



# Visiting Australia General Requirements

Form  
**983i**

THIS INFORMATION FORM is about applying to visit Australia for short periods for:

- ♦ tourism (sightseeing);
- ♦ seeing relatives or friends;
- ♦ pre-arranged medical treatment or consultation;
- ♦ short term study.

Australia welcomes visitors and we try to keep formalities to a minimum. However, Australia has conditions of entry that visitors are expected to observe.

## What visa do I apply for ?

There are three visitor visa classes:

### (A) Short Stay Visitor

This class is for a stay of **three months or less**, and includes the following subclass:

- 676 Tourist (short stay) - to sightsee, travel, visit friends and relatives, care for a dependant who is in Australia on a student visa, and be involved in other short term non-working activities.

Short stay visitors are usually given a three month stay.

### (B) Long Stay Visitor

This visa is for a stay of **more than three months**, and includes the following subclass:

- 686 Tourist (long stay) - same as the short stay tourist visa.

Long stay visitors are usually given a 6 month stay in Australia. Exceptions can include aged parents visiting children (up to 1 year stay) or a parent caring for a young child enrolled in formal studies (11 months renewable each year for the length of the course).

### (C) Medical Treatment

This class is for medical treatment, either elective or emergency. Anyone accompanying you must also apply for a medical treatment visa. This class includes the following subclasses:

- 675 Medical Treatment (short stay) - for a stay of three months or less.  
685 Medical Treatment (long stay) - for a stay of more than 3 months.

## How do I apply?

Application forms are available from Australian missions overseas and from many travel agencies. Each person with their own passport must complete a visa application.

You must provide with your application a valid passport and, if asked, a passport-type photograph of each person over two years of age included in the application. The application form will explain when this is necessary. The application form must be signed by the applicant. If unable to sign, a parent or guardian may sign on behalf of the applicant.

Children travelling on a parent's passport need not complete a separate application.

Each applicant must be in good health and of good character.

The form should be lodged at the nearest Australian mission. If a travel agent is making arrangements for you, you must still sign the application.

## Do I need a sponsor?

No. However, evidence of support from relatives or friends in Australia may be asked for.

## Do I have to pay a charge?

There is a non-refundable charge which must accompany each application - see *Form 990i, Charges*.

## Do I need health insurance?

You are advised to take out health insurance for yourself and your family, unless there is a reciprocal health care arrangement between Australia and your country of citizenship covering your stay.

## When can I travel?

Visitor visas are usually valid for one year for multiple journeys to Australia. You can apply for a visa allowing multiple travel for up to 4 years, with a stay of 3 or 6 months on each visit. An application fee is then payable (see above).

## What conditions apply?

Visitor visas are subject to conditions. If you breach these conditions, your visa may be cancelled and you will be required to leave Australia.

The conditions are:

- ♦ If you intend to study, you may be required to have a chest X-ray;
- ♦ You may not study for more than 3 months during your stay;
- ♦ You may not work during your stay.

## Can I extend my stay?

If you need to stay longer you must apply to an office of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) before your visa expires. A standard non-refundable fee is payable when the application is lodged.

Some visas may not allow a further visa in Australia. You will be told if this applies to you when your application is decided. If so, it means that you cannot get a further visa for temporary stay or permanent residence in Australia.

## DIMA enquiry line

**131 881**

for the cost of a local call.

This number is available in Australia only.  
Outside Australia, please contact the nearest Australian mission.