



Australian Government

Department of Immigration and
Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Application to visit Australia for medical treatment

Form

48ME

Who should use this form?

Use this form to apply for a visa to visit Australia for medical treatment or to accompany someone who is seeking medical treatment.

You may be eligible for a medical treatment visa if:

- you have made arrangements to undergo medical treatment (*including organ transplant or organ donation*) or consultations in Australia, including arrangements for payment;
- you do not have a condition which could be a threat to public health in Australia;
- no Australian citizen or permanent resident will be disadvantaged by your treatment or consultation; and
- you have enough funds to support yourself and any accompanying persons during your visit.

or

you are a citizen of Papua New Guinea living in the Western Province and are to be medically evacuated to a hospital in Queensland;

or

you are accompanying one of the above people.

Note: Medical Treatment visas are not available for the purposes of surrogate motherhood.

Additional information on obtaining a visa for medical treatment in Australia is available on form 984i *Visiting Australia for medical treatment*. Form 984i is available from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs offices in Australia, Australian missions overseas and via the internet at www.immi.gov.au

Types of medical treatment visas

Medical treatment visas are generally valid for the period of treatment only.

You can apply for the following types of visa using this form:

SUBCLASS 675

Visa valid for stay of up to 3 months.

No application fee.

SUBCLASS 685

Visa valid for stay of more than 3 months.

A non-refundable application fee must be paid.

Who can you include in this application?

Only one passport-holder can apply on one form. You can include in your application any children on your passport who will be travelling with you.

Children under 18 years of age, travelling without one or both of their legal guardians, require authorisation from the non-accompanying guardian(s) to travel to Australia.

Additional information

You may have to fill out more forms or obtain certain reports or documents to include with your application.

Part K Application Checklist at the end of this form tells you which documents you must provide.

The Australian mission will tell you if any other form or requirements are needed.

How to apply

Step 1

Make sure you have a passport which is valid for your period of stay in Australia.

Note: If you already have a visa for travel to Australia and you are granted another one, the first visa will cease.

Do not attempt to use a visa granted for another purpose for a stay in Australia in which medical treatment is intended.

Step 2

Please read the *Conditions for a visitor to Australia* on the next page. You must be willing to abide by these conditions while in Australia.

Step 3

Complete the attached form.

You must provide the address at which you intend to live while your application is being dealt with. Failure to give a residential address will result in your application being invalid. A post office box address will not be accepted as your residential address.

You must answer all questions honestly and completely. False or misleading information may lead to refusal or cancellation of your visa, or penalties while in Australia.

A travel agent or other representative may help you fill out the form, but you must sign it. If unable to sign, a parent or guardian may sign on your behalf.

Step 4

Make sure you provide any attachments required, particularly your passport.

If required, you must attach details of:

- criminal history and other occurrences (*see Question 24 in the application form*); and/or
- results of medical examination and/or a chest x-ray.

Step 5

Include documents as listed at **Part K Application Checklist**.

Continued on the next page ►

Step 6

Lodge your application form, your passport and attachments at the nearest Australian mission.

Your application may be lodged personally or by your representative, or sent by mail.

If you send in your application by mail, include a self-addressed pre-paid envelope for the secure return of your passport.

Step 7

If you sent in your passport for evidence of the visa, check that all the people travelling on it are covered by the visa. You should also check the details and conditions on your visa label, or on the letter advising you of the grant of your visa, carefully.

Step 8

Before you travel, anyone accompanying you is advised to take out health insurance. Where there is a reciprocal health care arrangement between Australia and their country of citizenship they may want to take this into consideration when deciding their health insurance requirements.

Method of payment

Payment must accompany your application and is generally not refunded if the application is unsuccessful. To make a payment, please pay by credit card, debit card or by bank cheque or money order made payable to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs. **Please do not pay by cash or personal cheque.**

Health and character

Medical treatment visitors must be of good character, and not subject to any restrictions on travel to Australia.

Anyone accompanying a person who will undergo medical treatment in Australia must be in good health.

Part B Character, Part C Health and Part J Declaration on the application form ask you to make a declaration about the health and character of yourself and any children included in your application.

If there is a change to what you declare at **Part B Character** or **Part C Health** before you travel, you should inform the Australian mission overseas. This will help avoid any problems when you arrive in Australia.

On arrival in Australia, all travellers must make a declaration of their tuberculosis status and declare whether they are of good character.

Conditions for a visitor to Australia

Visitors to Australia must be willing and able to abide by the conditions listed below, while in Australia.

If you are unable or unwilling to abide by these conditions, you should not apply for a visa. Failure to abide by the conditions may lead to cancellation of your visa and other penalties.

If you have any questions or concerns about the conditions, you should ask for more information from the Australian mission.

Conditions

You may NOT undertake employment or business activities while in Australia.

You may NOT undertake study of more than 3 months duration while in Australia.

You may be asked by the Australian mission to undergo a medical examination and/or to provide a chest x-ray.

Your bona-fides as a visitor will need to be assessed by the visa officer. You must have reasonably substantiated arrangements and intentions to return to your country of residence following your treatment.

There may be other conditions depending on the reasons for your visit. These conditions will be shown on your visa.

About the information you give

The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (the department) is authorised to collect information provided on this form under Part 2 of the *Migration Act 1958* 'Control of Arrival and Presence of Non-Citizens'. Information will be used for assessing your eligibility for a visitor visa and for other purposes relating to the administration of the Migration Act.

The information on this form, including the results of tests for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), will be used to assess your health for an Australian visa. A positive HIV **or other** test result will not necessarily lead to a visa being denied. Your result(s) may be disclosed to the relevant Commonwealth, State and Territory Health agencies.

Relevant information about you will be disclosed to Federal, State and Territory police to assist in your location and possible detention in the event that you become an unlawful non-citizen. You will become an unlawful non-citizen if your visa ceases (by cancellation for breach of visa condition for example) or expires and you do not hold another visa authorising you to remain in Australia.

The department has authority under the *Migration Act 1958* to collect a range of personal identifiers from non-citizens, including visa applicants, in certain circumstances. For more detailed information you should read information form 1243i *Your personal identifying information*, which is available from the department's website www.immi.gov.au

The information provided might also be disclosed to agencies who are authorised to receive information relating to adoption, border control, business skills, citizenship, education, health assessment, health insurance, health services, law enforcement, payment of pensions and benefits, taxation, review of decisions and registration of migration agents.

Information form 993i *Safeguarding your personal information*, available from the department's offices, gives details of agencies to which your information might also be disclosed.

Authorisation of a person to only receive written communications

You may authorise another person to only receive all written communications about your visa application with the department. That person will be known as your authorised recipient. To do this, you will need to complete **Part E Options for receiving written communications** and **Part F Authorised recipient details** in this form. The authorised recipient will need to sign at **Part G Authorised recipient consent**. You can only appoint one authorised recipient at any time. The department will communicate with the most recently appointed authorised recipient.

The department is required under section 494D of the *Migration Act 1958* (the Act) to send your authorised recipient any written communications relating to your application that would otherwise have been sent to you. The department will only send your authorised recipient information which you are entitled to receive. For example, if you are a visa applicant and have a sponsor, your authorised recipient will not receive personal information about your sponsor, unless your sponsor also appointed the same authorised recipient.

If you decide to change your nominated authorised recipient, after you have lodged this application, you must promptly advise the department in writing. You may use form 1231 *Appointment of authorised recipient* for this purpose.

Authorisation of a migration agent to act on your behalf

If you have a migration agent acting on your behalf in relation to your visa application, you need to complete **Part E Options for receiving written communications** and **Part H Agent details**. The migration agent will need to sign at **Part I Agent Consent**.

Appointing a migration agent to act on your behalf includes authorising the department to:

- discuss your visa application with the agent and seek further information from them; and
- send your agent written communications about your visa application that would otherwise have been sent to you.

Note: Your migration agent will be your authorised recipient for written communication under section 494D of the Act and you will be taken to have received any documents sent to them.

If you change your migration agent or end his/her appointment, after you have lodged this application, you must promptly advise the department in writing, preferably by using form 956 *Appointment of a migration agent*, which is available on the department's website or from your migration agent.

The department will communicate with your agent about your application, including your personal information such as health, police checks, financial viability and personal relationships. If your agent authorises it [see **Part I**], this communication may take place by e-mail or fax.

The department will only send your agent information which you are entitled to receive. For example, if you are a visa applicant and have a sponsor, your agent will not receive personal information about your sponsor, unless your sponsor has also appointed the same agent.

In some situations, departmental staff will need to speak with you directly, rather than with your migration agent – for example, if you are applying for a visa the department may interview you. In some situations, departmental staff will also send documents to you directly (eg. passport) instead of to your agent, but it will inform your agent that it has done so.

If you have appointed a migration agent to act for you, you are still responsible for the accuracy of information and supporting documentation that you give to your agent so that your agent can provide it to the department.

When you provide the details of your migration agent, please make sure you include their 7-digit:

- migration agent registration number (if they are a registered migration agent); or
- offshore agent ID number (if they have been allocated one by the department).

Note: Agents who operate overseas do not need to be registered. They may, however, have been allocated an ID number by the department.

Using a migration agent

You are not required to use a migration agent. However, if you use a migration agent, the department encourages you to use a registered migration agent. Registered agents are bound by the Migration Agents Code of Conduct, which requires them to act in the lawful best interests of their clients and act professionally.

A list of registered migration agents is available from the Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA) website: www.themara.com.au

You can contact the MARA at:

Email: themara@themara.com.au

PO Box Q1551
QVB NSW 1230
AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 61 2 9299 5446
Fax: 61 2 9299 8448

The MARA investigates complaints against registered migration agents and may take disciplinary action against them. If you have a concern about a registered migration agent, you should contact the MARA. A copy of the complaint form is available from the MARA website.

Restrictions on giving immigration assistance

In Australia, anyone (including a lawyer) who uses knowledge of migration procedure to offer immigration assistance to a visa or cancellation review applicant, sponsor or nominator, must be registered, unless exempted from registration requirements by law. There are serious criminal penalties under Part 3 of the Act for breaching the law – including possible imprisonment if the unregistered person asks for, or receives, a fee or reward for their services.

Continued on the next page ►

Using an agent exempted from registration

Certain people, such as officials, parliamentarians, diplomats, close family members (ie. only your spouse, child, adopted child, parent, brother or sister), sponsors and nominators, are able to provide you with immigration assistance as long as they do not ask or receive a fee or reward. If you wish to appoint an 'exempted agent', you must complete form 956 *Appointment of a migration agent* and attach it to this application form.

Applications for multiple visas

If you are a dependant applicant (eg. the spouse of a primary applicant) and you wish to appoint a different migration agent to the primary applicant, you must fill out a separate form 956 *Appointment of a migration agent*, or advise the department in writing. Otherwise, the agent appointed by the principal applicant will have the authority to act for all persons included in the application.

Notification of giving immigration assistance

Under section 312A of the Act, a registered agent has a duty to notify the department when lodging an application on behalf of a client, or within 28 days of commencing to act on behalf of a visa applicant. This notification can be done by completing, and your agent signing, the relevant sections of this application form.

Consent to communicate electronically

The department may use a range of means to communicate with you. However, electronic means such as fax or e-mail will only be used if you indicate your agreement to receiving communication in this way.

To process your application the department may need to communicate with you about sensitive information, for example, health, police checks, financial viability and personal relationships. Electronic communications, unless adequately encrypted, are not secure and may be viewed by others or interfered with. If you agree to the department communicating with you by electronic means, the details you provide will only be used by the department for the purpose for which you have provided them, unless there is a legal obligation or necessity to use them for another purpose, or you have consented to use for another purpose. They will not be added to any mailing list.

The Commonwealth Government accepts no responsibility for the security or integrity of any information sent to the department over the internet or by other electronic means.

If you authorise another person to receive documents on your behalf and they wish to be contacted electronically, their signature is required on this form to indicate their consent to this form of communication. You may also use form 1231 *Appointment of authorised person* for this purpose.

Home page

www.immi.gov.au

General enquiry line

Telephone **131 881** during business hours in Australia to speak to an operator (recorded information available outside these hours).
If you are outside Australia, please contact your nearest Australian mission.

Your receipt

Separate and keep this page for future reference.

If you are picking up your passport and visa, bring this page with you as your receipt.

Receipt Number



Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Application to visit Australia for medical treatment

Form
48ME

This is an application for a class UB Medical Treatment visa

Part A – Your details

Please complete using BLOCK LETTERS

1 Your full name - as in your passport

Family name

Given names

2 Name in your own script or characters - if applicable

3 All other names you have been known by – such as maiden name, alias, previous married name, Chinese Commercial Code number, commonly used identification number

4 Nationality - as shown in your passport

5 Details from your passport

Passport number

Country of passport

Date of issue

Date of expiry

Issuing authority/
Place of issue as shown in your passport

6 Sex Male Female

7 Date of birth

8 Place of birth

Town/city

Country

9 Country where you live

10 Your current residential address - where you can be contacted
Note: A post office box address is not acceptable as a residential address. Failure to give a residential address will result in your application being invalid.

POSTCODE

11 Address for correspondence
(If the same as your residential address, write 'AS ABOVE'.)

POSTCODE

12 Your telephone numbers - where you can be contacted

Office hours

After hours

13 Do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail, or other electronic means?

No
Yes Give details

Fax number

E-mail address

Note: If this application is refused, you will be notified by mail

14 Number of people included in this application
Only count yourself and any children who are on your passport and will be travelling with you.

15 For what period do you wish to remain in Australia?

From to

16 Are you to:

Receive medical treatment Go to Question 17
Accompany a patient Go to Question 22

17 For what period will you be under medical care while in Australia?

From to

Continued on the next page ►

Part E – Options for receiving written communications

- 34** All written communications about this application should be sent to:
(Tick one box only)
- Myself All written communications will be sent to the address for communications that you have provided in this form. Go to Part J
- Australian registered migration agent
 Offshore agent
 Go to Part H
- Agent exempted from registration You must complete form 956 *Appointment of a migration agent* and attach it to this application form. Go to Part J
- Authorised recipient This is a person authorised to only receive written communications. All written communications that would otherwise have been sent to you in relation to this application will be sent to that person.

- 35** Do you want the authorised person to receive health and/or character information about you, your spouse or your dependants, that may arise or be revealed, in the course of this application (for example, requests for medical investigation, other health information about you, or the results of criminal history checks)?
- No
- Yes

Part F – Authorised recipient details

Note: Do NOT complete this section if you are acting as a migration agent, go to Part H

- 36** Provide the name and address of the person who is authorised on your behalf to receive all written communications about this application.
- Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other
- Family name
- Given names
- Authorised recipient's postal address
-
-
- POSTCODE
- Telephone number or daytime contact
- COUNTRY CODE AREA CODE NUMBER
- Office hours
- Mobile phone

Part G – Authorised recipient consent

- 37** As the authorised recipient named on this form, do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail or other electronic means?
- No
- Yes Give details

Fax number

E-mail address

- 38** I understand and accept that I am the person appointed by the applicant to receive all written communications.

Signature of authorised recipient

Date

Now go to Part J

Part H – Agent details

- 39** Provide the details requested below about the agent who is authorised to act on your behalf and to receive all written communications about this application.

Migration Agent Registration Number (MARN)

OR

Offshore Agent ID Number (if allocated by the department)

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Other

Family name

Given names

Business or company name

Postal address

POSTCODE

Telephone number or daytime contact

COUNTRY CODE AREA CODE NUMBER

Office hours

Mobile phone

Part I – Agent consent

40 As the agent named on this form, do you agree to the department communicating with you by fax, e-mail or other electronic means?

No

Yes Give details

Fax number

COUNTRY CODE	AREA CODE	NUMBER
()	()	

E-mail address

41 I understand and accept that I am the person appointed by the applicant to receive all written communications and act as his/her agent.

Signature of agent

Date

DAY	MONTH	YEAR
/	/	

Part J – Declaration

42 Before you sign the following declaration, you must read the **Conditions for a visitor to Australia** on page 2.

- I declare that the information on this form is complete, correct and up-to-date in every detail.
- I have sufficient funds to pay for my treatment and all costs associated with my stay in Australia.
- I have declared all relevant details about my health and character.
- I have read and understood the conditions for a visitor to Australia, and I am willing and able to abide by those conditions.

Signature of applicant

Date

DAY	MONTH	YEAR
/	/	

43 How do you want your passport returned?

To be collected

Returned by mail

Part K – Application checklist

44

Tick when you have done this

With your application you must include your **passport**, valid for your period of stay in Australia.

If you are applying for a visa for a stay of more than 3 months, you must include the **application fee**.

Attach **evidence** of your own funds, such as bank statements and traveller's cheques.

Attach **statements** from any people or organisations who will be providing you with financial assistance, such as paying any of your costs, providing services free, or maintaining you while you are in Australia.

Attach **written confirmation** from the doctor or hospital who will be treating you in Australia, stating:

- that they agree to treat you
- that satisfactory arrangements have been made for the payment of all costs associated with the treatment
- the nature of the treatment
- the admission date (if applicable)
- the period you will be under medical care in Australia
- no Australian citizen or permanent resident will be disadvantaged in obtaining medical treatment.

If you will be receiving treatment in a public hospital in Australia, attach **written approval** from the state or territory health authority under which the hospital is administered.

If your visit is for an organ transplant, attach **evidence** that arrangements have been made for all the travel and expenses of the donor, and that payment of these costs will not be a charge on Australia.

If a child under 18 years of age will be travelling without one or both parents/guardians, the non-accompanying parent(s)/guardian(s) must provide written **authorisation** for the child to travel to Australia.

If you want your passport returned to you by mail, you must attach a self-addressed passport-size **envelope**, with sufficient postage for the type of delivery you require.

If you are applying together with another person, your applications should be **clipped together** or placed in an envelope.

Separate the front sheet and keep for reference, and as a **receipt** if you are picking up your passport.

Please note

If anyone in Australia will be paying for your tickets, providing you with funds, or maintaining you while you are in Australia, you may be asked to arrange for that person to send details about their financial position to the visa office where you lodge your visa application.

You may have to fill out more forms or obtain certain reports or documents to include with your application. The Australian Government Office will tell you if this is necessary.

