



## Australian Visas: Fact sheet for Thai Businesses

This fact sheet is a general guide to the most common visa options for those travelling to Australia to support temporary work, training, study and business activities in Australia.

This fact sheet provides an overview of several visa subclasses that might meet the needs of businesses looking to send employees to Australia to work or train temporarily. It does not contain a complete list of Australian visas.

The information contained in this fact sheet is current as at **1 September 2018**. Australian migration law may change after this time resulting in a change in visa options. Please check the Department of Home Affairs website for further information: [www.homeaffairs.gov.au/](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/)

### Visitor Visa (subclass 600) Business Visitor Stream

This visa is for people travelling to Australia for a short business visit. This includes going to a conference, trade fair, seminar, negotiation or meeting. You cannot work for or provide services to a business or organisation in Australia or sell goods or services to the public. Generally this visa is granted for a stay period of 3 months on entry to Australia.

*Business visitor activity includes:*

- making a general business or employment enquiry
- investigating, negotiating, entering into, or reviewing a business contract
- an activity carried out as part of an official government to government visit
- participation in a conference, trade fair or seminar in Australia **unless the person is being paid** by an organiser for participation.

*Study and/or training*

The Business Visitor Stream allows holders to undertake studies or training for up to 3 months. The activities, however, must not have adverse consequences for employment or training opportunities, or conditions of employment, for Australian citizens or Australian permanent residents. Work placements or try-outs are also not permitted.

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/business-visitor-stream>

### Temporary Work (Short Stay Specialist) visa (subclass 400)

*This visa is for people who want to travel to Australia to:*

- do short-term, highly specialised, non-ongoing work
- in limited circumstances, participate in an activity or work relating to Australia's interests, such as, assisting in a national emergency.

*Applicants must:*

- be invited or supported by the organisation they will be working for in Australia
- have specialist skills, knowledge or experience that is needed but cannot be found in Australia.

*Specialised skills is work that either:*

- is done by people with an occupation listed in Major Groups 1, 2 or 3 of the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)
- includes skills and knowledge that are specific to an international company, such as, installing imported equipment, after-sales service or emergency repairs.

Generally, the stay period allowed is up to 3 months, but up to 6 months may be considered in limited circumstances, if supported by a strong business case.

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>

## Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)

This visa allows applicants to come to Australia on a temporary basis to participate in one or more specified activities at the invitation of an organisation that is lawfully operating in Australia. Activities include:

- **Entertainer:** to work in the entertainment industry in film, television or live productions in either a performance or behind-the-scenes role, such as directing, producing and other production roles.
- **Invited participant:** for people who are invited for stays up to 3 months by an organisation operating in Australia to participate in a specific cultural or social event or events. For example, conferences, sporting, religious and other community events. More information is provided below.
- **Researcher:**
  - to participate or observe in an Australian research project after being invited to do so
  - to undertake a research activity at an Australian tertiary or research institution related to your field of study.
- **Religious worker:** to be a full-time religious worker, serving the religious objectives of a religious institution in Australia.
- **Special program:** to participate in an approved special program that provides opportunities for youth exchange, cultural enrichment or community benefits.
- **Sport:**
  - play, coach, instruct or adjudicate under contract to an Australian sporting club or organisation
  - participate in a high-level sports training program.
- **Exchange:** to work in a skilled position under a reciprocal staff exchange arrangement to:
  - give participants an opportunity to experience another culture
  - enhance international relations
  - broaden participants' experience and knowledge.
- **Superyacht crew:** to be employed as a superyacht crew member on board a superyacht in Australia.
- **Domestic worker (executive):** to work full time in the household of certain senior foreign executives.
- **Australian Government endorsed event:** to participate in a government endorsed major event.

*Applicants might be able to get this visa if they:*

- intend to stay in Australia for three months or less and apply from outside Australia, and they have the support of an organisation or individual in Australia who has responsibility for the events or activities being undertaken who passes the support test
- intend to stay in Australia for more than three months and are sponsored by an approved sponsor for this visa who passes the sponsorship test
- meet the requirements of the activity type in which they are applying
- have adequate financial support for themselves and their family while in Australia

- have adequate arrangements for health insurance while in Australia
- meet health and character requirements and genuinely intend to remain temporarily in Australia to do the work or activity specified in the application.

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-activity-408>

### Temporary Skill Shortage visa (subclass 482)

This visa, referred to as the TSS visa, enables employers to address temporary labour shortages by bringing in genuinely skilled workers where they cannot source an appropriately skilled Australia. TSS visa holders can work in Australia in their nominated occupation for their approved sponsor in one of three streams: Short-term, Medium-term and Labour Agreement stream. Occupations in these streams must be included on the relevant eligible skilled occupation list.

Applicants must have the skills to fill a position nominated by an approved business for an approved occupation.

The length of stay is one to four years depending on the nominated occupation, the visa stream and an applicant's circumstances.

*Applicants might get this visa, as an overseas worker, if they:*

- have been nominated for a position by an approved sponsor and that nomination has been approved
- meet any required skills and qualifications requirements including completing any skills assessments required
- meet English language requirements
- if in Australia, hold a substantive visa, a Bridging Visa A, B or C
- have substantially complied with any conditions that apply or applied to the last visa
- meet health and character requirements
- meet the requirements of the stream in which they apply.

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-skill-shortage-482>

### Training Visa (subclass 407)

The Training visa enables approved sponsors to bring occupational trainees, professionals, managers and government officials to Australia for up to two years to take part in an approved workplace-based or professional development (classroom-based) training program.

*Training may be approved for one of the following purposes (training types):*

- Occupational training for registration
- Occupational training to improve skills in an eligible occupation
- Occupational training for capacity building overseas. This includes overseas qualification, government support or professional development.

*Applicants must:*

- be nominated for an approved training type (unless the sponsor is a Commonwealth Government Agency)
- be invited (if the sponsor is a Commonwealth Government Agency)
- usually be at least 18 years of age
- meet English language requirements
- meet health and character requirements.

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/training-407>

## Work and holiday visa (subclass 462)

The Thailand-Australia Work & Holiday arrangement is a reciprocal program that encourages cultural exchange and ties between Australia and eligible partner countries, including Thailand. The program provides young people with the opportunity to holiday in Australia and undertake short term work. Applicants must have a letter of support from the Thailand Department of Children and Youth to apply.

*This visa allows applicants to:*

- stay in Australia for up to 12 months
- work in Australia, generally for up to six months with each employer
- study for up to four months
- leave and re-enter Australia any number of times while the visa is valid
- apply for a second Work and Holiday visa if they have worked for three months in northern Australia in tourism and hospitality or agriculture, forestry and fishing.

*Applicants might be able to get this visa if they:*

- are at least 18 but have not turned 31 years of age at the time they lodge the application
- have a letter of support from the Department of Children and Youth in Thailand
- have enough money to support themselves on a working holiday (about AUD 5000)
- have enough money to buy a return or onward travel ticket at the end of their stay
- have not previously entered Australia on a Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462)
- meet the educational requirements
- have functional English
- will not be with a dependent child while in Australia
- meet character and health requirements
- are a genuine visitor.

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/work-holiday-462>

## Student visa (subclass 500)

This visa allows an applicant to stay in Australia to study full-time in a recognised education institution.

Before an applicant applies for this visa, they must have:

- been accepted to study full-time at an educational institution in Australia
- organised appropriate welfare arrangements for their intended stay in Australia if they are under 18 years of age.

Study can be in any sector – ELICOS; Primary and Secondary School; Vocational Education and Training; Higher Education; Post Graduate Research; and Non Award Courses. With limited exceptions, applicants must be enrolled in a course of study that is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and courses for Overseas for Overseas Students (CRICOS).

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500>

## Lodging a Visa Application

### Online Lodgement

Most applications for Australian visas can be lodged online through ImmiAccount, which can be accessed via: <https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login>.

If applications are lodged online through [ImmiAccount](#), applicants **must** upload all supporting documents into the system **at the time** of lodgement.

### **Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC)**

Some applications can also be lodged at an Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC) in Thailand, operated by VFS Global, where your biometrics (generally photo and fingerprint) can be collected simultaneously. Applicants should make an appointment for the lodgement of a visa application or collection of biometrics at VFS Global.

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The Trendy Office Building 28th floor, Sukhumvit Soi 13, Klongtoey-Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110 (NANA BTS station, exit 3)  Telephone: 02 118 7100 Email: <a href="mailto:info.auth@vfshelpline.com">info.auth@vfshelpline.com</a>	Siriphanich Building 6 <sup>th</sup> floor, 191 Huaykaew Road, Suthep, Muang, Chiang Mai (opposite MAYA Lifestyle Shopping Centre)  Telephone: 02 118 7100 Email: <a href="mailto:info.auth@vfshelpline.com">info.auth@vfshelpline.com</a>
Further information on the Australia Visa Application Centres in Thailand, please see: <a href="http://www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand">www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand</a>	

**Department of Home Affairs**  
**Australian Embassy, Bangkok**  
[www.thailand.embassy.gov.au](http://www.thailand.embassy.gov.au)