

Australian values statement

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Department of Home Affairs

The Department of Home Affairs acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the traditional custodians of the Australian land.

Life in Australia – Australian values

The Australian Government encourages people to gain an understanding of Australia, its people and their way of life, before applying for a visa to live in Australia.

This includes understanding that the English language, as the national language, is an important unifying element of Australian society. Australian society is also united through the following shared values:

- respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual;
- freedom of religion (including the freedom not to follow a particular religion), freedom of speech, and freedom of association;
- commitment to the rule of law, which means that all people are subject to the law and should obey it;
- parliamentary democracy whereby our laws are determined by parliaments elected by the people, those laws being paramount and overriding any other inconsistent religious or secular 'laws';
- equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, race, or national or ethnic origin;
- a 'fair go' for all that embraces:
 - mutual respect;
 - tolerance;
 - compassion for those in need; and
 - equality of opportunity for all.

The *Life in Australia* booklet provides more information on the values that Australians share and their way of life. This booklet is available in a wide range of languages and can be obtained from

www.homeaffairs.gov.au

You are encouraged to read the Life in Australia booklet before completing this application form. If you have difficulty, or are unable to read the booklet, you may have the content of it explained to you, for example, by a friend or relative. This form contains a statement, that you must sign, that confirms you understand and will undertake to conduct yourself in accordance with the values of Australian society (as explained in the booklet) and will obey the laws of Australia.

This statement must also be signed by each person aged 18 years or over, who is included in your visa application, unless they have already signed the statement on the visa application form. If anyone has concerns about signing the statement then you should talk to your visa case officer.

AUSTRALIAN VALUES STATEMENT

This statement must be signed by the main applicant and each person aged 18 years or over who is included in the visa application, unless they have already signed it on the visa application form.

I confirm that I have read, or had explained to me, information provided by the Australian Government on Australian society and values.

I understand that Australian society values:

- respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual;
- freedom of religion (including the freedom not to follow a particular religion), freedom of speech, and freedom of association;
- commitment to the rule of law, which means that all people are subject to the law and should obey it;
- parliamentary democracy whereby our laws are determined by parliaments elected by the people, those laws being paramount and overriding any other inconsistent religious or secular 'laws';
- equality of opportunity for all people, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, race, or national or ethnic origin;
- a 'fair go' for all that embraces:
 - mutual respect;
 - tolerance;
 - compassion for those in need;
 - equality of opportunity for all;
- the English language as the national language, and as an important unifying element of Australian society.

I undertake to conduct myself in accordance with these values of Australian society during my stay in Australia and to obey the laws of Australia.

I undertake to make reasonable efforts to learn the English language, if it is not my native language.

I understand that, if in the future I meet the legal qualifications for becoming an Australian citizen and my application is approved, I will need to pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people.

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Office use only		
Client identifier		
File number		
Visa class or subclass		
Processing office		