

Visa Options

to support investment in South Australia

If you are a business looking for investment opportunities or have an interest in visiting South Australia for business purposes, the following information will be of assistance to you.

What you need to know about obtaining visas in Australia for business purposes.

Travelling to Australia for business purposes requires you to obtain a visa to be permitted entry.

Australia has two levels of government that may be involved in the processing of visas:

1. Commonwealth Government of Australia (National level)

Australia's migration program is managed by the Government through the [Department of Home Affairs](#). Most visas you need to apply for will involve only this national government department.

2. South Australian Government (State level)

The South Australian Government, through [Immigration SA](#), has delegated authority to assess and provide nominations to assist in obtaining a visa for business and skilled people. This only applies to selected visa categories with a focus on those seeking to live permanently in South Australia. Please refer to the supporting table for details of these visas.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Department of Home Affairs

[Visitor Visa – Business Stream – subclass 600](#)

[Temporary Skills Shortage Visa – subclass 482](#)

[Employer Nomination Scheme Visa – subclass 186](#)

Other visas may also be considered by using the [Visa Finder](#)

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

Department for Innovation and Skills (DIS)
Immigration SA

[Business Visa Options](#)

[New Entrepreneur](#)

[Employer Sponsored Migration](#)

[General Skilled](#)

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Temporary business visas processed by the Department of Home Affairs

The types of temporary visas you may consider applying for will be dependent on the activities you intend to undertake to facilitate investment and the establishment of business in South Australia. Visas include:

- Visitor Visa - Business Visitor Stream (subclass 600) for you and key employees
- Temporary Skill Shortage visa (subclass 482) for your employees to help set up the business or investment.

Other visas may also be considered by using the [Department of Home Affairs Visa Finder](#).

Migration programs with the South Australian Government involvement

Immigration SA assists the Department of Home Affairs in facilitating key migration programs for individuals who wish to live in South Australia. These programs aim to:

- Provide employers with access to a skilled workforce
- Facilitate business and investment to build industry capability
- Support the expansion of resources and related service industries

The **Business Innovation and Investment Migration** programs enables eligible individuals to live and undertake investments in South Australia to achieve objectives in job creation, business investment, enhanced industry capability and export dollars.

The **Skilled Migration program** contributes directly to meeting employer skills. Migration enhances the range of labour skills available within South Australia and will be crucial to realising the benefits of major projects across the state.

The following is an overview of the visa nominations on offer through Immigration SA for eligible business and skilled migrants. It is important to note that a nomination is just the first step in the process for obtaining a visa by the national government.

Visa categories that Immigration SA is authorised to provide nominations for are as follows:

Business Migration

Business Talent

(Permanent) Visa – (subclass 132)

Highly successful business applicants can apply for this permanent visa to establish a business in South Australia that will provide significant ongoing benefits to the South Australian economy.

This is a state-nominated permanent residence visa for business owners and entrepreneurs.

You have a choice of two streams:

- **Significant Business History:** high level business owners who want to undertake significant business activity providing either, employment, exports or high level investment. The 132 Significant Business History visa has a Department of Home Affairs review after two years.
- **Venture Capital Entrepreneurs:** people who have obtained at least AUD\$1 million in agreed funding from an Australian venture capital firm, which is also an AVCAL member, to develop an innovation to a commercial stage.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

For South Australian Government requirements please see the Immigration SA website:

- [Business talent subclass 132](#)

Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) Visa – (subclass 188/888)

This provisional visa allows business people who have had an overall successful business career and/ or have a successful record of business investment activity to apply through either the Innovation or Investment stream. This visa will allow the visa holder to establish a new or manage an existing business in Australia or make a designated investment within South Australia. This provisional visa is the first stage of the visa process. In order to gain permanent residency the permanent 888 visa must be applied for onshore once all requirements are met.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

For South Australian Government requirements please see the Immigration SA website:

- [Business Innovation and Investment subclass 188 \(provisional\)](#)
- [Business Innovation and Investment subclass 888 \(permanent\)](#)

Visa Options to support investment in South Australia

Significant Investor

(Provisional) Visa – subclass 188/888

This provisional visa is for high net worth individuals, who must invest no less than AUD \$5 million into one or more ‘complying investments’.

There is no age limit, points test or English language requirements for this stream. This provisional visa is the first stage of the visa process. In order to gain permanent residency the permanent 888 visa must be applied for onshore once all requirements are met.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

For South Australian Government requirements please see the [Immigration SA](#) website:

- [Significant Investor visa](#)

New entrepreneur

Supporting Innovation in South Australia (SISA) – Temporary Activity (subclass 408) visa

This visa is about driving entrepreneurialism and innovation in South Australia. SISA is seeking to attract promising overseas seed-stage entrepreneurs to develop their concepts in South Australia, add value to the local innovation eco-system, create jobs, and increase its number of business start-ups. Applicants will be applying under a Temporary Activity (subclass 408) visa under the Australian Government Endorsed Event stream. The duration of the visa is up to three years, depending on the time of visa grant.

If you meet all the Department of Home Affairs’ criteria and the South Australian requirements, you will not have to wait long for your visa.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

For South Australian Government requirements please see the [Immigration SA](#) website:

- [Eligibility requirements for the Supporting Innovation in South Australia \(SISA\) - Temporary Activity visa](#)

Employer sponsored migration

Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional **(Provisional) visa (subclass 494)**

The Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (SESR) visa enables South Australian employers to nominate skilled migrants for a provisional visa from outside Australia or skilled temporary residents who live and work in South Australia to fill skill shortages in their business.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

Employer nominations must be considered by a Regional Certifying Body (RCB) located in the same state where the nominated position exists.

Further information regarding the RCB process visit the [Immigration SA](#) website:

- [Skilled Employer Sponsored \(Provisional\) subclass 494](#)

General Skilled Migration

Skilled Nominated **(Permanent) visa – (subclass 190)**

This is a permanent visa that allows you to live and work in South Australia. State nomination from South Australia provides you with 5 additional points to help you qualify for a visa under the Commonwealth points test. Applicants must meet the [Home Affairs criteria](#) (including the current pass mark), have an occupation that is listed on Immigration SA’s State Nominated Occupation Lists and meet the Immigration SA requirements for that occupation.

For further information please see the [Department of Home Affairs](#) website.

For South Australian Government requirements please see the [Immigration SA](#) website:

- [Skilled nomination requirements](#)

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Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491)

This is a provisional visa which allows you to live and work in South Australia for up to five years.

State nomination from South Australia provides you with 15 additional points to help you qualify for a visa under the Department of Home Affairs point test.

If you live and work in South Australia for three years on the subclass 491 visa and meet the minimum taxable income level for at least three years (see the Department of Home Affairs website), you may be eligible to apply for permanent residency through the subclass 191 Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) visa.

All of South Australia is considered regional for this visa subclass, including Adelaide.

Investing in South Australia

South Australia's lead team for all major investment activity is part of the Department for Trade and Investment.

Contact the Investment team:

P: +61 8 8303 2400

E: dti.reception@sa.gov.au

W: dti.sa.gov.au

Important Information

It is very common for people to use the services of a Migration Agent to assist with language and interpretation. If you wish to engage a migration agent, it is recommended that you use the services of an agent who is registered with the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA), or where this is not possible, one that is accredited in your home country.

For a full listing of Migration Agents please see the Office of the MARA: refer to www.mara.gov.au

IMMIGRATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

For further information, please contact us at: Immigration South Australia, Email ImmigrationSABusiness@sa.gov.au, Telephone: +61 8 8303 2420

For enquiries relating to visa options please submit an online enquiry through the **[Immigration SA Apply website](#)**.

Please Note: Any information about the law in Australia or South Australia is provided as general information only and is not legal advice. This fact sheet is a starting point only and is not a substitute for legal or professional advice. While the Department has attempted to ensure the information is accurate at the time of publishing, no responsibility will be accepted for any errors or omissions and the Government of South Australia will not be liable for any loss or damage incurred by any person as a consequence of any use, reference or reliance on this information. Any such use, reference or reliance shall be at the sole risk of that person who should seek their own legal and or/professional advice if required.