FACT SHEET
Changes to Australia’s visitor, business & short term work visas

The Australian Government has announced a range of changes to simplify visitor, business and short term work visa arrangements. The changes:
- reduce the number of visitor and business visas;
- remove work rights from business visas; and
- establish a new visa for people undertaking short term work, or who are invited to participate in an event in Australia.

Tourists and Business visitors from the US and other eligible countries can still apply for an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) for Australia through their airline or travel agent or online at: www.eta.immi.gov.au

Travellers who are not ETA eligible can apply for a Subclass 600 Tourist or Business visa. Applications can be lodged with the Embassy of Australia, Washington DC using the form available from our website.

Business visa holders will no longer be able to undertake short term work in Australia. Instead they should apply for the new Subclass 400 Short Stay Activity visa. This visa will usually be issued for a 6 week stay but can provide for up to three months in Australia to undertake short-term specialised work or participate in an event at the invitation of an Australian organisation.

The changes come into effect on 23 March 2013.

For frequently asked questions on the changes, see the reverse of this fact sheet.

Detailed information about the changes can be found at http://www.immi.gov.au/visas/visitor/

Specific visa queries can be directed to the Department’s Americas Service Centre:
Phone: 613 216 7603 or
Email: using the online form at http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/forms/americas/
Frequently Asked Questions

I hold an Australian visa – can I use it to travel after 23 March?
Yes. Visas granted before 23 March continue to be valid and the same conditions and privileges apply until that visa expires.

I am about to apply for a visa to visit Australia and have downloaded the forms. Can I use these forms if I lodge my application after 23 March?
No. Applications lodged on or after 23 March must use the new forms and relate to the new visas. Any application received using the old forms will be invalid.

Where do I lodge an application for one of the new visas?
Applications can be posted, couriered or faxed to the Embassy of Australia, Washington DC. US passport holders and other eligible clients can apply online.

How much will a visa application cost?
Details of the costs associated with the new visas are available from our website.

How do I know which visa is right for me?

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<tr>
<th>I’m visiting Australia . .</th>
<th>Visa options</th>
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| for a one month holiday with family | US passport holders and other eligible passport holders – ETA  
|                            | Other applicants – Visitor visa (Tourist Stream) |
| to attend business meetings or a conference | US passport holders and other eligible passport holders – ETA  
|                            | Other applicants – Visitor visa (Business Stream) |
| to undertake a short term work contract in Australia | Short stay activity visa |
| as a performer, entertainer or support person | Entertainment visa |

What is the difference between business and work?
The scope of activities permitted on a business visa is modelled on Australia’s international trade commitments and will allow for:
- making general business enquiries;
- investigating, negotiating, entering into or reviewing contracts;
- government to government visits;
- attending conferences and seminars.

Business visas will not allow for:
- performing work for organisations or persons based in Australia; or
- the sale of goods or services directly to the Australian public.

The Short stay activity visa allows work for the duration of the visa in the position/field identified in the visa application.