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Australia
Residence by Investment



Australia

Australia is one of the wealthiest countries in the world and has an excellent reputation. It is a developed, multi-cultural country with an extremely high Human Development Index ranking and offers its people an excellent quality of life, economic freedom, and good protection of civil liberties and political rights.

Residence by Investment Overview

Australia's immigration system is objective and merit-based with predictable outcomes. Permanent residents must spend at least two years in five in the country or demonstrate significant ties to Australia to maintain their residence status.

- **Investment**

A minimum contribution of AUD 2.5 million under the Investor Stream

- **Processing time**

12 months

- **Key benefit**

Approximately five years to citizenship



Australian Residence by Investment

Visa applicants must meet certain criteria prescribed to the appropriate visa subclass. The criteria prescribed for a visa application will include either 'at time of lodgment' requirements, 'at time of decision' requirements, or a combination of both. Visa applications may be refused if an applicant does not demonstrate that they meet the criteria at the correct time. All visa subclasses include the requirement to satisfy certain health, character, and public interest criteria. Permanent residents are required to spend at least two years of a five-year period in Australia or demonstrate significant ties to Australia, in order to maintain their residence status.

The Australian visa application process is very structured and based on laws, regulations, policy, and legislative instruments. Application processing time frames differ significantly by visa type. The Department of Immigration has a priority processing tier under which visa applications that yield the greatest benefit to the country (skilled visas) will be assessed quicker than those with less benefit (family visas).

The Business Innovation and Investment Program

There are four visa streams under the Business Innovation and Investment Program.

The Business Innovation and Investment Program includes the following:

- The Business Innovation Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, have a successful business career with a business turnover of at least AUD 750,000, and have net assets of AUD 1.25 million. They must also obtain and maintain substantial ownership and management of an Australian business and reside in the country for at least one year.



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- The Investor Stream — Individuals must pass a points test, commit AUD 2.5 million into a complying Australian-managed investment fund for the duration of the provisional visa validity, and reside in the country for at least two years.
- The Significant Investor Stream — Individuals must commit at least AUD 5 million into a complying Australian-managed investment fund for the duration of the provisional visa validity and reside in the country for an average of 40 days a year for primary visa holders.
- The Entrepreneur Stream — Individuals must receive endorsement by a state or territory government and reside in the country for at least two years.

The above temporary visas offer a direct pathway to permanent residence after three years, subject to meeting certain residence and investment or business turnover requirements. The initial visa will be valid for five years.

The Global Talent Independent Program

The Global Talent Independent Program is a streamlined pathway to permanent residence for highly skilled executives, businesspeople, entrepreneurs, and professionals. It is designed to help grow Australia's innovation and tech economies and create opportunities for Australians by transferring skills, promoting innovation, and creating jobs. The Australian government is seeking the best and brightest global talent in the following 10 future-focused sectors:

- Resources, energy, and mining technology
- Agricultural technology (agtech)



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- Defense, space, and advanced manufacturing
- Financial services and technology (fintech)
- Health industries, and medical technology (medtech)
- Circular economy
- Infrastructure and tourism
- Education
- Cyber security
- Quantum information, advanced digital technology, data science, and information and communications technology (ICT)

Applicants for the Global Talent Independent visa must be internationally recognized, currently prominent in their field, and able to provide evidence of outstanding achievements over their career. They must also provide evidence that they would be an asset to Australia in their area of expertise and have no difficulty obtaining employment in the country or becoming established in their field. Places are also available to Ph.D. graduates and certain Ph.D. students who are nearing completion of their thesis and can demonstrate their exceptional talent and international recognition in a target sector.

Key benefits of Australian residence by investment

- High standard of living



- Multicultural
- Political, social, and economic stability
- Objective, merit-based immigration system with predictable outcomes
- Compulsory 10% superannuation or pension payable by employers

Procedures and time frame of the Australia Business Innovation and Investment Program

The Australian visa application process is very structured and based on laws, regulations, policy, and legislative instruments. In addition to visa application legislation, the Department of Home Affairs also has the power to cancel visas, conduct compliance or monitoring exercises, regulate the professional migration agent industry, and allow for the legal review of visa decisions. Certain visa applications for people outside Australia must be assessed by an immigration attaché at the closest Australian embassy. Other visa applications will be assessed by an immigration office in Australia. The Department of Home Affairs is moving towards electronic online lodgment for all temporary and permanent residence visa applications.

The application processing times differ significantly depending on the visa being applied for but are generally 12 months.

The Department of Home Affairs uses a priority processing tier, whereby visa applications that yield the greatest economic benefit to the country (skilled visas) will be assessed quicker than those with less economic benefit (family visas). The Department of Home Affairs advertises its service standards online for application time frames, which are regularly updated.

Australian visas are attached electronically to passports, and physical visa labels are no longer placed on them. Australia has an online portal that allows individuals and employers to check the visa status (and any applicable work conditions) of a visa holder.



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