

Africa Down Under Conference

Australian Visa Options for Event Participants:

There are many visa options available to people wishing to visit Australia. The appropriate visa option will depend, amongst other things, on the person's purpose for visiting Australia.

Conference delegates may be eligible for the visa options listed below.

Participants, attendees and speakers that ***will not be working, performing or otherwise be paid to contribute at the Conference*** may be eligible for the following visa options:

Visitor (subclass 600)(Business stream) visa:

- This visa has a AUD\$140 visa application charge (VAC)
- This visa permits the visa holder to stay up to 3 months in Australia
- Currently 75% of applications are processed in 7 days, and 90% of applications are processed in 15 days
- For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600>

Electronic Travel Authority – ETA (subclass 601):

- There is no visa application charge (VAC). There is an online application service charge of AUD\$20
- This visa permits the visa holder to stay up to 3 months in Australia at a time
- This is an auto-granted visa for eligible passport holders
- For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601#tab-content-1>

eVisitor (subclass 651)(Business Stream) visa:

- This is a free visa to passport eligible applicants
- Permits the visa holder to stay up to 3 months in Australia at a time
- Currently 75% of applications processed in 1 day, and 90% of applications processed in 2 days
- For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/evisitor-651>

International media, speakers and exhibitors ***that will be working, or otherwise be paid to contribute at the Conference*** may be eligible for the following visa options:

Temporary Work (subclass 400)(Short Stay Specialist) visa.

- This visa has a AUD\$285 visa application charge (VAC)
- This visa permits the visa holder to stay up to 3 months in Australia
- Currently 75% of applications processed in 20 days, and 90% of applications processed in 23 days
- work in a temporary, short-term, highly specialised job
- For more information see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/temporary-work-400>

Visa Processing:

Visa applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis, and actual processing times can vary due to individual circumstances including:

- whether the applicant has lodged a complete application, including all necessary supporting documents and paid associated visa application charges
- how promptly the applicant responds to any requests for additional information
- how long it takes to perform required checks on the supporting information provided
- how long it takes to receive additional information from external agencies, particularly in relation to health, character, and national security requirements
- when the application is lodged taking the current global visa processing times into account

Processing times are impacted each month by changes in application volumes, seasonal peaks, complex cases, and incomplete applications. Processing times include applications lodged online and by paper. Where available, applicants should lodge their application online as it helps streamline processing arrangements.

Event participants are advised to apply for a visa at least 6 to 8 weeks prior to their intended dates of travel to ensure timely visa processing.