

People applying under the Family Migrant category must be sponsored by a responsible relative in Australia.

As a Family migrant you will not be tested on your employment skill level or English Language ability, but you will have to meet Australia's health and character requirements.

Certain categories of Family Visa may require an Assurance of Support from an Australian permanent resident or citizen. This means that the person undertakes to provide financial assistance if necessary and also has to lodge a refundable bond of between \$1500 and \$10000 with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia for a period of between 30 and 126 months depending on the type of visa.

You may apply as a Family Migrant in one of the following categories. Please contact us [HERE](#) for further details.

CHILD MIGRATION

Child Category

This visa is for Australian citizens or permanent residents to bring their children, either natural-born, step or adapted, to Australia. The visa can also be applied for in Australia if the child is already here.

Children need to be less than 18 years of age. If they are older, (between 18 and 25), they must be still fully dependent on their parents, as students, or because of a physical or mental disability.

Adoption Category

This category allows Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia, or eligible New Zealand citizens to bring a child less than 18 years of age into Australia for adoption. The visa application can only be made overseas.

The child must have been adopted or in the process of adoption under the laws of the overseas country, and the adoptive parent has been living outside Australia for more than 12 months at the time of the application.

A prospective adoption has to be supported by the State adoption authority or the child has to be allocated to a parent for adoption under the provisions of the Adoption Convention, or a bilateral adoption agreement between Australia and a prescribed country.

Orphan Relative Category

This visa is for children under 18 who have no parent to care for them overseas, but they do have family in Australia. Their Australian relatives need to be grandparents, brothers or sisters, aunts or uncles, or a niece or a nephew (or the step equivalents).

In addition, the children must be in a position where they cannot be looked after by either parent because both are dead, or permanently incapacitated, or of unknown whereabouts, and it will be in the best interests to settle with relatives in Australia.

Innocent Illegal Category

This visa is available for applicants who came to Australia as children with their parents or guardians, and subsequently became unlawful because of certain actions of their parents or guardians. The Applicant must satisfy certain conditions, including arrival in Australia and becoming unlawful non citizens before age 18. They must also have spent most of their formative years in Australia and have ceased to be residing with the family unit with which they first entered Australia.

PARENT MIGRATION

There are 6 different visa classes for parents depending on age and where the application is lodged -4 permanent and 2 temporary categories.

These are in 2 broad groups-Parent and Contributory Parent Visas(see details below). The latter class pays a higher cost towards future health costs, but is processed quicker than the Parent visa class.

The ***basic conditions*** that apply for all parent visa categories are :-

>Must be the parent of an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, or eligible New Zealand resident.

>Applicant's child must have been settled in Australia for at least 2 years and must sponsor the parent.

>Applicant must pass the "balance of family test". This test requires that the parent must have at least half of their children living in Australia, or more children living in Australia than any other single country. In this regard note that the following are included:

+ Children of both parents, including children of previous marriages or de facto relationships of either parent, including adopted and stepchildren, and children in institutions.

+ Children of both parents, whether they are dependent or self-supporting, single, married or divorced.

(Children whose whereabouts are unknown or cannot be verified are counted as being in their parents' country of usual residence.)

>Assurance of Support Bond applicable for all permanent visa classes.

>You must meet certain Health and Character requirements.

>In addition to paying the initial application charge and meeting these requirements, there is a second visa application charge.

>If applying under any Aged parent class, you must be 65 years of age for males and between 60 and 65 for women. There is no requirement in terms of age in respect of the partner or spouse of the main applicant.

For eligible parents, the category of ***Contributory Parent Visa*** will provide a faster approval of permanent residency. Key features are and some comments are:-

There are 2 offshore visa sub-classes (can apply inside or outside Australia):

Contributory Parent visa (Migrant)

Contributory Parent visa (Temporary)

Plus, there are two subclasses that can only be applied for if you are in Australia as the holder of a valid visa.

Contributory Aged Parent visa (Residence)

Contributory Aged Parent visa (Temporary)

The temporary visa is valid for 2 years, during which time you may apply for a permanent Contributory Parent visa.

The initial fee payable with the visa application is (presently) AUD\$1,390 if you are outside Australia and AUD \$2,060 if you are applying in Australia.

For a permanent visa application the ***second Visa Application Charge*** is AUD\$31,555 per adult. For a temporary visa application the second charge is AUD\$18,935. This fee will be requested once the visa application has been substantially processed and is close to the grant of the visa.

For permanent visa applicants there is also an Assurance of Support Bond of AUD\$10,000 for the first adult, and AUD \$4,000 for adult dependents.

Temporary visa holders who apply for a permanent Contributory Parent visa will be required to pay a second charge of \$10,000 and the same Bond as described above once their permanent visa is about to be granted.

The Bond is money lodged with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia for a period of 10 years, after which the moneys will be returned less any welfare payments that the parents may have received during that 10 year period, plus interest accrued over the Bond period. .

OTHER FAMILY

Aged Dependent Relative Category

This visa is for elderly people who are now single, without a partner and dependent on a relative in Australia.

The visa allows elderly relatives to reunite with family in Australia. If you are an elderly person, you need to have been largely supported, financially, by your Australian relative for the last three years. Your relative needs to be an Australian citizen or to have been a permanent resident in Australia for the last 2 years.

Your relative must sponsor you and an Assurance of Support is required.

Remaining Relative Category

This visa is for a relative who is the last family member to remain overseas. This visa is for people who are the only members of their family left outside Australia, apart from young children.

If you are married, your spouse must also be without close relatives, either in your present country, or in any other overseas country.

Carer Category

This visa is to enable someone to travel to Australia to look after a relative. If you plan to migrate to Australia on a Carer Visa, you must have a relative (or a member of their family) in Australia who needs you to look after them. They must need your care because they cannot care for themselves – either because of illness, or mental or physical disability. This need for personal care must be likely to continue for at least two years.

Your relative must sponsor you and an Assurance of Support is also required.

The above information is only a brief outline of the various requirements, and for full details of these and other sometimes complicated categories, please contact on our secure enquiry form [HERE](#) for further information.