Visa Options for Event Participants

Sport, entertainment, conferences, meetings and seminar events

Get it right the first time for a faster visa process. Check twice, submit once

Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

	Role in Event	Visa Options	Specific visa requirements
PAID to work, perform, contribute, compete or participate in the event	Invited participants contributing to an event, for stays of up to three months. Including: • Professional sports personnel (players, officials, support staff) participating as part of an overseas team or event • Speakers, presenters, exhibitors, or contributors invited by an Australian organisation • Entertainers attending promotional events **(not performing)** • Artists creating or exhibiting visual work • Authors presenting at writers' festivals • Workshop facilitators (including unticketed events)	**Temporary Activity visa** (subclass 408) Invited Participant stream A visa application charge applies	You must have a letter of invitation from an Australian organisation to be eligible to apply. If you are in Australia when you apply you must have a Temporary Activities sponsor, see here.
	Specialised workers, speakers, event organisers and contributors, and media roles (non-Australian audience) including: • Journalists or media personnel **covering events for non-Australian audiences** • Contract or specialist workers (e.g. Construction & installation) • Other contributors participating in an event where there is no Australian inviting organisation	**Temporary Work visa** (subclass 400) Short Stay Specialist A visa application charge applies	Letter of invitation, job offer, employment contract or other document from an Australian Organisation. Contract confirming employment and specifying work conditions You must be outside Australia when you apply and when your application is decided.
	Performers and media roles **(Australian audience)** including: • Performers or entertainers **(performing)** • Journalists or media personnel **covering events for Australian audiences**	**Temporary Activity visa** (subclass 408) Entertainment Activities stream A visa application charge applies	Letter of invitation from an Australian organisation OR documentation (job offer, employment or contract) from an Australian Organisation Evidence of Union Consultation You can be in or outside Australia when you apply and when your application is decided. If you are in Australia when you apply you must have a Temporary activities sponsor, see here.

	Role in Event	Visa Options	Specific visa requirements
NOT PAID to work, contribute or participate in the event	Participant or attendee of an event, where the individual will not be working, performing, selling products, or otherwise being paid to contribute. • Recreational sports persons or teams participating in amateur events • Unpaid speakers or presenters (even where costs such as travel and accommodation are covered), where the event is non-ticketed or no fee is charged to attend • Amateur competitions • Spectators or family members • Coaches, referees, or officials (where this is unpaid and not their usual occupation)	**Visitor visa** (subclass 600) Business or Tourist stream A visa application charge applies	Letter of invitation from an Australian Organisation, confirmed event registration or other evidence of participation in the event. Avoid common mistakes that can delay your application or lead us to refusing your visa application. See here for *tips for a 'decision-ready' Visitor visa application*. A Visitor Visa Application Charge (VAC) exemption may apply where the applicant is travelling for official business and is: • A foreign government representative • A United Nations Laissez-Passer (UNLP) holder • A member of an exempt group under an Australian Government agreement You must apply for an ETA through the Australian ETA app (available for download on both Apple and Android devices).
		Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) (subclass 601) **For eligible passport holders only** A service charge applies	
		eVisitor visa (subclass 651) Business or Tourist stream **For eligible passport holders only** No Visa Application Charge applies	

Last modified May 2026