

## VISA OPTIONS

You CAN live and work in Australia!

There are over 150 classes and subclasses of visa in Australian migration system. Seek professional advice for the most suitable solution and get a few assessments done if necessary – it will be well worth it!

Some applicants apply for temporary solution when they actually qualify for permanent residency. Some even apply for visa classes which are non-existent in the country where they are lodging their application.

If you don't qualify for a direct permanent visa application based on current migration regulations, you may qualify under different visa categories through employment, sponsorship, study or business.

For example:

- If you decide to study in Australia for a minimum of 2 years and complete your diploma or degree, you may be eligible to apply for permanent residence.
- Maybe you have established your own business in Australia on a temporary visa – if you fulfil certain requirements such as annual turnover and number of employees, you may also apply for permanent residence in Australia.
- While visiting Australia, if you met a partner you plan to live with or marry, or if you are in a relationship with an Australian overseas – you may also apply for permanent status.

*In 2004-2005 Australia plans to accept between 110,000 and 120,000 migrants from all around world. In the following years it will reach 120,000 migrants annually.*

## Migration programs

There are two programs designed to help people wanting to come to Australia permanently or temporarily.

1. The **Migration Program** consists of:

- a **skilled migration stream** with a number of categories for people who have particular occupation skills, outstanding talents or special skills, including a **business migration stream** for applicants with past business skills and a business history
- a **family migration stream** for applicants sponsored by a family member already in Australia
- **special eligibility migrants** - former citizens or residents wanting to return to Australia or certain New Zealanders, and persons who applied under the Resolution of Status category and have lived in Australia for 10 years

# Settling Into your new Home

**In this chapter:**

- **The cost of living**
- **Shopping**
- **Accommodation**
- **Transport**
- **Connecting basic services**
- **Cost of living calculator**
- **Essential documentation**

*Also:*

*shopping, food, fashion, bills, renting or buying a home, renting or buying a car, electricity & gas, voltage, telephones, mobile phones, Internet, Tax File Numbers, driver's licence, Medicare, Centrelink, Family assistance, banking*