



Australian Citizenship

Key Requirements for Australian Citizenship

Citizenship Pathway	Key Requirements Summary
By descent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be eligible to become an Australian citizen if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Were born outside Australia on or after 26 January 1949 and a parent of yours was an Australian citizen at the time of your birth; OR – Were born outside Australia or New Guinea before 26 January 1949 and a parent of yours was an Australian citizen on 26 January 1949
By adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be eligible to become an Australian citizen if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Have been adopted outside Australia in accordance with the <i>Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption</i> by at least one Australian citizen
By conferral – for people granted Australian permanent residency before 1 July 2007 and who apply before 1 July 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be eligible to become an Australian citizen if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Have been in Australia as a permanent resident for a total of 2 years in the past 5 years – Have spent at least 12 months in Australia in the 2 years immediately before applying – Are at least 18 years of age – Are of good character – Have a basic knowledge of English – Have an adequate knowledge of the responsibilities and rights of An Australia citizen – Have successfully sat the citizenship test, which shows you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Understand what it means to become a citizen of a country — Have a basic understanding of Australia and the privileges and responsibilities involved in becoming an Australian citizen; and — Have a basic knowledge of the English language
By conferral - for people granted Australian permanent residency on or after 1 July 2007 or people granted Australian permanent residency at any time and apply after 30 June 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You may be eligible to become an Australian citizen if you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Are aged 18 years of age or over – Have held Australian permanent residency for the last 12 months – Have been lawfully in Australia for the last 4 years – Have successfully sat the citizenship test, which shows you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Understand what it means to become a citizen of a country — Have a basic understanding of Australia and the privileges and responsibilities involved in becoming an Australian citizen; and — Have a basic knowledge of the English language. – Are likely to continue to reside in Australia, or maintain a close association with Australia, once you have become a citizen – Are of good character

Note: Underlined text and asterisk(*) indicate terms defined in our web site's migration dictionary please see: http://www.visalawyersaustralia.com.au/Content_Common/pg-Dictionary.seo

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Key Requirements for Australian Citizenship (Continued)

Citizenship Pathway	Key Requirements Summary	
<p>For those seeking citizenship by conferral, exceptions to the Key Requirements exist for the following people</p>	<p>Category of Person</p>	<p>Exception</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those suffering from a permanent physical or mental incapacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required to sit the citizenship test but must satisfy all other criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those over 60 years of age or who have a hearing, speech or sight impairment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required to sit the citizenship test but must understand what it means to become a citizen of a country and must satisfy all other criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those aged under 18 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required to satisfy any of the criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those born to a parent who was once an Australia citizen but who was not an Australian citizen by the time they were born 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only required to satisfy the good character requirement, but must also satisfy the Minister that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They were born outside Australia Their parent was not an Australia citizen when they were born Their parent had ceased to be an Australian citizen before they were born
<p>By resuming citizenship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may be eligible to resume your Australian citizenship if you meet the following criteria. You: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Were once an Australian citizen but have now ceased to be an Australian citizen Ceased to hold Australian citizenship in one of the following circumstances. You: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gave up your Australian citizenship to retain nationality or citizenship of a foreign country; Gave up your Australian citizenship to avoid suffering significant hardship or detriment; Lost your Australian citizenship because you were no longer resident in Australia; or Lost your Australian citizenship because you were the dependent child of someone who ceased to hold Australian citizenship. You are of good character You are aged 18 years or over 	

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