



Australian Embassy Bangkok
Visa and Immigration Office

APPLYING FOR A WORK & HOLIDAY VISA TO AUSTRALIA

Who should apply for a work and holiday visa?

The Thailand - Australia Work & Holiday arrangement is a reciprocal program with 500 places available for Thai applicants each financial year (1 July – 30 June). The program provides young people with the opportunity for a 12 month holiday with permission to work if they wish so that they can enjoy the cultural experience and interaction of living and working in Australia. Participants may only work for any one employer for a maximum of 6 months. Applicants must also have the financial capacity to support themselves so that they do not have to rely entirely on earnings from their incidental employment.

To be eligible to apply, Thai passport holders must be aged between 18 and 30, have a university degree and be able to speak English at a functional level (usually measured by an IELTS 4.5 result). Applicants need to obtain a letter of support from the Office of Welfare Promotion, Protection and Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups in Bangkok and meet health and character requirements

Where can I lodge my application?

- **In person at :** Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC)
Floor 34, Thai CC Tower , 889 South Sathorn Road , Bangkok (next to Surasak BTS Station)
Further information on the Australian Visa Application Centre is available at www.vfs-au.net

Visa Application Charge (VAC):

Cashiers cheque if purchased within Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Samutprakarn provinces; or Bank Draft if purchased in other provinces within Thailand and payable to 'Australian Embassy Bangkok' in Thai Baht (THB) only. Personal cheques and credit cards are **not** acceptable. Applications with the incorrect THB fee may be returned. The current THB VAC charge is available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/990i/visa-charges.htm>.

Important things to remember when making an application

Applicants are required to disclose information about all previous visa applications. The provision of false or misleading information in an application could lead to the application being refused.

It is important that you lodge a complete application. A complete application is one that provides all information necessary for a decision to be made. You should support your application with as much information as possible at the time of lodgement as a decision may be made solely on the information that you have provided with your application. You will be advised if an interview is required to assist in finalising your application.

What do I need to provide?

You may be asked to provide further documents or information relating to your particular circumstances after your application has been lodged. The list of supporting documentation below is not exhaustive. You should provide documents certified as true copies of the original, with the exception that we require the **original bankbook, IELTS Certificate, and academic transcript**. Documents can be certified as true copies of the original at the Australian Visa Application Centre (AVAC) or at the Amphur District Office. You should also provide an English translation of any document in another language. You may choose to provide original documents and a set of clear copies. All originals will be returned to you after the copies have been certified.

A complete application should include:

- Form 1208 – completed in English and signed by the applicant
- A non-refundable Visa Application Charge (VAC). See detail under '**Visa Application Charge (VAC)**' above
- A passport that is valid for the total period of your stay in Australia, or for a minimum of 6 months
- One recent passport size photo
- Thai National Identification card and Household Registration
- A letter of support for your application to apply for a Work and Holiday visa.
 - This letter must be the original letter of approval from the Office of Welfare Promotion Protection and Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security ,

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618/1 Magason Road, Ratchathewie, Bangkok

Note: The letter of support does not guarantee a place in the Work and Holiday program.

- Evidence that you have adequate personal funds, or access to adequate funds to support yourself (and any family members travelling with you) during the period of intended stay, for example, a current bankbook or bank statement with at least 6 months history of transactions. Cash or credit cards are not sufficient evidence of funds. If you are providing a bankbook, you are required to provide the **original** bankbook which will be returned to you with your passport.
- **Original** qualification certificate and academic transcript
- **Original** letter of employment; if applicable
- Evidence that you are able to speak English at a functional level (usually measured by an IELTS 4.5 result). If providing an IELTS Certificate, you must provide the original certificate

All original documents you provide will be returned to you with your passport

Do I need to have a health examination?

All applicants are required to meet health requirements.

The department uses an online health system known as eHealth to record your health examination results and conduct your health assessment. The "E Health" program requires that medical examinations be conducted only after a visa application has been validly lodged with the Embassy.

Once the application is lodged, the case officer will provide you with a "Health Assessment" letter (by email, mail or fax). The Panel Doctor will need to see this letter as part of the medical examination process and you should take the letter with you when you go to the Panel Doctor for your examination.

Medical examinations must be undertaken by a doctor from a list of approved doctors provided by the Visa and Immigration Office, Australian Embassy Bangkok. A list of these doctors is on the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/t/thailand/panel-doctors.htm>.

Health insurance

Medical treatment in Australia can be very expensive. As a tourist, you are not covered by Australia's national health scheme, unless there is a reciprocal health care agreement between Australia and your country. Health care for visitors to Australia is explained on the Medicare Australia website.

It is recommended that you take out health insurance for the duration of your stay in Australia. You can obtain health insurance through a health insurance provider or travel agent in your country of residence.

How long will I need to wait for the visa?

Due to the large volume of applications at the beginning of the 2011-2012 program year, the expected date for a decision is 6-8 weeks from date of lodgement.

Can I ask another person to deal with the Embassy?

Australian privacy laws prevent this office from responding to enquiries from people not authorised by the applicant. This includes the person providing support to the application. If you want to authorise another person to be able to discuss your application with this office, or receive correspondence about your application, you should indicate this by using a form 956 which must be signed by both applicant and authorised person.

Without a Form 956 we cannot talk about your case to anyone else, including your partner or family members.

For further detailed information, please visit www.immi.gov.au or www.thailand.embassy.gov.au