

Subclass 116 - Carer Visa FACT SHEET

The subclass 116 - Carer visa allows the relative of an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen with a long-term medical condition to move to Australia as a permanent resident, in order to provide that person with ongoing care. The minimum requirements for this visa are set out below:

SUBCLASS 116 - CARER VISA REQUIREMENTS

Applicant

As the visa applicant, you must:

- be the **relative** of an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen
NOTE: '**Relative**' means a spouse/de facto partner, parent, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew (or step-equivalent)
- be willing and able to personally care for your Australian relative (or their close family member, if applicable)
- satisfy the relevant health and character criteria

Australian Relative/Sponsor

Your Australian relative must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen, and **if sponsoring your visa application** must:

- be at least 18 years old
 - reside in Australia
- NOTE: Alternatively, you may be sponsored by your relative's Australian spouse/de facto partner, if they meet these requirements and live with your relative.

Your relative (or a member of their close family) must also have a **medical condition** that:

- leaves them unable to attend to their daily living needs
- requires care and assistance that cannot reasonably be provided by an Australian relative, or obtained from welfare, hospital, nursing or community services in Australia
- is likely to require this assistance for at least two years
- has been assessed and verified by BUPA Medical, which has provided a certificate stating that this impairment has a rating of at least 30

NOTE: If the person requiring care can receive assistance from another source in Australia but refuses to use these services, the visa will not be approved.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Stage 1: Initial Eligibility Assessment

The first step that we will take is to conduct an initial assessment of your eligibility for this visa. This involves reviewing your personal circumstances (including your identity, health, character and immigration status, as necessary), along with the circumstances of your Australian relative (and your sponsor, if different), to determine whether or not you are likely to meet the relevant requirements.

We will then provide you with informed and comprehensive advice about your ability to meet the minimum standards that the Department of Home Affairs (the DOHA) requires of applicants for this visa.

NOTE: Our initial assessment of your eligibility does not guarantee that your visa application will be successful. Authority to decide and approve a visa application rests solely with the DOHA.

Stage 2. Visa Application

We will prepare your visa application and lodge it with the DOHA for assessment. The main criterion is that you meet the requirements referred to above. Should your visa application be approved, you will be granted a permanent visa.

We estimate that it may take several weeks to prepare and lodge your application, with the time taken largely dependent on how promptly you (and your relative/sponsor) provide us with the necessary supporting information and documents.

Should the DOHA decide to approve your application, you will be asked to pay a second charge before your visa is granted. ***You must be outside Australia both when you apply for this visa, and when it is granted.***

DOHA Processing Times

Subclass 116 - Carer visa applications have a lower processing priority than applications lodged by other family members, such as partners and children. All subclass 116 - Carer visa applications are assessed in order of lodgement, assigned a queue date (which is the date that the application is assessed as meeting initial criteria) and then placed in the queue for processing.

The DOHA has indicated that based on current planning levels, it may take **approximately 7 years** to process a subclass 116 - Carer visa application.

THANK YOU!



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