

Temporary Activity (Subclass 408) AGEE - COVID-19 Pandemic Event

This automated response was updated 3 December 2021

Please read this auto response carefully.

Please note that you will not be provided a response if your query is answered through the information below.

To be an eligible class of persons for a [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\) Australian Government endorsed events](#) visa applicants must be in Australia and meet one of the below scenarios;

- unable to return home due to COVID-19 travel restrictions
- hold a valid substantive visa that will cease in 90 days or less (or their substantive visa ceased less than 28 days ago); and
- have no other visa options available to them

Or

- have evidence of ongoing employment or an offer of employment to remain in Australia and working in a critical sector which includes agriculture, food processing, health care, aged care, disability care, childcare, tourism and hospitality
- hold a valid substantive visa that will cease in 90 days or less (or their substantive visa ceased less than 28 days ago)

For more information refer to [COVID-19 and Staying in Australia](#)

Your Query	General Information
You are having technical problems lodging an application	Use our technical guide to troubleshoot in ImmiAccount If you are still unable to resolve your issue submit the ImmiAccount Technical Support Form
You currently hold a subclass 408 COVID-19 Pandemic event visa	If you currently hold a COVID-19 Pandemic event visa that is about to expire you may be eligible for another COVID-19 Pandemic event visa if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you wish to remain in Australia to continue working in a critical sector, or • you are unable to depart Australia before the expiry of your visa due to COVID-19 travel restrictions For more information on these requirements refer to Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408) Australian Government endorsed events.
You want to know what documents you need to provide for your application	Applicants must attach a high quality scanned copy of the following documents to their online application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport biodata page • Health insurance certificate covering their period of

<p>You want to know what documents you need to provide for your application</p>	<p>Applicants must attach a high quality scanned copy of the following documents to their online application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport biodata page • Health insurance certificate covering their period of stay in Australia • A letter from the applicant's proposed employer stating the position and location of work in a critical sector; or • Details of why you are unable to apply for another type of visa; and • Evidence that you are unable to depart Australia <p>You may also be requested to provide police clearance certificates or undertake a medical assessment to meet the requirements of the visa.</p> <p>For more information on these requirements refer to Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408) Australian Government endorsed events.</p>
<p>You lodged your application but a bridging visa has not been granted yet</p>	<p>If you were in Australia when you applied for this visa you may be granted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Bridging visa A (BVA) if you held a substantive visa when you applied • a Bridging visa C (BVC) if you did not hold a substantive visa when you applied <p>It may take up to 5 days for your Bridging visa to be granted. If you have not received your Bridging visa notification within this time please email the Major Events Visa processing mailbox and include the expiry date of your current visa.</p> <p>Your Bridging visa will come into effect when your substantive visa ceases to maintain your lawful status in Australia while your new visa application is being assessed.</p>
<p>You have lodged your application and want to know its status</p>	<p>COVID-19 has had considerable impact on visa demand and processing.</p> <p>While the Department is continuing to process visas as efficiently as possible, the focus has been on critical areas to support the Australian Government's response to COVID-19.</p> <p>At the time you lodged your application you were granted an associated bridging visa. This bridging visa will come into effect if your substantive visa expires before your visa application can be assessed and finalised.</p> <p>Your Bridging visa will maintain your lawful status in Australia until</p>

<p>You are unable to obtain a medical appointment within the timeframe provided</p>	<p>If you have been requested to undertake a medical assessment, and you are unable to obtain a medical appointment within the timeframe provided, you do not need to seek an extension of time. The Department is aware of delays with medical appointment bookings due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Please book the earliest available medical appointment.</p> <p>We understand that during lockdown periods, medical appointments are often suspended.</p> <p>You should continue to monitor notifications through the Home Affairs and Bupa Medical Visa Services websites and make an appointment when services resume.</p> <p>Please ensure all other information requested is provided to the Department within the specified time frames.</p> <p>Once your medical examination has been completed the Department will be notified of the outcome of your results.</p> <p>You can check on the status of your health results in your ImmiAccount.</p>
<p>You have been requested to provide Police Clearance Certificates to meet the character requirements for your application</p>	<p>All non-citizens who wish to enter or remain in Australia must satisfy the character requirement of the Migration Act. The length of stay in Australia initially determines the requirement to provide penal clearance certificates.</p> <p>If you were not required to provide police clearance certificates for your offshore application, you may still be required to provide them to satisfy the character requirements of your application lodged in Australia.</p> <p>Please note that if you have been in Australia for 12 months or more in the last 10 years since turning 16, a National Police Check (AFP National Police Check) must be provided with your application.</p> <p>For more information refer to meeting character requirements</p> <p>The Department is unable to assist you with the application for an AFP National Police Check. For questions relating to applying for the National Police Check, please contact the AFP directly or visit their website at: https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks</p>

<p>You have been requested to provide Biometrics to meet the requirements of your application</p>	<p>Generally, applications for the COVID-19 Pandemic Event visa lodged while you are in Australia <u>do not require</u> you to undertake Biometrics.</p> <p>If you have been requested to undertake Biometrics you may have provided incorrect information in your application.</p> <p>Please check your application to confirm all the details you provided are correct including that your name and date of birth match your passport and your current location is in Australia. If you have made a mistake you can notify us through ImmiAccount.</p> <p>For more information refer to meeting Biometrics requirements</p>
<p>You want to provide further information to support your application</p>	<p>Find out how to attach documents in ImmiAccount</p>
<p>You want to update your contact details, passport details or correct a mistake in your application</p>	<p>Find out how to Update your details in your ImmiAccount</p>
<p>You want to withdraw your application</p>	<p>Attach a completed Form 1446 Withdrawal of a visa application (338KB PDF) to your application in ImmiAccount</p>
<p>Your visa is expiring or has expired</p>	<p>You must have a valid visa to stay in Australia. Find out what you need to do if your visa has expired - My visa has expired COVID-19 and the border (homeaffairs.gov.au)</p>
<p>You wish to clarify your Visa Expiry Date</p>	<p>Once a decision has been made to grant a visa it cannot be reviewed by this office.</p> <p>All information provided in your application has been considered. This includes details of previous visas held, your intentions and whether your employment is in a critical sector and your position is directly related to supporting the COVID-19 Pandemic response.</p> <p>Grant period of up to 12 months: To be granted a Temporary Activity (subclass 408), Australian Government Endorsed Event</p>

	<p>(AGEE) visa for up to 12 months a person must be working in a critical sector and position directly related to supporting the COVID-19 Pandemic response. Currently, critical sectors include agriculture, food processing, health, aged and disability care, childcare, tourism and hospitality.</p> <p>Grant period of up to 3 months: All other Temporary Activity (subclass 408), Australian Government Endorsed Event (AGEE) visa holders have been granted for a period of up to 3 months to remain lawful in Australia and enable the holder to maintain their current activity while they make arrangements to depart Australia. If your intention is to remain in Australia beyond the expiry of your current visa you will be required to apply for a new visa appropriate for your circumstances.</p> <p>For information for temporary visa holders returning home - https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/leaving-australia</p> <p>For information on visa options appropriate to your circumstances - https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder</p>
<p>You want to travel overseas while waiting on a decision on your 408 AGEE visa application</p>	<p>The purpose of the subclass 408 Pandemic event visa is to facilitate those who are unable to depart Australia due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, and/or are supporting Australia's COVID-19 labour supply issues.</p> <p>You need to be in Australia both at time of application and decision. For more information please see Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408) Australian Government endorsed events (COVID-19 Pandemic event) (homeaffairs.gov.au).</p>
<p>You want to include your overseas dependents to your 408 AGEE visa application</p>	<p>The purpose of the subclass 408 Pandemic event visa is to facilitate those who are unable to depart Australia due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, and/or are supporting Australia's COVID-19 labour supply issues.</p> <p>Both the primary and secondary applicants are required to be in Australia at time of application and decision. For more information please see Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408) Australian Government endorsed events (COVID-19 Pandemic event) (homeaffairs.gov.au).</p>
<p>You want to change employers while holding a 408 AGEE Pandemic event visa</p>	<p>The COVID-19 Pandemic event visa is part of the Subclass 408 (Australian Government Endorsed Event stream) visa. A criterion for this visa is that applicants seek to remain in Australia to undertake work directly associated with an event. The legislative instrument declaring this event sets out the classes of persons who are eligible, which includes those working in a critical sector, who are generally granted a 12-month visa, and those who are not working in a critical</p>

	<p>sector but unable to depart Australia, who are normally granted a 3-month stay.</p> <p>Visa holders granted for 12 months to work in a critical sector should continue to work in a critical sector to comply with their visa conditions or make arrangements to depart Australia.</p> <p>Critical sector visa holders are permitted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change employment as long as they stay employed in a critical sector • Work for more than one employer in one or more critical sectors • Work for more than one employer, as long as their primary employment is in a critical sector <p>Visa holders not working in a critical sector with a 3-month stay in Australia also have work rights, noting that they are granted this visa to provide them with more time to depart Australia. These visa holders may change employment and work for more than one employer. Please note that visa holders' claims that they cannot depart Australia may be scrutinised on subsequent COVID-19 Pandemic event visa applications.</p> <p>Once a visa has been granted, the Department will not undertake further assessments or provide advice about employment changes.</p> <p>You must notify the Department of any changes of employment by completing a Notification of changes in circumstances (Form 1022) and emailing it to majorevents.visaprocessing@homeaffairs.gov.au together with a letter of offer for each new employer and position.</p> <p>Once you have notified the Department, this auto generated response will serve as confirmation of your update. Individual confirmations or updated grant notifications will not be provided.</p> <p>Seasonal Worker Program participants must only work for a SWP approved employer under the program.</p> <p>Employers can access information on your visa details and conditions through VEVO.</p>
<p>You are departing Australia permanently and have a superannuation enquiry</p>	<p>For more information on accessing your superannuation payments, refer to Before and after you leave Australia (homeaffairs.gov.au)</p>
<p>“Must not arrive</p>	<p>Following the Government’s recent announcement on borders reopening, subclass 408 Pandemic event visa holders may be</p>

<p>“Must not arrive after” date and travel consideration</p>	<p>Following the Government’s recent announcement on borders reopening, subclass 408 Pandemic event visa holders may be considering departing Australia temporarily for a holiday or to visit relatives <u>once the border reopens for them</u>.</p> <p>Subclass 408 Pandemic event visas are granted with multiple entry, so visa holders are free to travel in and out of Australia while their visa is still in effect, provided they meet the definition a <u>fully vaccinated eligible traveller</u> and other requirements. The 7-day “Must not arrive after” date (from visa grant date) will not prevent their visa remaining in effect once they depart Australia.</p> <p>Information about new arrangements for eligible visa holders is updated regularly on our <u>website</u>. You should check the website for current arrangements, prior to travelling.</p>
<p>Your Query</p>	<p>General information for Working Holiday Makers</p>
<p>You hold a WHM visa and want to work longer than 6 months with your employer</p>	<p>If you are the holder of a valid WHM visa and are working in a critical sector (including agriculture, food processing, health, aged and disability care, childcare, tourism and hospitality) <u>you do not need to request permission</u> to work longer than 6 months with your employer.</p> <p>For more information on <u>COVID-19 and staying in Australia</u></p>
<p>You have lodged an application for a COVID-19 Pandemic event visa, your WHM visa is about to expire or has expired and you want to keep working for your employer</p>	<p>The <u>6 month work limitation</u> (condition 8547) period applies to each visa separately, so it commences again when the bridging visa comes into effect.</p> <p>If you worked for an employer for six months while holding a WHM visa, you can work for that same employer for up to six months again from the date your bridging visa comes into effect.</p> <p>The 6 month work limitation does not apply to subclass 408 visas.</p>
<p>You want to know if your work is considered to be in a “critical sector” during the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	<p>During the COVID-19 pandemic, only work in agriculture, food processing, health care, aged care, disability care, childcare, tourism and hospitality is considered to be in a critical sector.</p>
<p>Your work is in a critical sector and you want to count it as specified work for the purpose of a second or third</p>	<p>Information on <u>specified work requirements</u> is available on the Department’s website.</p>

You want to know how applying for or holding a subclass 408 COVID-19 Pandemic event visa will affect your options for a second or third WHM visa

The subclass 408 COVID-19 Pandemic event visa is a visa of last resort. You should apply for a second or third WHM visa if you are able to meet the requirements.

If you apply for a subclass 408 COVID-19 Pandemic event visa you can continue to do specified work for the purpose of meeting eligibility requirements for a second or third WHM visa while your WHM visa remains in effect.

Further information on [specified work requirements](#) is available on the Department's website.