



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship

14. Changes to ETA Applications through Global Distribution Systems

Changes to Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) Applications and Enquires.

The Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) is currently streamlining its offshore visa and border entry systems and procedures.

Bulletin No 13 of 2 May 2007 announced changes to processing of ETA applications.

While every attempt is being made to ensure that users of the ETA System are not adversely affected, there will be some changes to the processing of ETA applications. The changes involve introducing new Visa Status Messages returned by the application and enquiry processes. These changes will take effect from February 2008.

What are the new Visa Status Messages?

For ETA Applications.

The new Visa Status Message for ETA applications takes into account the circumstances where the result of an ETA application cannot be determined immediately and the applicant must check back on the ETA System at a later time to see whether the ETA application has been approved.

While some applicants may need to wait some hours for a decision on their application, it is expected that total referrals to Australian Embassies will be halved by these new procedures.

These changes will apply to ETA applications submitted through Global Distribution Systems

(GDS) and to ETA applications submitted over the Internet.

For ETA Enquires.

The new Visa Status Message for enquiries takes into account that a decision may not yet have been made on a previous application or that a decision has been made on a recent application and the application was rejected.

Where can you find further information?

For further information on this change see ETAS Bulletin No 9 of November 2007 from CPS Systems.

Specific questions on how to implement and undertake testing on the new changes should be directed to CPS or DIAC.

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Further information is available on the DIAC web site: <http://www.immi.gov.au>

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