



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Health professionals commencing work in Western Australia

Frequently Asked Questions

Contents

Welcome to Western Australia (WA) Health	2
I have a job offer, what now?	2
The visa application process	2
Before you apply for a visa	3
Applying for a visa	5
Applying for registration as a health professional	5
Other requirements for coming to Australia	6
Proof of vaccination status	6
Australia Travel Declaration	6
Pre-departure COVID-19 test	6
Quarantine requirements	6
Returning Australians	6
Travel to Australia and WA	6
Applying for a travel exemption	6
Supporting letter/evidence for entry to WA	7
Apply for a G2G Pass and downloading the apps – WA Police Force	8
International arrivals	8
Booking flights	8
Reimbursement of flight costs	8
Quarantine	8
Interstate arrivals	9
Arriving by air	9
Arriving by land	9
What if I have additional questions?	9

Welcome to Western Australia (WA) Health

WA Health recognises the value internationally skilled clinical professionals add to our workforce. Working at WA Health sees you as part of a 50,000-strong team that is committed to providing world-class public health care and ensuring healthier, longer and better lives for all Western Australians.

We are progressing initiatives to support international recruitment and expedite employment for critical workforce shortages, including travel exemptions and financial incentives of up to \$8,000 to cover flight and quarantine costs. Visa sponsorship opportunities may be available for specific vacancies and should be discussed with the employing Health Service Provider.

Western Australians seeking to return home from outside Australia for employment will also be supported and are also eligible for incentives and are encouraged to apply for positions.

Find out about careers in WA Health: <https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Careers>

Job vacancies across WA Health are advertised on the [WA Health Jobs Board](#).

I have a job offer, what now?

International applicants may require the following to work in Australia:

- a visa
- registration with the relevant body
- Other requirements for entry to Australia
 - Vaccination status for COVID-19 and proof of a negative COVID-19 test result at the time of check-in to fly
 - travel declaration
 - travel restrictions
- Other requirements for entry to WA
 - a letter from your employer to the WA Chief Health Officer
 - a G2G Pass declaration
 - Quarantine

Your employing hospital will support you through these processes.

Your responsibilities include ensuring:

- you have completed all requirements for your visa type prior to applying
- your vaccinations meet the requirements for WA health
- you complete the necessary travel declaration
- you have provided your employer with any information they require to support your entry to WA
- you have applied for a G2G pass and have downloaded the app
- you understand the quarantine requirements.

The visa application process

Once you have a signed contract for employment with a Health Service Provider in WA, your employing hospital will assist you with information about visas. The visa that you are eligible for will depend on your work type.

If you are sponsored by your employer, you must be nominated for a skilled occupation position. You can search the skilled occupation list here: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/skill-occupation-list>.

Before you apply for a visa

Before you apply for a visa you may need to organise the following:

- a skills assessment
- an English proficiency exam
- demonstration of sufficient work experience
- undertaking a health assessment

Skills assessment

A skills assessment is issued by a skills assessing authority or organisation that checks that your skills meet the set standards to work in a relevant occupation. The type of visa you apply for will determine if you need a skills assessment.

It is your responsibility to contact the relevant assessing authority for your occupation and obtain a skills assessment, if required.

Obtaining a suitable skills assessment is mandatory for some visa subclasses (and streams) and may be requested for others. You should read all the available information about the visa you are interested in applying for. This will allow you to determine if you need to submit a skills assessment and when you need to obtain it. Further information can be found here:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/skills-assessment>.

After you have successfully completed the skills assessment you will receive a scanned certified copy which you will need to provide with your visa application.

Profession	Education and skills assessment
Nursing and Midwifery	<p>Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) assess the skills, against 5 assessment criteria, of nurses and midwives who want to migrate to Australia under the General Skilled Migration program. The ANMAC determines if an applicant has the nursing or midwifery qualifications and experience needed for migration to Australia.</p> <p>More information: https://www.anmac.org.au/skilled-migration-services/overview</p>
Medical practitioners	<p>All overseas doctors must apply for primary source verification of their medical qualifications through the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) Electronic Portfolio of International Credentials (EPIC), regardless of which of the three assessment pathways are being pursued.</p> <p>The Australian Medical Council (AMC) is the verifications authority of Australia and maintains the qualifications portal with information and updates on the ECFMG.</p> <p>The qualifications portal is used by the Medical Board of Australia for registration purposes and by the specialist medical colleges for assessment purposes.</p> <p>More information: https://www.amc.org.au/assessment/pathways/overview/</p>
Allied health and health science professionals	<p>Skills recognition by the relevant professional body.</p> <p>More information: https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Allied-Health-and-Health-Science-Registration-Boards</p>

English Language proficiency requirements

Unless you are exempt, you may need to demonstrate that you meet certain minimum standards of English language proficiency by taking and achieving a specific result in an English language test. You can check exemptions by visa type here:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing>.

If you are not exempt, and are required to demonstrate proficiency, the following tests and required result.

Test	Required result
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) https://www.ielts.org/	Overall band score of at least 5.0 with a score of at least 4.5 in each of the test components.
Occupational English Test (OET) https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/	Score of at least 'B' in each of the four components
Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based Test (TOEFL iBT) http://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/about	iBT total score of at least 35 with a score of at least 3 for each of the test components of listening and reading, and a score of at least 12 for each of the test components of speaking and writing
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) https://pearsonpte.com/the-test	Academic overall test score of at least 36 with a score of at least 30 in each of the test components
Cambridge C1 Advanced test http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams-and-tests/advanced	Overall test score of at least 154 with a score of at least 147 in each of the test components.

Demonstration of relevant work experience

Length of required work experience may vary between visa types.

Employer sponsored visas require you to have at least 2 years relevant work experience in your nominated occupation or a related field. Such work experience must be completed while working in the nominated occupation or performing tasks at the same skill level in a related field.

If the nominated occupation is a medical practitioner, you must have your qualifications recognised by the relevant authority in Australia for the registration of medical practitioners as entitling you to practise as a medical practitioner.

Other eligibility requirements

There may be further eligibility requirements for your chosen visa type. These may include:

- adequate health insurance: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health/adequate-health-insurance>
- character requirements: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character>
- Australian Government specific requirements
- agreement to sign the Australian values statement: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/australian-values>

Accompanying family members

You can include other family members (called 'secondary applicants') in your visa application. The family members you can add will depend on the type of visa you hold.

Applying for a visa

The Department of Home Affairs has detailed information on visa types, eligibility and the application process: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/work>.

Assistance with the visa application process

If you need help with your visa, please visit Home Affairs- support:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview>

Applying for registration as a health professional

Additional registration requirements exist for clinicians who complete their qualifications in a country other than Australia. This may include an application for recognition of qualifications through the regulatory authority for your specialty/discipline.

Find out about requirements to practise for your clinical area:

- [Nursing and midwifery](#)
- [Allied health and health science](#)
- [Dentistry \(external site\)](#)
- [International medical graduates \(IMGs\)](#)

To work as a medical practitioner, dentist or nurse in Australia, you need to apply for and be registered with the relevant Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) National Board.

Overseas qualified applicants must meet the registration standards of their health profession which includes the English language skills registration standard and the Criminal history registration standard.

- Applying for registration: <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process.aspx>
- Registration standards: <https://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Standards.aspx>

All allied health and health science professionals are either self-regulating or require a more significant degree of regulation. Registration for some allied health and health science professions is a statutory requirement meaning the profession is regulated. Registration is normally with the relevant profession's national board through the Ahpra or other association.

- Allied Health and Health Science Registration Boards and self-regulated professions list: https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Allied-Health-and-Health-Science-Registration-Boards

Profession	Registration requirements
Nursing and Midwifery	Assessed against the Nursing and Midwifery Board registration standards
Medical practitioners	Self-check on Medical Board website to determine eligible pathway
Dental practitioners	Registration pathways for specific divisions
Allied health and health science professionals	Assessed against the relevant Registration Board or self-regulated.

Other requirements for coming to Australia

Proof of vaccination status

You will need to provide proof of your vaccination status when you check-in for your flight. If you were vaccinated overseas and do not have an International Covid-19 Vaccination Certificate, you will need to present a foreign vaccination certificate.

Further information: <https://www.passports.gov.au/guidance-foreign-vaccination-certificates>

Your employing hospital will ask you to provide evidence that you meet the mandatory vaccinations for WA health. Further information: [Health Care Worker Immunisation Policy](#) and [COVID 19 Mandatory Vaccination and Vaccination Program Policy \(health.wa.gov.au\)](#).

Australia Travel Declaration

You will be asked to complete the Australia Travel Declaration at least 72 hours before departure. You will need to upload your vaccination certificate and make declarations.

Further information: <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/australia-travel-declaration>

Pre-departure COVID-19 test

A negative COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result is required for travelling to or transiting through Australia. Evidence of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 3 days before your flight's scheduled departure must be provided to your airline when you check in.

Further information: <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/before-i-travel>

Quarantine requirements

States and territories are responsible for determining and managing quarantine requirements. Information on travelling to WA is provided below.

Returning Australians

If you are an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident who has been trying to return to Australia and have been unable to do so, you can register your details with the [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade \(DFAT\)](#).

DFAT cannot guarantee you a flight home, but they will assess your personal circumstances and eligibility for a government-facilitated commercial flight.

Travel to Australia and WA

Australia's borders are currently closed and entry to Australia remains strictly controlled to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Travel to Australia is only available if you are exempt or you have been granted an individual exemption.

Applying for a travel exemption

You need to apply for an exemption at least two weeks, but not more than two months, before your planned travel. You must hold a visa (or have applied for a visa) and an exemption to Australia's travel restrictions before you travel. All documents need to be officially translated into English.

The Commissioner of the Australian Border Force and decision makers may grant you an individual exemption if you are in an exempt category. Further information on exempt categories: <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/travel-restrictions>

If you are **not** in a exempt category you can apply online here: <https://travel-exemptions.homeaffairs.gov.au/tep>.

Most travel exemption requests are finalised within 7 days. Complex requests may take longer.

Supporting information (evidence) may include the following:

- proof of identity
- evidence that you hold a valid visa or have lodged a valid visa application
- travel itinerary
- marriage, birth, death certificate/s
- proof of relationship or residence (such as a shared tenancy agreement, joint bank account etc.)
- letter from a doctor or hospital, indicating why travel is necessary (**see below**)
- letter from an employer indicating why travel is necessary (**see below**)
- supporting letter from a business or government agency, advising why your skills are critical
- statutory declaration to support your claims
- COVID-19 vaccine certificate.

Your request for a travel exemption must include:

- traveller details: name, date of birth, visa type and number, passport number
- proposed residential address and phone number in Australia
- your reasons for coming: why you should be granted an exemption
- a supporting statement: setting out how you meet one of the grounds for an exemption
- accompanying evidence.

If you are granted a travel exemption, you need to take evidence of that exemption decision to the airport.

Supporting letter/evidence for entry to WA

The WA Chief Health Officer (CHO) is authorised under the *Emergency Management Act 2005* to approve a person to enter WA to provide essential medical services, where the specialists skills are not otherwise reasonably available in WA. This authorisation includes all medical staff, nursing staff, medical practitioners and allied health staff.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of your employing hospital will make a request on your behalf. The CEO must make application to the CHO providing the following minimum information:

- Employee's Name
- Role
- Job location
- Where the person is travelling to WA from
- Rationale for the need to request that the person enter WA to "assist in the provision of health services" during this state of emergency
- Length of employment

- Confirmation that the person will undertake 14 days mandatory hotel quarantine for international, medium, high and extreme risk jurisdictions. In all other circumstances, the person will have suitable premises available to self-quarantine.

A response will usually be provided within 5 working days. The letter, where provided, must be included as evidence/supporting information in applications for travel exemption.

Apply for a G2G Pass and downloading the apps – WA Police Force

A G2G Pass is required for every person aged 18 years or older seeking to enter WA. Children under 18 who are traveling with an adult must be included in the adult's application. Children who are traveling unaccompanied will need their own G2G Pass regardless of age.

A G2G Pass is an online application that allows you to complete your mandatory registration and declaration, which should be done before entering WA. Every time you enter WA, you are required to submit a new application to ensure authorities have up-to-date information about your health and where you're travelling from.

The steps to apply for an exemption to travel to WA are as follows:

- Go to G2G Pass: <https://www.g2gpass.com.au/>
- Set up an account or log in and complete your application
- Download the **G2G Pass app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

Once your registration has been processed, you will receive a QR code via the app or email. You must present this when entering WA.

If you are directed to quarantine, you should download the **G2G Now app** available from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store to enable digital quarantine checks by WA Police.

Further information on the G2G Pass and apps:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/covid-19-coronavirus-g2g-pass>

International arrivals

Booking flights

Your employing hospital will assist you to book flights to WA and will liaise with the State Health Incident Coordination Centre to ensure that your arrival and quarantine is planned.

Reimbursement of flight costs

Once you commence work with your employing hospital, you can submit your invoice to the nominated person at your hospital for flight cost reimbursement.

Quarantine

For international arrivals, your employing hospital will seek approval above the international passenger cap if unable to source a flight booking within the cap, and you will be able to quarantine in a suitable hotel.

Incentives have been announced to support quarantine costs. You may wish to discuss your personal arrangements with your employing hospital.

During quarantine you may be subject to mandatory COVID-19 tests. Further information:

[COVID-19 coronavirus: Controlled border \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au).

Interstate arrivals

Interstate travellers are permitted to enter WA, subject to strict conditions. Further information: [COVID-19 coronavirus: Controlled border \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au/gov/COVID-19-coronavirus-controlled-border).

If you are entering WA you will require a G2G Pass.

Arriving by air

You will need to scan your G2G Pass and, if applicable, verify if you have suitable premises for self-quarantine.

If you do not have suitable premises to self-quarantine, you may quarantine in a hotel. This is generally self-funded, however in the case of financial hardship, Department of Communities will assist.

During quarantine you may be subject to mandatory COVID-19 tests.

Arriving by land

If you are entering WA by road, you will be met at the WA border checkpoint to ensure your travel has been registered via the G2G Pass. You will also be subject to a health screening.

An assessment of your travel and final destination (including quarantine suitable premises if required) occurs as you enter WA and can be subject to change without notice. Hotel quarantine is generally self-funded.

During quarantine you may be subject to mandatory COVID-19 tests.

What if I have additional questions?

If you have any questions throughout the employment process, please contact your employing hospital.

**This document can be made available in alternative formats
on request for a person with disability.**

© Department of Health 2021

Copyright to this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.