

Temporary Resident (Subclass 457) Visa – The Facts

The Process

Once you have accepted a position at the University, your Human Resource Officer will apply to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship for a sponsorship nomination. Once the nomination has been lodged you will be advised of your Transaction Reference Number (TRN) and you may apply for your Visa.

Lodging your Visa

It is very important that you follow the current instructions on the DIAC website in relation to lodging your visa: <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/skilled-workers/sbs/>

To be eligible for a subclass 457 visa, among other things you will need to demonstrate that you:

- are the subject of an approved nomination by a Standard Business Sponsor
- meet health and character requirements
- meet English language proficiency requirements and
- have made adequate arrangements in Australia for health insurance during the period of your intended stay in Australia.

Some of the documentation that you will need to provide can take several weeks to obtain. Wherever possible, these requirements should be completed prior to lodging your visa application. Incomplete visa applications generally take longer to be approved.

Use of Migration Agents

Applying for a visa can be a confusing and frustrating time in some cases. If you would like someone to facilitate the process on your behalf, you may wish to consider the use of a Registered Migration Agent. Information regarding the use of migration agents can be found on the DIAC website: <http://www.immi.gov.au/visas/migration-agents/using/>

Obligations

Both the University and you have certain obligations relating to the sponsorship and visa arrangements.

The **University's** Obligations:

- Obligation to co-operate with inspectors appointed under the *Migration Act 1958*.
- Obligation to ensure equivalent terms and conditions of employment
- Obligation to pay travel costs to enable you to leave Australia (only if requested in writing and whilst still under sponsorship)
- Obligation to pay costs incurred by the Commonwealth to locate and remove unlawful non-citizen
- Obligation to keep records
- Obligation to provide information to DIAC when certain events occur (such as a change to your personal circumstances)
- Obligation to ensure the sponsored person does not work in an occupation other than the approved occupation
- Obligation not to recover certain costs from the sponsored person

Your Obligations:

- You must notify the department of any change in your circumstances.
- You must work:
 - in the occupation you were nominated for
 - for the sponsor, or an associated business of the sponsor (except for medical practitioners and general managers).
- If the University ceases your employment, you must do one of the following:
 - find another employer who is willing to nominate you
 - apply for another type of substantive visa; or
 - leave Australia within 28 days unless your visa expires before that time, in which case you must leave Australia prior to visa expiry.
- If your visa is about to cease, and you want to apply for another Subclass 457 visa, you must lodge a new visa application.
- You are required by law to maintain adequate health insurance for the length of their visa. Applicants for 457 visas will need to provide evidence that they have obtained adequate health insurance before their visa can be granted.

Hospital and Medical Expenses for Temporary Residents

You must maintain adequate health insurance for the length of your visa

There are many medical insurance companies to consider. The following websites are provided to assist you:

Medicare: <http://www.hic.gov.au/>

Australian Health Management: <http://www.aushealth.com/>

BUPA: http://www.hba.com.au/public_insurance_sales/vic/App/covers_for_overseas.action

You may also be entitled to a certain level of government medical assistance depending on your country of citizenship. Information about Reciprocal Health Care Agreements can be found at: <http://www.aushealth.com/reciprocal.php>

School Enrolment for dependent children

New South Wales Government schools require payment of a *Temporary Visa Holders Education Fee* (\$A4,500 to \$5,500); and, a non-refundable application fee (\$A110) if you are granted a temporary employment visa.

Further details can be found at:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/schoolsweb/international/tempvisaholder/feespayment.pdf>

Further information

The above information is a guide only and should be read in conjunction with the DIAC website. All visa conditions and obligations are subject to change.

Your Human Resource Officer may provide you with guidance regarding the visa process, however official immigration advice should only be sought through DIAC or a registered migration agent.