



Why is there a health requirement for entry to Australia?

Australia enjoys some of the best health standards in the world. In order to help maintain these standards you must satisfy the health requirements specified in Australian legislation before you can be granted a visa to enter Australia. Family members included in your application are also required to satisfy the health requirement.

Australia's health requirement is designed to:

- minimise public health and safety risks to the Australian community;
- contain public expenditure on health and community services; and
- maintain access of Australian residents to health and community services.

How is your health assessed?

If you are applying for a temporary visa you may be required to undergo a medical examination, chest x-ray and/or other tests in order to assess whether you meet the health requirement. The requirement to undergo health assessments depends on:

- the type of visa;
- the length of your intended stay in Australia;
- the tuberculosis (TB) risk rating of your country of citizenship or whether you have spent more than 3 consecutive months in another country of higher risk than your citizenship country (see page 2);
- your intended activities in Australia;
- any special circumstances that may be applicable (see page 2); and
- the presence of any significant medical conditions.

The officer processing your visa application will inform you which health assessments are required in your case. However, the tables on page 2 of the form detail the minimum health assessments required.

Note 1: The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (the department) reserves the right to request medical information in any circumstances.

Note 2: Further information about health assessments for permanent applicants and applicants for provisional visas that lead to grant of a permanent visa is available on form 1071i *Health requirement for permanent entry to Australia*.

Who will examine you?

Medical examinations and x-rays must be conducted by qualified doctors and radiologists nominated by the department. The costs of these examinations are paid by you directly to the doctors or clinics undertaking the examinations. There may be additional costs if further tests or couriers are required.

If you are **outside Australia** and require a medical examination: a list of approved doctors can be found at www.immi.gov.au/contacts/panel-doctors

If you are **in Australia** and require a medical examination: you should contact Health Services Australia (HSA). In Australian country areas, you should contact the nearest HSA office to find your nearest Approved Medical Practitioner. You can contact HSA on 1300 361 046 or at www.hsagroup.com.au

How does the department decide if you meet the health criteria?

In the majority of cases there will be no requirement for a medical or x-ray examination and a decision on whether you meet the health requirement will be made along with the assessment of other criteria for your visa. For applicants who require a medical examination, once the required medical assessments are complete, the processing officer will make an assessment as to whether the health requirement has been met as part of the visa application process.

In some cases, including those where a significant medical condition is identified, officers will need to seek an opinion from a Medical Officer of the Commonwealth (MOC) as to whether the health requirement is met. The MOC opinion will take into account:

- the results of the medical examination(s) and x-ray(s);
- medical history, age and period of intended stay in Australia; and
- any other relevant considerations.

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious disease which has been declared an epidemic and global emergency. Active TB will in itself prevent a visa being granted. Other health conditions may, however, result in an applicant failing to meet the health requirement if their condition is assessed by a MOC to be a public health threat, likely to result in significant costs to the Australian community, or prejudice the access of Australian citizens or permanent residents to health care and community services.

Under Australian migration law, officers deciding visa applications must accept the opinion of a MOC on whether applicants meet the health requirement.

The Migration Regulations allow a waiver of the need to meet the health requirement in limited circumstances, but never where active TB is suspected. If you do not meet the health requirement and the waiver is not available or exercised, then under Australian migration law you will not be granted a visa. An officer of the department will inform you of any review options.

Note: Different health assessment requirements apply for permanent visa applicants. You should be aware that meeting the health requirement for grant of a temporary visa does not guarantee that you will meet the health for grant of a permanent visa. Similarly, a health waiver that is available for a temporary visa may not be available for a permanent visa.

How to assess your length of stay

An applicant's 'length of stay' should be assessed according to the length of total stay in Australia (ie. a cumulative assessment). For example, a person who has been in Australia for 8 months and applies for a further 6 month temporary visa should be assessed for a stay of 14 months in order to determine the health assessments required via the health matrix (see page 2).

Note: Onshore applicants who wish to stay in Australia for an additional period of **4 weeks or less** do not need to undertake new health assessments unless special significance applies (see page 2) or there are indications that the applicant has a significant health condition.

Health assessment requirements for temporary and permanent visa applicants

How to use this form

The table below should be used to determine what, if any, health assessments are required depending on your situation. To use the table, you should determine:

- 1) your country level for TB risk as indicated in the rows of the table (refer to 'Country level of risk' for the assessment method).
- 2) the total length of your intended stay in Australia as indicated in the columns of the table. Please note that a **cumulative stay** assessment is to be used to determine your total length of intended stay in Australia (see page 1, 'How to assess your length of stay', for a further description).
- 3) whether your intended activities fall under special significance* circumstances (see the table at the bottom of the page).

Note:

- Specific requirements are listed in the table for subclass 457 visa applicants (medium and higher risk applicants only).
- The department can request additional tests beyond those indicated in the health assessment and special significance tables below. This may occur if there are indications that you may not meet the health requirement regardless of your proposed length of stay in Australia.

Country level of risk	MINIMUM health assessment requirements		
	Temporary stays of:		Permanent stay
	up to and including 12 months	more than 12 months	
<p>This is assessed by your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • country of citizenship; or • if you have spent more than 3 consecutive months in the last 5 years in another country, the higher risk level applies. 			
<p>Lower risk</p> <p>American Samoa, Andorra, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montserrat, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Calcos Islands, United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, United States of America, United States Virgin Islands, Vatican City.</p>	No health assessment required unless special significance* applies.	No health assessment required unless special significance* applies.	<p>As a minimum requirement, all permanent visa applicants (and applicants for provisional visas) are required to complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a medical examination • a chest x-ray ^ (if 11 years or over) • an HIV test (if 15 years or over). <p>Pregnant applicants must also complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Hepatitis B test. <p>Note 1: Additional health assessments may be required depending on applicants' circumstances.</p> <p>Note 2: Please refer to form 1071i <i>Health requirement for permanent entry to Australia</i> for further information about health assessments for permanent applicants.</p>
<p>Medium risk</p> <p>Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Bahrain, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cook Islands, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Maldives, Mauritius, Mexico, New Caledonia, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela, West Bank and Gaza Strip.</p>	No health assessment required unless special significance* applies.	<p>You must undergo a chest x-ray ^ and a medical examination. Any special significance* requirements must be met.</p> <p>457 applicants – chest x-ray ^ only unless special significance* applies.</p>	
<p>Higher risk</p> <p>Countries not listed in lower or medium risk are higher risk. This includes, but is not limited to: China, India, Indonesia, South Korea, and Thailand.</p> <p>A complete list of higher risk countries is available at www.immi.gov.au/allforms/health-requirements</p>	<p>You must undergo a chest x-ray ^ if staying in Australia for more than 3 months.</p> <p>Any special significance* requirements must be met.</p>	<p>You must undergo a chest x-ray ^ and a medical examination. Any special significance* requirements must be met.</p> <p>457 applicants – chest x-ray ^ only unless special significance* applies.</p>	

* Special significance applies if:

If this special significance circumstance applies, then	the MINIMUM health assessment/s required are:
Are you likely to enter a classroom situation for more than 3 months and you are from a medium or higher risk country?	• chest x-ray ^ and medical examination. Principal and secondary applicants are to undergo the same health assessments unless other additional special significance health assessments apply.
Are you from a medium or higher risk country and likely to enter a health care or hospital environment?	• chest x-ray ^
Do you intend to work as, or study to be a doctor, dentist or nurse ?	• chest x-ray ^, medical examination including HIV, Hepatitis B and C blood tests.
Are you likely to work (or be a trainee) at an Australian childcare centre (including preschools and creches)?	• chest x-ray ^
Are you aged 70 years or older and applying for a Visitor visa (subclasses 676, 679, 456, 459 ONLY) and NOT already required to undergo a medical examination?	• an 'Aged 70 and over' health assessment

^ Where a chest x-ray is required, this applies to applicants aged 11 years or more. Children under the age of 11 years are required to complete a medical examination instead of a chest x-ray. The department does not recommend pregnant applicants undergo a chest x-ray.