



Fact Sheet - New Visa Pricing Arrangements

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship is introducing new visa pricing arrangements.

Some changes, including a reduction in the Visa Application Charge (VAC) for new students, take effect from January 2012. Other changes will be progressively introduced over the next 18 months, subject to normal legislative processes.

Why are visa pricing arrangements changing?

A review of Australia's current visa pricing system found scope to target anomalies and inconsistencies, close the gap between visa access charges and the estimated costs of administering visas, and improve the integrity of the visa system.

The move to a per person visa application charge structure is in line with comparable countries. The user-pays approach realises the value of visa access while safeguarding Australia's international competitiveness. It provides greater fairness and flexibility to respond to changing circumstances.

Which visa classes will change in January 2012?

The VAC for student visas will decrease by five per cent from 1 January 2012.

The VAC for a small number of visa classes will be increased between five to fifteen per cent.

Attachment A contains the list of visa subclasses that will change from 1 January 2012.

What other changes are proposed?

Some anticipated changes include charges for:

- applicants who include additional family members
- longer duration visas
- paper applications where an online option is available
- optional services, such as visa labels, which are not required by Australia.

Which visa classes will not change under the new arrangements?

The vast majority of visitors will see no change including those arriving on an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) and visitors from the European Economic Community.

- Refugee and humanitarian visa applicants
- Citizenship applicants
- Postgraduate research students
- Australian sponsoring businesses.

How do I get more information?

Please refer to form 990i for the current visa charges.

See: www.immi.gov.au/allforms/990i/990i-charges.htm

Attachment A

Visa subclasses with VAC changes – 1 January 2012

Visa subclasses with VAC changes 1 January 2012		New fee
020	Bridging Visa B	\$125
119	Employer nomination/ Regional sponsored migration scheme	\$2,095
120	Labour agreement	\$2,095
121	Employer nomination	\$2,095
124	Distinguished talent offshore	\$2,095
155	Five year resident return	\$300
157	Three month resident return	\$300
159	Provisional resident return	\$160
456	Business (short stay)	\$140
457	Business (long stay)	\$350
459	Sponsored business visitor	\$140
476	Skilled (recognised graduate)	\$315
485	Skilled Graduate	\$315
560-580	All students	\$535
676	Onshore tourist visa	\$290
845	Established business In Australia	\$6,030
846	State/ Territory sponsored regional business in Australia	\$6,030
855	Labour Agreement	\$3,105
856	Employer Nomination	\$3,105
857	Employer nomination/Regional sponsored migration scheme	\$3,105
858	Distinguished talent	\$3,105
887	Skilled regional	\$315
890	Business owner	\$1,895
891	Investor	\$1,895
892	State/Territory sponsored business owner	\$1,895
893	State/Territory sponsored investor	\$1,895