



# Application for a Maritime Crew (Temporary) visa

Form  
**1273**

Australian Government  
Department of Home Affairs

Important – Please read this information carefully before you complete your application. Once you have completed your application we strongly advise that you keep a copy for your records.

Further information is available from the Department of Home Affairs (the Department) website  
<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/maritime-crew-988>

## About this form

This is the paper application form for a Maritime Crew visa. Paper applications must be lodged in Australia. Where a paper application is submitted by an agent or legal practitioner acting on behalf of an applicant, a form 956 *Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person assistance* may also be required to be completed by the applicant to authorise the agent or legal practitioner to act for them. Internet applications are encouraged as they require just one simple electronic form to be completed and are lodged and processed much faster than paper applications. More information about internet applications is available on the website  
[www.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au)

## Integrity of application

The Department is committed to maintaining the integrity of the visa and citizenship programs. In relation to this application, if you or a member of your family unit:

- provide, or have provided in a previous application, fraudulent documents or false or misleading information (knowingly or not); and/or
- fail to satisfy, or have failed to satisfy in a previous application, the Minister of your or their identity;

this visa application may be refused and you, and any members of your family unit, may become unable to be granted a visa for specified periods of time, as set out in migration legislation. If documents are found to be fraudulent or information to be incorrect after the grant of a visa, the visa may subsequently be cancelled.

## Who should use this form?

You may use this form to apply for a Maritime Crew visa if you are currently employed or under offer of employment as a member of the crew of a non-military ship for international voyages to Australia and the ship is:

- used for commercial trading purposes or for carrying paying passengers; or
- owned and operated by a foreign government to do scientific research; or
- approved for 'public vessel' status by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

In general terms, foreign crew of cargo vessels and cruise ships (other than New Zealand citizens) are required to hold a Maritime Crew visa. Crew of yachts do not normally qualify for this visa.

You may use this form to apply for a Maritime Crew visa if you are the partner, or dependent child (generally under 18 years of age), of a member of the crew of a ship described above, and intend to travel on the same ship as that person.

A third party such as an agent or legal practitioner may complete this form on your behalf if you consent to provide the third party with all the details asked for in the application form, and you sign the completed form.

If you are in doubt whether you qualify for a Maritime Crew visa please contact the Maritime Global Processing Centre.

'Partner' means your spouse or de facto partner (including same-sex partners).

## When should you use this form?

You may use this form ONLY if you are outside Australia. You cannot apply for a Maritime Crew visa if you are in Australia.

## About the Maritime Crew visa

A Maritime Crew visa is a special type of visa available only to members of crew (including supernumerary crew) of certain ships travelling to Australia, or the partner and dependent children of such crew, if they intend to accompany the crew member when travelling to Australia as a member of the crew of the ship. A Maritime Crew visa must be held by crew at the time of signing onto a ship in Australia, regardless of the method by which they travel to Australia to join the vessel.

**Note: You cannot use a Maritime Crew visa for air travel to Australia.**

If you have been granted a Maritime Crew visa and you have to travel to Australia by air to enable you to join your ship in Australia, you must obtain another type of visa which permits travel by air, such as a transit visa or an electronic travel authority (ETA). It is against the law for an airline to carry you to Australia if you only hold a Maritime Crew visa. If this occurs your Maritime Crew visa will be ceased.

## Maritime Crew visa validity and legal requirements to maintain the visa

Because the Maritime Crew visa is only granted electronically and there is no visa label, it is important that you understand that you must continue to satisfy the legal requirements under which you were granted the visa and its specific requirements while you are in Australia, or your visa will cease and will be invalid (see 'Visa validity' on page 2).

If your visa becomes invalid, you will be prevented from leaving your vessel while it is in Australia, or you may be removed from the vessel and placed in detention until arrangements for your departure from Australia are made.

## Visa validity

A Maritime Crew visa normally remains valid for 3 years from the date it is granted.

**Note:** Your Maritime Crew visa will automatically cease and be invalid if:

- you do not sign onto your ship within 5 days of arriving in Australia by air on a transit visa and hold no other visa (other than a Maritime Crew visa) to remain in Australia; or
- any other visa that you hold is cancelled, or if you are in Australia on any other type of visa (other than a Maritime Crew visa) and that visa expires and you become unlawful; or
- you sign off your ship and you do not depart Australia within 5 days, obtain another type of visa or sign onto another non-military ship in that time; or
- the ship on which you travel to Australia is ceasing its international voyage status and is declared 'imported' for domestic consumption by the Australian Border Force (ABF), and within 5 days you do not depart Australia, sign onto another non-military ship, or you do not obtain another suitable visa from the Department to authorise your continued lawful stay in Australia. The master of the vessel should inform the crew if ABF 'imports' the vessel.

If there are compelling reasons beyond your control which may prevent your departure from Australia within the 5 day sign off period, you must contact an authorised officer of ABF or the Department to consider an extension to the 5 day period while you are still lawful.

Your Maritime Crew visa will also be ceased if:

- you no longer satisfy the legal requirements under which you were granted the visa; or
- you perform work while in Australia other than work that is required in relation to the usual operational requirements of the ship; or
- it is determined that your presence in Australia is undesirable.

## Health

The health of you and your family is your responsibility. You will not be covered by Australia's national health scheme unless you are from a country that has a reciprocal health care agreement with Australia. Any costs associated with any medical treatment required by you or your family when in Australia is your responsibility. You may wish to discuss this with your shipping employer. If, at the time you enter Australia on your vessel, you are suffering from any infectious disease, or one which may pose a public health threat in Australia such as tuberculosis, the master of your vessel will be required to notify the relevant quarantine authorities in Australia.

## Ways to apply for a Maritime Crew visa

There are 2 ways to apply for a Maritime Crew visa:

- via the internet [www.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au); or
- completing this application and sending it to the Maritime Global Processing Centre.

Internet applications are more convenient for visa applicants and are processed much faster than paper applications.

**Note:** A paper application for a Maritime Crew visa can **only** be lodged at the Maritime Global Processing Centre in Australia (see below for contact details). Australian visa offices outside Australia **cannot accept** an application for a Maritime Crew visa.

## Applying for a Maritime Crew visa

Applications for a Maritime Crew visa may be made using a shipping agent or some other third party who is acting with your consent, or by applicants applying directly. To apply for a Maritime Crew visa, you must hold a valid current passport, details of which will have to be entered in the application form.

**Note:** A Maritime Crew visa cannot be applied for while you are in Australia.

## Application charge

There is no application charge for the Maritime Crew visa.

## Who can you include in this application?

Only one passport-holder can apply on each form. A separate application is required for each Maritime Crew visa applicant.

## How to apply

To apply by mail or courier open this form using Adobe Acrobat Reader. Either type (in English) in the fields provided or print this form and complete it (in English) using a pen and BLOCK LETTERS.

Please answer all questions fully and correctly. You may arrange for another person to help you complete the application, but you must sign it. If you have been assisted in completing the application, you should read the application after completion and only sign the declaration if the information in it is true and correct.

False or misleading information may lead to refusal of your application or your visa being ceased.

The completed application form must be lodged in Australia at the following address:

By mail:

Maritime Global Processing Centre  
Department of Home Affairs  
GPO Box 9984  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
AUSTRALIA

By courier:

Maritime Global Processing Centre  
Department of Home Affairs  
299 Adelaide Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
AUSTRALIA

Please carefully check that the details of your passport provided in the application are accurate because if the visa is granted it will not be evidenced by a visa label. These details will only be checked when you arrive in Australia. If the visa granted does not match your passport details, you may not be permitted to enter Australia.

## What happens after you lodge your application?

As a guide, processing of your paper application will usually take about 4 weeks from the date it is received. Consideration of your application will take longer if you are asked to provide further information or attend an interview to enable a decision to be made.

You may be asked to provide further information to support your application. Your response to this request for further information must be within 28 days, or your application may be refused.

## If your visa application is approved

If your visa is approved, the Maritime Global Processing Centre will send a notification of grant by letter or email. Please keep this notification with you when you travel to Australia as it provides:

- your visa grant number
- the validity date of your visa
- the legal requirements to maintain the visa.

**Note:** Your visa is linked to the passport number you submitted with your application, therefore you must use the same passport to travel to Australia. If you obtain a new passport, you must advise the Maritime Global Processing Centre by email or mail of the new passport details before you travel to Australia or you may not be permitted to enter Australia.

## If your visa application is not approved

If your visa is not approved, the Maritime Global Processing Centre will send you a notification letter or email advising you of the reason for refusing your application.

A decision to refuse the grant of a Maritime Crew visa is not reviewable by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

## Enquiries

All enquiries about the Maritime Crew visa must be made to the Maritime Global Processing Centre in Australia either by email to [MCV@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:MCV@homeaffairs.gov.au) or by mail to the application lodgement address above.

## What is immigration assistance?

A person gives immigration assistance if he or she uses, or purports to use, his or her knowledge or experience in migration procedure to assist a person with matters related under the *Migration Act 1958*.

The most common times assistance is provided is during visa application processes, visa cancellation processes or sponsorship processes (including monitoring or sanctions).

**Note:** Immigration assistance does not include simply filling in an application form, translating or interpreting or passing on information about an application without comment or explanation.

## Registered migration agents

A registered migration agent is a person who is registered with the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (OMARA) to provide immigration assistance.

If operating in Australia, migration agents must be registered with the OMARA.

Information on registered migration agents, including how to find one, is available on the OMARA website [www.mara.gov.au](http://www.mara.gov.au)

## Legal practitioners

A legal practitioner is a lawyer who holds an Australian legal practising certificate (whether restricted or unrestricted) granted under a law of an Australian state or territory.

Legal practitioners can provide immigration assistance in connection with legal practice.

Information on legal practitioners, including how to find one, is available on the Law Council of Australia website.

Information on legal practitioners can also be sought from the relevant state or territory legal professional bodies.

## Exempt persons

The following people do not have to be a registered migration agent or legal practitioner in order to provide immigration assistance:

- a close family member (spouse, child, adopted child, parent, brother or sister of a visa applicant)
- a sponsor or nominator for a visa applicant
- a member of parliament or their staff
- a member of a diplomatic mission, consular post or international organisation.

An exempt person **must not charge a fee** for their assistance. In Australia, if they do charge a fee they are committing an offence and penalties of up to 10 years jail can apply.

## Appointing a registered migration agent/legal practitioner/exempt person

To appoint a registered migration agent/legal practitioner/exempt person you should complete Question 23 *Options for receiving written communications*.

Your registered migration agent/legal practitioner/exempt person should complete form 956 *Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person*.

Form 956 is available from the Department's website [www.homeaffairs.gov.au/allforms/](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/allforms/)

## Options for receiving written communications

If you do not appoint a migration agent/legal practitioner/exempt person you may still authorise another person, in writing, to receive written communications on your behalf. This person is called the authorised recipient.

## Authorised recipient information

All written communication about your application will be sent to your authorised recipient, unless you indicate that you wish to have health and/or character information sent directly to you.

The Department will communicate with the most recently appointed authorised recipient as you may only appoint one authorised recipient at any time for a particular application.

You will be taken to have received any documents sent to that person as if they had been sent to you.

To appoint an authorised recipient you should complete:

- Question 23 *Options for receiving written communications*; and
- form 956A *Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient*.

**Note:** Migration agents/legal practitioners/exempt persons do not need to complete form 956A.

Form 956A is available from the Department's website [www.homeaffairs.gov.au/allforms/](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/allforms/)

## Consent to communicate electronically

The Department may use a range of means to communicate with you. However, electronic means such as fax or email will only be used if you indicate your agreement to receiving communication in this way.

To process your application the Department may need to communicate with you about sensitive information, for example, health, police checks, financial viability and personal relationships. Electronic communications, unless adequately encrypted, are not secure and may be viewed by others or interfered with.

If you agree to the Department communicating with you by electronic means, the details you provide will only be used by the Department for the purpose for which you have provided them, unless there is a legal obligation or necessity to use them for another purpose, or you have consented to use for another purpose. They will not be added to any mailing list.

The Australian Government accepts no responsibility for the security or integrity of any information sent to the Department over the internet or by other electronic means.

If you authorise another person to receive documents on your behalf and they wish to be contacted electronically, their signature is required on form 956 or 956A to indicate their consent to this form of communication.

**Note:** Electronic communication is the fastest means of communication available and the Department prefers to communicate electronically because this results in faster processing.

## Important information about privacy

The *Privacy Act 1988* contains 13 Australian Privacy Principles which regulate the way that the Department collects and handles personal information. Information about how the Department collects, uses and discloses personal information for its key functions can be found in form 1442i *Privacy notice*. More information about the Department's general information handling practices (including form 1442i) can be found in the Department's Privacy policy at <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/access-and-accountability/our-commitments/privacy>

*Home page* **[www.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au)**

*General enquiry line* Telephone **131 881** during business hours in Australia to speak to an operator (recorded information available outside these hours).  
If you are outside Australia, please contact your nearest Australian mission.

*Please keep these information pages for your reference*



# Application for a Maritime Crew (Temporary) visa

Please open this form using Adobe Acrobat Reader.  
Either type (in English) in the fields provided or print this form  
and complete it (in English) using a pen and BLOCK LETTERS.

Tick where applicable

**Note:** A separate application is required for each person applying for a  
Maritime Crew visa. Partners and dependent children must complete  
individual application forms.

## Application details

- 1** Are you applying as: *(tick one box only)*
- a crew member (or under offer of employment as a crew member) on a non-military ship  **Go to Question 3**
  - the partner of a crew member
  - the dependant child of a crew member
- 2** Does your partner or parent currently hold, or have they applied for, a Maritime Crew visa?
- No  *You are not eligible to apply*  
Yes

- 3** What is your first intended arrival date in Australia after you lodge this application *(if known)*?
- Day Month Year
- 

## Your details

- 4** Your full name as shown in your passport or travel document
- Family name
- Given names
- 5** Other names you have you been known by  
(including name at birth, previous married names, aliases)
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 6** Sex Male  Female  Indeterminate / Intersex / Unspecified
- 7** Date of birth
- Day Month Year
- 
- 8** Place of birth
- Town/city
- Country

- 9** Relationship status
- Married  Separated  Never married or been in a de facto relationship
- Engaged  Divorced
- De facto  Widowed

- 10** Details from your passport
- Passport number
- Country of passport
- Day Month Year
- Date of issue
- Date of expiry
- Issuing authority/place of issue as shown in your passport
- 
- 
- 

**Note:** You must have a valid current passport and visa to enter Australia. You must notify the Maritime Global Processing Centre before travelling to Australia if you want permission to enter Australia on a different passport to the one in this application.

- 11** Are you a citizen of the country of passport given above?
- No   
Yes
- 12** Do you hold any citizenship other than the nationality provided with the passport details above?
- No   
Yes  What other countries are you a citizen of?
- 
- 
-



**13** If you are applying as a partner or dependent child of a crew member, please provide the following details of that crew member

Crew member's full name as shown in their passport or travel document

Family name

Given names

Sex Male  Female  Indeterminate / Intersex / Unspecified

Date of birth

Crew member's passport details

Passport number

Country of passport

Date of issue

Date of expiry

Issuing authority/place of issue as shown in passport

  

**14** Residential address in your country of usual residence

**Note:** A post office box address is not acceptable as a residential address. Failure to give your residential address will result in your application being invalid.

  
  

**15** Address for correspondence about this application

(If the same as your residential address, write 'AS ABOVE')

**Note:** You must ensure these details are correct so that we can advise you of the outcome of your application.

  
  

**16** Your telephone numbers

Office hours

After hours

Mobile/cell

**17** Do you agree to the Department communicating with you by fax or email?

No

Yes  Give details

Fax number

Email address

## Employment details

**18** Crew should provide details of the vessel operator, shipping company or manning agency with which they are employed or under offer of employment.

**Partner/Dependent children** should provide their current employer's details or write 'NIL' in the 'Name of employer' question if they are not employed.

Name of employer

(For partner/dependants who are not employed, write 'NIL')

  

Employer's address

  
  

Telephone number

Please describe the nature of the business

  
  

Sea crew job title (eg. Administration, Catering, Deck, Engine, Entertainment, Officer)

Occupation



## Assistance with this form

**20** Did you receive assistance in completing this form?

No  ► **Go to Question 23**

Yes  ► Please give details of the person who assisted you

Title: Mr  Mrs  Miss  Ms  Other

Family name

Given names

Address

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>
Postcode

Telephone number or daytime contact

Country code	Area code	Number
( <input type="text"/> )	( <input type="text"/> )	<input type="text"/>

Office hours

Mobile/cell

**21** Is the person a registered migration agent, Australian legal practitioner or an exempt person?

No

Yes  ► **Go to Question 23**

**22** Did you pay the person and/or give a gift for this assistance?

No

Yes

## Options for receiving written communications

**23** All written communications about this application should be sent to:  
(Tick one box only)

Myself

**OR**

Authorised recipient  ► You should complete form 956A *Appointment or withdrawal of an authorised recipient*

**OR**

Migration agent

**OR**

Legal practitioner  ► Your migration agent/legal practitioner/exempt person should complete form 956 *Appointment of a registered migration agent, legal practitioner or exempt person*

**OR**

Exempt person

## Declaration

**WARNING:** Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

**24** I declare that:

- the information supplied on or with this form is correct.
- I understand that if any fraudulent documents or false or misleading information has been provided with this application, or if I fail to satisfy the Minister of my identity, my application may be refused and I, and any other member of my family unit, may become unable to be granted a visa for specified periods of time.
- I understand that if documents are found to be fraudulent or information to be incorrect after the grant of a visa, the visa may subsequently be cancelled.
- I have read the information contained in form 1442i *Privacy notice*.
- I understand the Department may collect, use and disclose my personal information (including biometric information and other sensitive information) as outlined in form 1442i *Privacy notice*.
- I have read and understood that I am liable for the cost of any health related services that I receive while in Australia. This does not include costs otherwise covered, such as by health insurance, Medicare (if eligible), or treatment for certain community health risks such as tuberculosis.
- I understand that if my visa ceases to be in effect and I do not hold another visa to remain in Australia at that time, I will be an unlawful non-citizen under the *Migration Act 1958*. As such, I will be expected to depart from Australia, and be subject to removal under the *Migration Act 1958*.

**Note:** Any information in this application, including employment details, may be checked. Any false information could result in the refusal of your visa.

**Signature of applicant**


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Day    Month    Year

Date

We strongly advise that you keep a copy of your application and all attachments for your records.