



## AUSTRALIA

### RESIDENCE BY INVESTMENT

Australia is one of the wealthiest countries in the world and has an excellent reputation. It is a developed, multi-cultural country with an extremely high Human Development Index ranking and offers its people an excellent quality of life, economic freedom, and good protection of civil liberties and political rights.

Australia is a member of ANZUS, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Nations, the G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Pacific Islands Forum, the United Nations, and the World Trade Organization.

All foreign nationals apart from New Zealand citizens must hold a visa prior to travelling to Australia.

There are two types of migration for non-Australian citizens: temporary and permanent. Temporary resident visas allow non-Australian citizens to remain in Australia for a specified duration for purposes that may include tourism, visiting family, study, work, and medical treatment. Many temporary visas provide a pathway to permanent residence eligibility.

#### **Australian Residence-by-Investment**

Visa applicants must meet certain criteria prescribed to the appropriate visa subclass. The criteria prescribed to a visa application will include either 'at time of lodgment' requirements, 'at time of decision' requirements, or a combination of both.



Visa applications may be refused if an applicant does not demonstrate that they meet the criteria at the correct time. All visa subclasses include the requirement to satisfy certain health, character, and public interest criteria.

Permanent residents are required to spend at least two years of a five-year period in Australia, or demonstrate significant ties to Australia, in order to maintain their residence status.

The Australian visa application process is very structured and based on laws, regulations, policy, and legislative instruments. Application processing time frames differ significantly by visa type. The Department of Immigration has a priority processing tier under which visa applications that yield the greatest benefit to the country (skilled visas) will be assessed quicker than those with less benefit (family visas).



### **Minimum Investment Requirement**

Minimum contribution of AUD 1.5 million/ INR 8.3 crores under the Investor Stream





### **Nature of Investment**

- The Business Innovation Stream — have a successful business career with a business turnover of at least AUD 500,000, and you, your partner, or you and your partner together, have total net business and personal assets of at least AUD 1.25 million if you were invited to apply for this visa on or after 1 July 2021 or AUD 800,000 if you were invited to apply for this visa before 1 July 2021.



### **Processing time (2.5 years)**

- The Investor Stream - Commit AUD 1.5 million into an Australian state or territory bond for 4 years, and have net assets of AUD 2.25 million.
- The Significant Investor Stream — Individuals must commit at least AUD 5 million into a complying Australian investment for at least 4 years.
- The Entrepreneur Stream — Individuals must have signed a formal agreement to receive AUD 200,000 in venture capital funding from an Australian company for the commercialization and/or development of a high-value business idea or product.

### **The Business Innovation and Investment Program**

There are four visa streams under the Business Innovation and Investment Program.

The Business Innovation and Investment Program includes the following

- The Business Innovation Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, have a successful business career with a business turnover of at least AUD 500,000 and have net assets of AUD 1.25 million. They must also obtain and maintain substantial ownership and management of an Australian business and reside in the country for at least one year.
- The Investor Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, commit AUD 1.5 million into a complying Australian-managed investment fund for the duration of the provisional visa validity, and reside in the country for at least two years.
- The Significant Investor Stream — Individuals must commit at least AUD 5 million into a complying Australian-managed investment fund for the duration of the provisional visa validity and reside in the country for an average of 40 days a year for primary visa holders.
- The Entrepreneur Stream — Individuals must receive endorsement by a state or territory government and reside in the country for at least two years.

The above temporary visas offer a direct pathway to permanent residence after three years, subject to meeting certain residence and investment or business turnover requirements. The initial visa will be valid for five years.



**Investment Holding Period**  
2 - 4 years



**Free or Subsidised Primary Healthcare for citizens**  
Yes



**Application Processing Time**  
9- 12 months



**Dual Citizenship Permitted**  
Yes



**Global Passport Index Ranking**  
2



**Minimum Time to qualify for Citizenship**  
5 Years



**Visa Free & Visa on Arrival Access in**  
135 Countries



**First Residence Permit Validity**  
5 Years



**Key Visa Free travel destinations**  
Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Georgia amongst others



**Visit required as a part of Application Process**  
1



**The Right to Live, Work and Study without Restrictions in Australia**



**Physical presence required for maintaining residence status**  
2 years



**Free Public Education for Citizens**  
Yes



**Family Coverage**  
Yes

## Australia Residence-by-Investment

Visa applicants must meet certain criteria prescribed to the appropriate visa subclass. The criteria prescribed to a visa application will include either 'at time of lodgement' requirements, 'at time of decision' requirements, or a combination of both. Visa applications may be refused if an applicant does not demonstrate that they meet the criteria at the correct time. All visa subclasses include the requirement to satisfy certain health, character, and public interest criteria.

Permanent residents are required to spend at least 2 years of a 5-year period in Australia, or demonstrate significant ties to Australia, in order to maintain their residence status.

The Australian visa application process is very structured and based on laws, regulations, policy, and legislative instruments. Application processing time frames differ significantly by visa type. The Department of Immigration has a priority processing tier under which visa applications that yield the greatest benefit to the country (skilled visas) will be assessed quicker than those with less benefit (family visas).

## The Business Innovation and Investment Program

There are 6 visa streams under the Business Innovation and Investment Program and the Business Talent Program.

The Business Innovation and Investment Program includes the following

- The Business Innovation Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, have a successful business career with a business turnover of at least AUD 500,000, and net assets of AUD 800,000. They must also obtain and maintain substantial ownership and management of an Australian business.
- The Investor Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, have 3 years' investment experience, commit AUD 1.5 million into an Australian state or territory bond for 4 years, and have net assets of AUD 2.25 million.
- The Significant Investor Stream — Individuals must commit at least AUD 5 million into a complying Australian investment for at least 4 years.
- The Entrepreneur Stream — Individuals must have signed a formal agreement to receive AUD 200,000 in venture capital funding from an Australian company for the commercialization and/or development of a high-value business idea or product.

The above temporary visas offer a direct pathway to permanent residence after 4 years, subject to meeting certain residence and investment or business turnover requirements.

## The Business Talent Program

The Business Talent Program includes the following

- The Business Talent (Significant Business History Stream) — For successful business people who own or part-own a business with a turnover of at least AUD 3 million per year. Individuals must have a successful business career and have net assets of AUD 1.5 million. They must make a substantial contribution to a new or established business in Australia and take an active role in managing the business.
- The Business Talent (Venture Capital Entrepreneur Stream) — Individuals must have sourced AUD 1 million in venture capital funding to fund the start-up or product commercialization of a high-value business idea in Australia and must establish (or participate in) that business.

The above two streams offer direct permanent residence and applicants must quickly become involved in the relevant business.

## The Global Talent Independent Program

The Global Talent Independent Program is a streamlined pathway to permanent residence for highly skilled executives, businesspeople, entrepreneurs, and professionals. It is designed to help grow Australia's innovation and tech economies and create opportunities for Australians by transferring skills, promoting innovation, and creating jobs. The Australian government is seeking the best and brightest global talent in the following 7 future-focused sectors.

- Agricultural technology (agtech)
- Space and advanced manufacturing
- Financial technology (fintech)
- Energy and mining technology
- Medical technology (medtech)
- Cyber security
- Quantum information, advanced digital technology, data science, and information and communications technology (ICT)

Applicants for the Global Talent Independent visa must be internationally recognized, currently prominent in their field, and able to provide evidence of outstanding achievements over their career. They must also provide evidence that they would be an asset to Australia in their area of expertise and have no difficulty obtaining employment in the country or becoming established in their field. Places are also available to master's and PhD students who can demonstrate their exceptional talent and international recognition across the target sectors.

## Key benefits of Australian residence-by-investment

- High standard of living
- Multicultural
- Political, social, and economic stability
- Objective, merits-based immigration system with predictable outcomes
- Compulsory 9.5% superannuation or pension payable by employers

## Procedures and time frame of the Australia Residence-by-Investment Program

The Australian visa application process is very structured and based on laws, regulations, policy, and legislative instruments. In addition to visa application legislation, the Department of Home Affairs also has the power to cancel visas, conduct compliance or monitoring exercises, regulate the professional migration agent industry, and allow for the legal review of visa decisions.


Certain visa applications for people outside Australia must be assessed by an immigration attaché at the closest Australian embassy. Other visa applications will be assessed by an immigration office in Australia. The Department of Home Affairs is moving towards electronic online lodgment for all temporary and permanent residence visa applications.

### **Application processing time frames differ significantly depending on the visa being applied for.**

The Department of Home Affairs uses a priority processing tier, whereby visa applications that yield the greatest economic benefit to the country (skilled visas) will be assessed quicker than those with less economic benefit (family visas). The Department of Home Affairs advertises its service standards online for application time frames, which are regularly updated.

Australian visas are attached electronically to passports, and physical visa labels are no longer placed into them. Australia has an online portal that allows individuals and employers to check the visa status (and any applicable work conditions) of a visa holder.

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