



# 17th World Transplant Games

## International Event Coordinator Network (IECN) Visa information

The information relating to visa options contained in this fact sheet is current as at 01 March 2009. Australian law may change after this time resulting in a change in visa options.

The information contained in this fact sheet is for guidance only and should not be taken as authoritative advice on Australian visa options. All prospective visitors to Australia should make their own enquiries with their travel agent or the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship well before they travel to Australia to ensure that they have an appropriate visa to travel to, enter and remain in Australia prior to their travel to Australia.

All visitors to Australia must have a valid visa to travel to and enter Australia (other than New Zealand and Norfolk Island passport holders, who will normally be issued a Special Category visa on arrival, provided they meet health and character requirements).

General information on applying for visas is available at [www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/1025i.pdf](http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/1025i.pdf).

### Visa options

#### Competitors

Competitors may apply for either a Tourist visa or a Sport visa.

- Tourist visa options:
  - Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (Visitor) (subclass 976)
  - eVisitor (Visitor) (subclass 651)
  - Tourist visa (subclass 676)

The most appropriate visa will depend on the person's country of passport.

More information on these visas is available at [www.immi.gov.au/visitors/tourist/visa-options.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/tourist/visa-options.htm).

- Sport visa (subclass 421)

This option is available to passport holders of any country.

More information on this visa is available at [www.immi.gov.au/visitors/special-activity/421/](http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/special-activity/421/).

## Sport officials

Sport officials may apply for either a Business visa or a Sport visa.

- Business visa options:
  - Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (Business) (subclass 977)
  - eVisitor (Business) (subclass 651)
  - Business (Short Stay) visa (subclass 456)

The most appropriate Business visa will depend on the person's country of passport.

More information on these visas is available at [www.immi.gov.au/skilled/business/business-visit-visa-options.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/business/business-visit-visa-options.htm).

- Sport visa (subclass 421)

This option is available to staff supporting competitors or teams who have applied for a Sport visa.

More information on this visa is available at [www.immi.gov.au/visitors/special-activity/421/](http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/special-activity/421/).

## Online visa applications

Passport holders from eVisitor eligible countries can apply for a visa online at [www.immi.gov.au/e\\_visas/evisitor.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visas/evisitor.htm).

### eVisitor eligible countries

Andorra	Cyprus	Finland	Hungary	Latvia	Malta	Poland	Slovakia	Switzerland
Austria	Czech Republic	France	Iceland	Liechtenstein	Monaco	Portugal	Slovenia	United Kingdom
Belgium	Denmark	Germany	Ireland	Lithuania	Netherlands	Romania	Spain	Vatican city
Bulgaria	Estonia	Greece	Italy	Luxembourg	Norway	San Marino	Sweden	

Passport holders from the following ETA eligible countries can apply for a visa online at [www.immi.gov.au/e\\_visas/eta.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visas/eta.htm).

### ETA eligible countries

Brunei	Hong Kong (SAR)	Malaysia	Singapore	Taiwan –passport holders resident and applying in Taipei
Canada	Japan	San Marino	South Korea	United States of America

## Health and character requirements

All visa applicants must be assessed against Australia's health and character requirements. These requirements are designed to protect the safety and security of the Australian community.

### Health requirements

As part of the visa application process, you may be required to undertake a medical examination, chest x-ray and/or other health checks.

The department will advise you of the applicable health checks (if any), based on your individual circumstances.

Information on which health checks may apply to you is available at [www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/1163i.pdf](http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/1163i.pdf).

### **Character requirements**

As part of the visa application process, you must show that you are of good character to pass Australia's character test. Information on the character test is available at [www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets/79character.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets/79character.htm).

If you are unsure whether you can pass Australia's character test because of prior criminal convictions, you should lodge a paper-based application at the Australian visa office nearest to your current place of residence at least four months prior to the event start date.

Contact information for Australian visa offices is available at [www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/index.htm).

### **Travel sanctions**

For information on countries subject to travel sanctions, please see the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website at [http://www.dfat.gov.au/un/unsc\\_sanctions/index.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/un/unsc_sanctions/index.html). Nationals of these countries may not be permitted to travel to and enter Australia.

### **Invitation/registration to attend the event**

Although this is a separate process to lodging your visa application, the department may take into account whether you registered, or were invited, to attend the event when assessing whether you meet the criteria for the grant of a visa.

Confirmation of registration, or a copy of your letter of invitation, should accompany paper-based visa applications.

### **Cut-off date for lodging visa applications**

All visitors should apply for a visa at least two months prior to the event, and four months prior for people with character concerns. Visa applications lodged after 1 June 2009 may not be decided in time for visitors to attend the event.

## **Obligations of visa holders**

On arrival at Australia's border you must identify yourself, present your travel documents and complete an Incoming Passenger Card (IPC). The IPC requires visitors to declare their health status and any prior criminal convictions.

If you do not meet immigration clearance requirements, you may be refused entry to Australia.

More information on immigration clearance processes at Australia's borders is available at [www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/border-security/air/airport.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/managing-australias-borders/border-security/air/airport.htm).

You must comply with your visa validity and visa conditions while in Australia. For paper-based applications, this information is available on your visa label. For online applications, it is available on the letter or email confirming the grant of your visa.

If you breach the conditions of your visa, your visa may be cancelled.

If your visa expires while you are still in Australia, you become an unlawful non-citizen. Unlawful non-citizens are liable to be detained and removed from Australia.

## Need help?

For help with visas please contact the International Event Coordinator Network (IECN) on +61 1300 550 684 (outside Australia international call charges apply), or complete an online enquiry form at [www.immi.gov.au/contacts/forms/iecn/](http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/forms/iecn/).

More information on the IECN is available at [www.immi.gov.au/visitors/event-organisers-participants/](http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/event-organisers-participants/)