



## AUSTRALIAN VISA OPTIONS GUIDE

### AMATEUR COMPETITORS

For visa purposes, an amateur athlete or competitor is defined as a person ***that does not derive an income from their activity or where the activity is not the person's usual occupation***. An amateur sports person or team participating in an amateur sporting event or series of events may be eligible to apply for the following visa options:

- **Visitor (subclass 600) (Tourist stream) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/tourist-stream-overseas>
- **Electronic Travel Authority – ETA (subclass 601).** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601>
- **eVisitor (subclass 651)(Tourist Stream) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/evisitor-651>

### PROFESSIONAL COMPETITORS

A professional sports person, team, support staff or official ***invited to participate in an event by an Australian organisation*** may be eligible to apply for the following visa option:

- **Temporary Activity (subclass 408)(Invited Participant) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-activity-408/invited-for-other-social-and-cultural-activity>

*Please note that a the letter of support from an Australian organisation is a legislative requirement for the **Temporary Activity (subclass 408)(Invited Participant) visa**.*

A professional sports person, team, support staff or official invited to participate at the event ***where there is no inviting Australian organisation*** may be eligible to apply for a:

- **Temporary Work (subclass 400)(Short Stay Specialist) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>

### SUPPORT PERSONS (INCLUDING COACHES, TRAINERS, OFFICIALS, JUDGES)

Support persons, including a coach, manager, medical professional, official, or referee, ***who are supporting an amateur sports person or team on a genuine unpaid volunteer basis*** may be eligible for the following visa options:

- **Visitor (subclass 600) (Tourist stream) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/tourist-stream-overseas>

- **Electronic Travel Authority – ETA (subclass 601)**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601>
- **eVisitor (subclass 651) (Tourist Stream) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/evisitor-651>

Participation at an event by a coach, manager, medical professional, official, or referee, **where the activity is the person's usual occupation** may be eligible to apply for the following visa options:

- **Temporary Work (subclass 400) (Short Stay Specialist) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>
- **Temporary Activity (subclass 408) (Invited Participant) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-activity-408/invited-for-other-social-and-cultural-activity>

Please note that a the letter of support from an Australian organisation is a legislative requirement for the **Temporary Activity (subclass 408)(Invited Participant) visa**.

## **MEDIA**

Journalists or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event, at the invitation of an Australian organisation, **and where the production or broadcast is intended for Australian audiences** may be eligible to apply for a:

- **Temporary Activity (subclass 408) (Entertainment) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-activity-408/entertainment-activities>

Journalists or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event, **where the production/broadcast is not intended for Australian audiences** may be eligible to apply for a:

- **Temporary Work (subclass 400) (Short Stay Specialist) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>

## **CONTRACT WORKER**

Contract workers or specialists, including persons required to build exhibition spaces or booths, and/or to set up specific technology, may be eligible to apply for the following visa option:

- **Temporary Work (subclass 400) (Short Stay Specialist) visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>

## **CONFERENCE DELEGATES**

Delegates that are attending the conference program (Commission Meetings, General Assemblies, Board Meetings, etc.) and that are not competing in the Lifesaving World Championships may be eligible for the following visa options:

- **Visitor (subclass 600) Business stream visa**. For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/business-visitor-stream>

## **CONFERENCE DELEGATES – CONTINUED**

- **Electronic Travel Authority – ETA (subclass 601).** For eligible passport holders and more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601>
- **eVisitor (subclass 651) Business stream visa.** For eligible passport holders and more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/evisitor-651>

***NB: Eligibility for an eVisitor visa and ETA will be determined by the country of passport that the applicant holds.***

Visitor (subclass 600) Business visa applicants should include as much information as possible to support their visa applications (see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/business-visitor-stream#HowTo>). In addition, visa applicants should include the following information:

- evidence of any international travel outside of their own country (for example, copies of visas and passport pages containing entry and departure stamps)
- information and evidence of attendance at similar events of this type/nature.

As with the competitors and sports persons participating in the championships, the delegates must ensure to complete and fully document their visa applications with as much relevant information as possible to satisfy the application criteria and requirements.

## **EXHIBITOR**

Exhibitors and retail vendors may be eligible to apply for the following visa options:

- **Temporary Work (subclass 400) (Short Stay Specialist) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>
- **Temporary Activity (subclass 408)(Invited Participant) visa.** For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-activity-408/invited-for-other-social-and-cultural-activity>

***NB: These are the visa options available presently but the Department reserves the right to change regulations. Visa applicants must demonstrate that they meet all the legislative requirements for an Australian visa.***

## **VISAS FOR MINORS/PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE**

The Department of Home Affairs must be satisfied when assessing visa applications for minors (applicants under the age of 18 at time of visa application) of parental consent from all responsible parent(s) or guardian(s) to the grant of an Australian visa. **Form 1229 - Consent to grant an Australian visa to a child under the age of 18 years**, will be required to be submitted as part of the application for a visa as evidence of this consent.

Minors who are travelling without their parent and/or guardian may need to provide additional documentation with their visa application, even if they are travelling with other family members. For further information please see <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/form-listing/forms/1229.pdf>

## **BIOMETRICS**

Visa applicants outside of Australia will need to provide biometrics when they apply for a visa that is part of the Australian biometrics program, or where they are from a country, or located in a country at time of application that is part of the Australian biometrics program.

For information regarding Australia's biometric program including visas and countries that are part of the program, please see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/biometrics>

## **VISA APPLICATION PROCESS AND PROCESSING TIMES**

Visa applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis, and actual processing times can vary due to individual circumstances including:

- whether the applicant has lodged a complete application, including all necessary supporting documents and paid associated visa application charges
  - how promptly the applicant responds 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 information from external agencies, particularly in relation to health, character, and national security requirements
  - when the application is lodged taking the current global visa processing times into account
- Processing times are impacted each month by cases that are complex, changes to volume of applications and changes to Ministerial Directions. More information about visa processing times please see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/overview>.

For this reason, we would advise that visa applications be lodged at least 6 weeks prior to a person's intended date of travel.