



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

### Temporary Visa-Holders

#### Leaving Australia

If you currently hold a temporary visa and wish to leave Australia, you can leave Australia without needing to apply for an exemption to the travel restrictions. However, if you do leave in this manner there is no guarantee you will be able to return to Australia on your temporary visa with the current travel restrictions in place.

#### **Leaving Australia with the intent to return**

According to the Department of Home Affairs, there may be some circumstances under which a temporary visa-holder currently onshore can get permission to leave Australia and return. The following conditions must be met:

- You meet the requirements for an individual exemption from Australia's Inward Travel Restrictions, and
- You have a strong compassionate or compelling reason to leave Australia supported by relevant evidence, for example:
  - attending the funeral of a close family member overseas, visiting a close family member who is seriously or critically ill, or seeking necessary medical treatment not available in Australia, or
  - travel is essential for business purposes

If the above criteria apply, you would need to apply for a travel exemption [here](#). If your travel exemption is granted, you should be able to leave and return to Australia on your temporary visa. You would need to follow hotel quarantine procedures upon your return. You can find out more about hotel quarantine in Victoria [here](#).

#### **Exemptions are granted for the following reasons:**

- your travel is in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, including the provision of aid
- your travel is for your business/employer
- you are travelling to receive urgent medical treatment that is not available in Australia
- you are travelling outside Australia for a compelling reason for **three months or longer**
- you are travelling on compassionate or humanitarian grounds
- your travel is in the national interest of Australia

If you believe you are eligible for an exemption you can apply [here](#).

## Supporting Documentation

Supporting documentation *must* be translated into English and submitted with your application for it to be considered. Once your application is submitted, you may be asked for additional documentation before a decision is made. If your request for an exemption is denied, you **can reapply** and may have to submit more evidence to support your reasons for an exemption. There is no limit on how many times you apply for an exemption if denied. An application must be made for each person requiring/requesting an exemption. You should apply for an exemption a minimum of 14 days to a maximum of 2 months before intended travel. If your exemption is granted, you will need to carry this with you during your travel.

### Types of supporting documentation may include the following:

- passport(s) | proof of your current valid visa, including in Australia and/or overseas
- marriage certificate(s)
- birth certificate(s) | death certificate(s)
- proof of relationship (for example, shared tenancy agreement, joint bank account etc.)
- proof that you are moving to another country on a long-term basis such as leases, job offers and evidence your goods are being transported
- letter from a doctor or hospital about any medical treatment/condition with statements on why travel is necessary
- letter from your employer, or other evidence that you are travelling for a business reason
- statement or evidence to show when you wish to return to Australia
- any other proof you may have to support your claims.

### PCR Tests

All persons departing from Australia will need a negative COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test result completed 72 hours or less prior to their embarkment. Some countries that you travel to will require negative PCR test results completed 48 hours prior to departure. These tests are done in specific locations across Victoria and range in price from \$150 - \$350. Some locations of where you can get a PCR test for travel are listed below.

Name <i>Click on name to visit website</i>	Cost	Results
<a href="#">Clinical Labs</a>	\$150	24-48 hours
<a href="#">Medical Hub @ RMIT</a>	\$160 - \$200	24 – 36 hours
<a href="#">Healius (Dorevitch Pathology)</a>	\$150	24 hours
<a href="#">4Cyte Pathology</a>	\$120 - \$180	24 hours
<a href="#">CBD Doctors Melbourne</a>	\$300 (\$350 on weekends and public holidays)	24 - 48 hours

## Exemptions to PCR tests prior to departing Australia

Some people are exempt from needing a PCR test prior to departing Australia.

- Children aged 4 years and younger
- People with a medical condition (who can provide a medical certificate)
- International air crew
- People travelling to green safe travel zones (e.g. New Zealand)
- People travelling from countries where COVID-19 PCR testing is not reasonably available. Exemptions for this is determined by Australia's Director of Human Biosecurity

For more information on exemptions to PCR tests [click here.](#)

For more information on the green safe travel zone [click here.](#)



## 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	<a href="http://www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/help-and-support/study-melbourne-student-centre">www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/help-and-support/study-melbourne-student-centre</a>
International Student Care	<a href="https://www.isca.net.au/">https://www.isca.net.au/</a>
International Student Legal Information (online online)	<a href="https://ishelp.org.au/">https://ishelp.org.au/</a>
Council of International Students Australia	<a href="https://cisa.edu.au/">https://cisa.edu.au/</a>
VicWise	<a href="https://vicwise.org/">https://vicwise.org/</a>

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