



# Visa options for business conferences, seminars, trade fairs and expos

## Overview

This fact sheet is a general guide to the most common visa options for those travelling to Australia to participate in a business conference, trade fair, seminar, or expo.

The information contained in this fact sheet is current as at **22 May 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/)

New Zealand citizens should refer to the Department's website:  
<http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/444->

## Visas and processing times

A list of visas is available on the Department's website:  
<http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/Trav/Visa-1/Visa-listing>

When lodging your visa application, you will need to allow time for the application to be processed, taking into account the date you are intending to travel to Australia.

Global visa processing times are available on the Department's website:  
[www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards/global-visa-citizenship-processing-times](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards/global-visa-citizenship-processing-times)

## Visa options

The table on the following page of this fact sheet provides a quick reference guide to the type of visa you may be eligible for. Please refer to the information on the Department's website to ensure you apply for the most appropriate visa. Information about the visa options listed on the following page is available on the Department's website (see [hyperlinks](#) below):

- [Visitor visas](#)
- [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\)](#)
- [Temporary Work \(Short Stay Specialist\) visa \(subclass 400\)](#)

## Visa options for business conferences, seminars, trade fairs and expos

– follow the hyperlinks in the table for further information

| <u>Visitor visas:</u><br>– <a href="#">subclass 601</a><br>– <a href="#">subclass 651</a><br>– <a href="#">subclass 600</a>  | <u>Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)</u>  | <u>Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)</u>   | <u>Temporary Work (Short Stay Specialist) visa (subclass 400)</u>   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Stream:</b><br><b><u>Business Visitor</u></b>   | <b>Activity type:</b><br><b><u>Invited Participant</u></b>   | <b>Activity type:</b><br><b><u>Entertainment activities</u></b>   | <b>Stream:</b><br><b><u>Highly Specialised Work</u></b>   |
| You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:  | You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:  | You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:   | You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Participant or an attendee of an event – that is: you will not be working, performing, direct selling a product or otherwise being paid to contribute.</li> <li>■ Unpaid speakers, presenters (even where costs are covered by the organisation, including travel and accommodation) – where the event is non-ticketed or a fee has not been paid by the general public to attend.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Speaker, presenter, exhibitor, or other contributor invited to participate in an event by an Australian organisation for a stay of up to three months.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Performer or entertainer.</li> <li>■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is intended for Australian audiences.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is <u>not</u> intended for Australian audiences.</li> <li>■ Person who is otherwise working at the event - such as a project manager; site supervisor; or, in limited circumstances, a highly specialised construction worker.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Period of stay:</b><br><b>Up to 3 months stay for each visit.</b>   | <b>Period of stay:</b><br><b>Up to 3 months</b><br><i>Note: This visa does not require sponsorship if the visa applicant applies while outside of Australia for a stay of up to three months. However, the inviting organisation must meet the <b><u>Support Test</u></b>.</i> | <b>Period of stay:</b><br><b>Up to 2 years</b><br><i>Note: This visa does not require sponsorship if the visa applicant applies while outside of Australia for a stay of up to three months. However, the inviting organisation must meet the <b><u>Support Test</u></b>.</i> | <b>Period of stay:</b><br><b>Up to 3 months*</b><br><i>*Note: Up to six months may be allowed in limited circumstances. This visa does not require sponsorship, but must be applied for and granted while the applicant is outside of Australia.</i>  |