



Fact Sheet: Covid-19 Travel Restrictions Temporary Visas, Permanent Visas, and Dual Citizens

Temporary Visa-Holders

Entering Australia

Most temporary visa-holders will not be able to enter Australia with the current travel restrictions in place. However, some exemptions do apply:

- a foreign national travelling at the invitation of the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority for the purpose of assisting in the COVID-19 response
- a foreign national whose entry into Australia would be in the national interest, supported by the Australian Government or a state or territory government authority providing critical or specialist medical services, including air ambulance, medical evacuations and delivering critical medical supplies
- a foreign national with critical skills or working in a critical sector in Australia
- a foreign national sponsored by your employer to work in Australia in an occupation on the Priority Migration Skilled Occupation List (PMSOL) military personnel, including those who form part of the Status of Forces Agreement, Commonwealth Armed Forces, Asia Pacific Forces and Status of Armed Forces Agreement
- a person who resides on a vessel that seeks safe port at the closest appointed port for reprovisioning or safety reasons for a limited duration, supported by the relevant State or Territory government where safe haven is sought
- a student completing year 11 and 12, with endorsement from the federal Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) and; support from the relevant Australian State or Territory government health authority and education department. Further information regarding this process can be found at the Department of Education, Skills and Employment website.
- a student in your final two years of study of a medical, dental, nursing or allied health profession university degree, where you have evidence of a confirmed placement in an Australian hospital or medical practice which begins within the next two months.
- travelling for compassionate and compelling reasons

If you believe that an exemption may apply to you, you can apply [here](#).

Entering Australia: TPV or SHEV visa-holders

If you hold a TPV (temporary protection) or SHEV (Safe Haven Enterprise) visa and are currently offshore you would need to apply for an individual exemption to return to Australia. You would be eligible for the exemption 'you are travelling on compassionate or humanitarian grounds.' For more information on how covid-19 impacts upon refugees and asylum seekers in Australia, you can access the Refugee Advice and Case Work Service's FAQ sheet [here](#).

Entering Australia: Student visa-holders

If you hold a student visa, and are currently offshore, it is not likely that you will be able to enter Australia at this time. There currently are ongoing conversations about implementing exemptions to allow students to enter from July 2021, but this has yet to be confirmed. At present, the following exemptions **may apply**:

- a student completing year 11 and 12, with endorsement from the federal Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) and; support from the relevant Australian State or Territory government health authority and education department. Further information regarding this process can be found at the Department of Education, Skills and Employment website.
- a student in your final two years of study of a medical, dental, nursing or allied health profession university degree, where you have evidence of a confirmed placement in an Australian hospital or medical practice which begins within the next two months.

Additionally, if you hold a student visa, and are considered an immediate family member of an Australian permanent resident and/or citizen, then you may also qualify for an exemption this way. To find out more about immediate family members of Australian permanent resident/citizens and relevant travel restrictions exemptions, see [here](#).

PCR Tests

All persons departing from another country with the intent to enter Australia will need a negative COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test result completed 72 hours or less prior to their embarkment. Search in your home country or country where you are currently residing for PCR tests for travel to determine where, when, and how you can obtain this test and results prior to your flight. If you receive a positive test result from a PCR test prior to your flight, you will not be permitted to continue with your travel at that time. If your PCR test results are negative for covid, you will need to bring proof of this with you when checking-in at the airport.

Australian Travel Declaration

Most persons travelling to Australia will need to complete an Australian Travel Declaration online at least 72 hours prior to their departure. The Travel Declaration will collect information about your contact details in Australia, health status and will stipulate whether or not you will need to quarantine upon arrival.

The travel declaration **is required** for the following persons:

- Persons automatically exempt from requiring an exemption to travel restrictions
- Persons who have been granted an exemption to the travel restrictions
- Australian Citizens and Permanent Residents
- Persons in transit

The Australian Travel Declaration **is not required** for the following persons:

- Foreign Diplomats
- Flight Crew
- Persons travelling on military flights
- Persons arriving by sea (including crew and passengers)

You will need to create an account in order to fill out the Australian Travel Declaration [here](#). The travel declaration is free to fill out, and you will be able to correct or make changes to the declaration if needed once submitted. The travel declaration can be filled out using any up-to-date internet browser apart from Internet Explorer. A travel declaration must be filled out for each individual travelling; for persons under 15 years of age, a parent or guardian will need to fill out the travel declaration on their behalf. Once you have completed the travel declaration, you will receive an email from 'AU- Health Aero no-reply@health.aero' with either a:

Green Response



Means that you **do not need** to quarantine on arrival

Blue Response



Means that you **do need** to quarantine on arrival

Red Response



Means that you either have had covid-like symptoms, have been around people who have tested positive to Covid-19, or you have not done a PCR test. Airlines will determine whether or not you can continue your flight, and you will be required to quarantine on arrival.

Hotel Quarantine

Hotel quarantine is mandatory for most international arrivals to Australia and is managed separately by the different Australian states and territories. All hotel quarantine lasts for approximately 14 days. The cost of hotel quarantine (called a 'contribution fee') ranges from approximately \$3,000 – \$5,000 per person (with discounted rates for groups/families). Each state will have payment plans and/or fee waiver programmes for those that may need it. An invoice for hotel quarantine will be sent to your nominated email, mobile number or postal address after you have exited quarantine. Although your destination may ultimately be Victoria, you may be required to quarantine in a different state. The links below contain information about hotel quarantine in all of Australia's states and territories.

- NSW: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/hotel-quarantine.aspx>
- TAS: <https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/travellers-and-visitors/quarantine>
- WA: <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-travel-wa>
- QLD: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/protect-yourself-others/quarantine/hotel-quarantine>
- SA: <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/restrictions-and-responsibilities/international-arrivals>
- ACT: <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/stay-safe-and-healthy/quarantine-and-isolation/quarantine-information-for-other-travellers-and-close-contacts>
- NT: <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/travel/quarantine/mandatory-supervised-quarantine>
- VIC: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/hotel-quarantine-returned-overseas-travellers>

Hotel Quarantine in Victoria

Prior to your departing flight to Australia, you will need to fill out a **Victorian Quarantine Arrival Form**. You can access this form [here](#).

Hotel Quarantine Costs

Hotel Quarantine fees in Victoria for the mandatory 14-day period are as follows:

- A\$3000 for one adult
- A\$1000 for each additional adult in the same room or apartment
- A\$500 for each child aged between three and 18 years

There may be instances in which someone from the community joins a returning-traveler in hotel quarantine but will not have to pay the hotel quarantine fee:

Example 1 Person with Disabilities requiring a Carer: if the returning person is a person with a disability, and they have a carer in the community, the carer could join them without having to pay for hotel quarantine.

Example 2 Unaccompanied Minor: if the returning person is a minor (under 18 years of age), a parent or guardian in the community could join them for the duration of their hotel quarantine with needing to pay an additional amount for hotel quarantine. The child's legal guardian/parent will be liable for the child's hotel quarantine fee (\$500 AUD) after the child has exited hotel quarantine.

Hotel Quarantine Fee Waivers & Payment Plans

It is important to know that once you receive your invoice upon exiting Hotel Quarantine, you may have the option of requesting a fee waiver or payment plan depending on your financial circumstances and visa status.

A **fee waiver** can be requested if you are experiencing financial or another type of hardship. You will need to request this **after leaving** hotel quarantine and after you have received your invoice. You will need to

provide evidence of the financial or other type of hardship (which will be explained in greater detail on your hotel quarantine invoice). Fee waivers can be requested by anyone experiencing hardship, regardless of visa-type.

Payment plans can be applied for **after leaving** hotel quarantine and after you have received your invoice. Payment plans can be requested by Australian citizens and permanent residents **for any reason**. If you hold a temporary visa, you can request a payment plan if you are experiencing financial and/or other hardship. The process for applying for a payment plan will be on your invoice.

To contact COVID-19 Quarantine Victoria about payment plans, fee waivers, or anything else hotel quarantine related, see the contact information below:

COVID-19 Quarantine Victoria

Email: enquiries@cqypayments.coronavirus.vic.gov.au

Phone: [+61 1800 55 1234](tel:+611800551234)

Website: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/hotel-quarantine-returned-overseas-travellers#complete-the-victorian-quarantine-arrival-form>



Fact Sheet: Covid-19 Travel Restrictions Resources & Exemption Support

Updates on Covid-19 Travel Restrictions

- [Australian Government Department of Health: Advice for International Travellers](#)
- [Australian Department of Home Affairs: Covid-19](#)
- [Smart Traveller](#)

Facebook Group Support related to Exemptions



The following Facebook groups have current information in relation to applying for travel exemptions:

- [Parents are Immediate Family](#)
- [TRAVEL EXEMPTION AUSTRALIA](#)
- [Travel exemption Australia – Travelban Covid-19](#)
- [Australian Travel & Exemption Support](#)
- [Grant Offshore Partner Visas Now-Australia \(300 & 309\)](#)

International Student Support (VIC)

Name	Website
Study Melbourne Student Centre	www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/help-and-support/study-melbourne-student-centre
International Student Care	https://www.isca.net.au/
International Student Legal Information (online online)	https://ishelp.org.au/
Council of International Students Australia	https://cisa.edu.au/
VicWise	https://vicwise.org/

RhED is a program of



Disclaimer: Information is subject to frequent changes & does not constitute legal advice 08 June 2021.

Refugee, Asylum Seeker, (im)migrant support organisations (Victoria)

The following is a general list of organisations in Victoria that specialize in working with refugees, asylum seekers and (im)migrants on temporary and permanent visas in varying capacities. Please be aware that this is not a complete list, and there are other organisations that exist (including those that work exclusively with particular community groups).

Name	Website
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	https://asrc.org.au/
The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture and Trauma	https://foundationhouse.org.au/
RISE: Refugees, Survivors and Ex-detainees	https://www.riserefugee.org/
Migrant Information Centre: Eastern Melbourne	https://miceastmelb.com.au/
Migrant Information Centre: North West	https://www.mrcnorthwest.org.au/
Spectrum	https://spectrumvic.org.au/
Centre for Culture, Ethnicity & Health	https://www.ceh.org.au/
Australian Multicultural Foundation	https://www.amf.net.au/
Victorian Immigrant & Refugee Women's Coalition (VIRWC)	http://virwc.org.au/
Migrant Workers Centre	https://www.migrantworkers.org.au/
Refugee Legal	https://refugeelegal.org.au/
Southern Migrant and Refugee Centre	https://smrc.org.au/
Multicultural Centre for Women's Health	https://www.mcwh.com.au/
Refuge of Hope	https://www.facebook.com/Refugeofhopemelbourne/
Migrant Resource Centre Westgate Region	http://www.wmrc.org.au/