



Visa options for attending religious and cultural events

Overview

This fact sheet is a general guide to the most common visa options for those travelling to Australia to participate in religious and cultural events.

The information contained in this fact sheet is current as at **1 July 2017**. Australian migration law may change after this time resulting in a change in visa options. Please check the Department of Immigration and Border Protection's website for further information: www.border.gov.au/

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

Visas and processing times

A list of visas is available on the Department's website:
www.border.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.border.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 visas 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 \(subclass 400\)](#)

Requirements for applicants under 18 years of age

Visa applicants who are under 18 years of age may be required to satisfy additional criteria to ensure that their interests are protected and that Australia meets its international obligations in relation to minors. Please refer to the following forms listed on the Department's website:
www.border.gov.au/allforms

- **Form 1229 - Consent form to grant an Australian visa to a child under the age of 18 years**
- **Form 1257 - Undertaking declaration.**

Visa options for attending religious and cultural events – follow the [hyperlinks](#) in the table for further information

Visitor visas	Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)	Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408)	Temporary Work (Short Stay Specialist) visa (subclass 400)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - subclass 601 - subclass 651 - subclass 600 	<p>Activity type: Invited Participant</p>	<p>Activity type: Entertainment activities</p>	<p>Highly Specialised Work</p>
<p>You may be eligible for this visa if you are a / an:</p>	<p>You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:</p>	<p>You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:</p>	<p>You may be eligible for this visa if you are a:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Participant or attendee – that is: you are not working, performing as an entertainer, or otherwise being paid to contribute. ■ Amateur performer, such as a member of a community or church choir – performing in a non-ticketed event and not being paid to contribute. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Speaker, presenter, exhibitor, religious minister, or other contributor invited to participate in an event by an Australian organisation for up to three months. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Performer or entertainer. ■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is intended for Australian audiences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Journalist or other media personnel travelling to Australia to cover an event(s), where the production is <u>not</u> intended for Australian audiences. ■ Person who is otherwise working at the event - such as a project manager; site supervisor; or, in limited circumstances, a highly specialised construction worker.
<p>Period of stay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Subclass 601 / 651 - Up to 3 months stay for each visit. ■ Subclass 600 – Generally up to 3 months stay for business purposes* <p><i>*Note: A longer period may be allowed depending on the circumstances of the visit.</i></p>	<p>Period of stay: Up to 3 months</p> <p><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 Support Test.</i></p>	<p>Period of stay: Up to 2 years</p> <p><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 Support Test.</i></p>	<p>Period of stay: Up to 3 months*</p> <p><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></p>