

INTERSTAFF'S STRATEGIC THINKING ON GOVERNMENT VISA PROCESSING TIMES

Your Objective: To understand the how and why behind Government visa processing times and what this means for your business.



The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) aim to process 75% of visa applications within the below timeframes.



If your business is eligible for Accredited Sponsorship, you could reduce processing times down to 5 business days.

VISA APPLICATION	LODGED IN AUSTRALIA		LODGED OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA	
	Low Risk	High Risk	Low Risk	High Risk
Temporary Work Short Stay Activity (Subclass 400)	N/A	N/A	5 working days	1 month
Temporary Skilled Work (Subclass 457)	2 months	3 months	2 months	3 months
Other Temporary Work Visas (Subclasses 401, 403, 405, 410, 416, 418, 420, 422)	2 months	3 months	2 months	3 months

Low Risk = Nationals from countries which are eligible for Electronic Travel Authority (ETA).

High Risk = Nationals from countries which are not ETA eligible.

(Table source: DIBP)



WHY VISA PROCESSING TIMES VARY

Actual processing times by the DIBP vary depending on a number of factors such as:

- Whether all supporting documents are provided at the time of lodgement
- The length of time it takes to respond to requests for additional information
- The length of time it takes to receive additional information regarding health character and national security
- The number of places available in the migration program related to your visa application
- Other factors such as changes to migration policies

The DIBP prioritises skilled migration applications through a priority grouping system. Applications at a higher priority are processed ahead of lower priority applications, regardless of when the application is lodged.



HOW YOUR BUSINESS CAN PLAN AHEAD

Understanding when the DIBP is likely to take longer to process your visa can help you more accurately schedule your visa progress.

Interstaff advises on migration news, policy changes, and the complexity of your application, and whether this is likely to result in an increase in processing times.