

# A Comprehensive Guide to the 485 Visa Australia

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The **Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485)** is a key pathway for international students who have completed their studies in Australia and wish to extend their stay to work. This visa allows graduates to live, work, and study in Australia on a temporary basis, offering a valuable opportunity to gain local work experience and potentially transition to permanent residency. In this guide, we'll delve into essential aspects of the 485 Visa, including age limits, recent changes, required documents, and its relationship to permanent residency.

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## 485 Visa Australia Overview

The Subclass 485 Visa is divided into two main streams:

1. **Graduate Work Stream:** This stream is for international students who have recently graduated with skills and qualifications that relate to an occupation on Australia's Skilled Occupation List (SOL). It allows for a temporary stay of up to 18 months.
2. **Post-Study Work Stream:** Available for international students who have completed a higher education degree in Australia. The duration of the visa under this stream can range from two to four years, depending on the level of qualification attained.

This visa provides flexibility and allows graduates to gain work experience in Australia, which can enhance their prospects for permanent residency.

## 485 Visa Australia Age Limit

The age limit for the 485 Visa is a crucial eligibility factor. Applicants must be under the age of 50 at the time of lodging their visa application. This age requirement applies to both streams—Graduate Work and Post-Study Work. Meeting the age limit is essential, as exceeding it will render an applicant ineligible for the visa.

## 485 Visa Australia Changes

Over the years, there have been several changes to the 485 Visa program. One of the significant updates

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includes the introduction of extended visa durations, especially for graduates from regional areas. Recent policy shifts also allow certain Temporary Graduate visa holders to apply for an extension of their stay under the **Temporary Graduate Visa Extension Scheme**. Additionally, amendments to English language requirements and streamlined processing times have been introduced to facilitate smoother transitions for graduates.

These changes reflect the Australian government's evolving approach to meeting the country's labor market needs while ensuring that international graduates have opportunities to contribute to the economy.

## **485 Visa Australia News**

In the latest developments, the Australian government has announced changes aimed at making it easier for international graduates to stay and work in the country. These include extending visa durations for those in specific regional areas and modifying the skills assessment process. Monitoring news updates is crucial as changes in government policies and visa regulations can impact eligibility and visa conditions.

Recent reports also suggest that the demand for the 485 Visa remains strong, with many graduates using this pathway to gain valuable work experience in Australia before transitioning to permanent residency.

## **485 Visa Australia Extension**

The **485 Visa Extension** is available for international graduates who meet specific criteria, particularly those who studied in designated regional areas. Under this extension, graduates can extend their stay by an additional 1 to 2 years, depending on their qualification and location of study. This extension aims to encourage skilled graduates to live and work in regional areas, thereby addressing skill shortages in these communities.

It's important to check the latest regulations, as the criteria for the 485 Visa Extension can vary depending on government policies and changes to regional migration incentives.

## **485 Visa Australia Document Checklist**

When applying for the 485 Visa, it is crucial to ensure that all necessary documents are submitted. Here is a comprehensive checklist of the required documents:

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1. **Proof of Identity:** Valid passport and birth certificate.
2. **Qualifications:** Completion letter and transcripts from an Australian educational institution.
3. **English Language Proficiency:** Evidence of English test results, if required.
4. **Health Insurance:** Proof of valid Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).
5. **Australian Federal Police Check:** A national police clearance certificate.
6. **Skills Assessment:** Required for the Graduate Work stream.
7. **Application Form:** Completed visa application form.

Submitting a complete and accurate application package is critical for minimizing delays in processing and ensuring a smooth application process.

## 485 Visa Australia to Permanent Residency

One of the primary attractions of the 485 Visa is that it serves as a stepping stone to permanent residency in Australia. After gaining work experience on the 485 Visa, many graduates apply for skilled migration visas such as the **Skilled Independent Visa (Subclass 189)** or the **Skilled Nominated Visa (Subclass 190)**. Points accumulated through work experience, qualifications, and regional work can increase eligibility for these permanent visas.

Applicants may also explore employer-sponsored visas, such as the **Employer Nomination Scheme (Subclass 186)**, as another route to permanent residency.

## 485 Visa Tax Purposes

For tax purposes, 485 Visa holders are generally considered Australian residents if they reside in Australia for more than six months. This classification means that visa holders are taxed at the same rate as Australian citizens, giving them access to lower tax rates and tax-free thresholds.

It is important for visa holders to keep accurate records of their work and income, as they will need to file tax returns like any other resident.

## 485 Visa Australia Fee

The visa application fee for the 485 Visa varies depending on the stream. As of the latest update, the base application charge is approximately AUD 1,680 for both the Graduate Work and Post-Study Work streams. However, additional fees may apply if family members are included in the application or if certain health checks or certifications are required.

It's advisable to confirm the exact fees before applying, as government charges can be subject to changes.

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## Conclusion: Immigration Agent Perth

The 485 Visa is an excellent opportunity for international graduates who want to live and work in Australia after completing their studies. It offers a bridge to permanent residency, valuable work experience, and the chance to contribute to the Australian economy. However, navigating the visa process can be complex, with various requirements and updates to consider.

For personalized assistance, it is highly recommended to consult an **Immigration Agent in Perth**. A registered migration agent can provide expert advice, help with visa applications, and ensure that you meet all eligibility requirements, increasing your chances of a successful outcome. Whether you're seeking guidance on the 485 Visa extension or transitioning to permanent residency, an **Immigration Agent in Perth** can help you every step of the way.

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