



Australian Government

Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Retirement (subclass 410) visa enhancements

The Government announced two changes to the Retirement (Subclass 410) visa which took effect from 1 July 2009.

What is changing?

Successful applications for Subclass 410 visas lodged on or after 1 July 2009 are granted a visa that is:

- valid for a period of 10 years
- does not restrict the amount of work a visa holder may undertake.

This visa is subject to the usual processes and visa application charge.

Does this change affect my Retirement visa?

These changes do not affect Retirement visas granted before 1 July 2009.

If your current visa was granted before 1 July 2009 it will still be valid for four years and have only limited work rights (up to 20 hours per week).

The new arrangements will take effect when you next renew your Retirement visa.

When should I apply to renew my Retirement visa?

For the majority of Retirement visa holders we recommend that you apply to renew your Retirement visa about one month before the expiry of your current visa.

However, those Retirement visa holders who want to undertake more than 20 hours of paid work per week should take advantage of the special arrangements outlined below.

How can I apply for unlimited work rights?

If you want to undertake more than 20 hours of paid work per week and your Retirement visa was granted before 1 July 2009 you will need to apply to renew your visa.

A special arrangement has been put in place that will allow you to obtain a 'transitional' Retirement visa for which there is no charge. This visa will be valid to the same date as your current visa but has condition 8104 ('limited work rights') removed.

To obtain a 'transitional' Retirement visa you need to complete and lodge a form 1383 *Application for a temporary visa for retirees*. You are not required to provide evidence with your application unless your circumstances have changed.

What if I am a volunteer?

If you undertake an activity on a voluntary basis and do not receive payment for it (that is, you are a volunteer) you do not need to apply for a 'transitional' Retirement visa.

From 1 July 2009 undertaking voluntary activities in the community will not be considered 'work' for the purposes of condition 8104 ('limited work rights') under the Retirement visa.

Volunteering for more than 20 hours per week will not be considered a breach of visa condition 8104.

How to apply for a 'transitional' Retirement visa?

All Retirement visa applications are processed through the department's Perth office.

Please indicate that you are applying for a transitional Retirement visa by writing the word '*Transitional*' next to question 1 on your form.

Applications should be forwarded to the following postal address, by registered mail:

Retirement Visas Processing Unit
Department of Immigration and Citizenship
Locked Bag 7
Northbridge WA 6865

Or can be hand delivered or sent by courier to:

Retirement Visas Processing Unit
Department of Immigration and Citizenship
Level 3, Wellington Central
836 Wellington Street
West Perth WA 6000

What happens next?

If you are applying for a 'transitional' Retirement visa and would like a new visa label we encourage you to submit your passport(s) with your application, by registered mail.

Advice of the outcome of your application and the passport(s) should be placed in registered mail, for return, 10–15 working days from the date of receipt of the application.

Please check with Australia Post for the recorded delivery of your registered mail items.

Need more information?

If you have any questions relating to the Retirement visa you can contact the department.

Telephone: 131 881

Email: retirement.visas@immi.gov.au