DAY MONTH YEAR

Date of issue / /

Action taken

Data reference

DAY MONTH YEAR

Date / /

Signature of Issuing Officer

Certificate returned by mail

Signature of returning officer

DAY MONTH YEAR

Date / /

Held for collection

Signature of applicant or representative

DAY MONTH YEAR

Date / /