Australian Government

Pacific Engagement Visa

Which visa option is right for you?

Pacific Engagement Visa

The Pacific Engagement Visa (PEV) is a permanent residence visa for eligible citizens of participating Pacific countries and Timor-Leste.

With this visa, PEV holders can live, work and study anywhere in Australia. There are no restrictions on work location, industry, type of work or employers. This applies to both primary and secondary visa holders.

Each program year up to 3,000 visas, inclusive of partners and dependent children, will be allocated to eligible citizens from participating countries through a random ballot process. The number of visas allocated to each country is negotiated between Australia and the governments of participating countries. Those selected in the annual ballot will be able to apply for this visa.

The Australian Government offers a free PEV Support Service in all participating countries. The Service provides a range of in-person and online support throughout the ballot and visa application periods to help people understand the ballot and visa application process, navigate the job application process to meet the employment requirements of the visa, and prepare to settle in Australia.

More information is available at:
www.pev.gov.au
www.facebook.com/PacificEngagementVisa

Falepili Mobility Pathway

The Pacific Engagement Visa (subclass 192) Treaty stream (Tuvalu), known as the Falepili Mobility Pathway, is a permanent residence visa that offers special visa arrangements for citizens of Tuvalu under the Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union Treaty.

The visa gives citizens of Tuvalu the choice to live, work (without restriction), and study in Australia and provides visa holders the ability to travel to and from Australia indefinitely without the need for a resident return visa.

There will be 280 visas (including partners and dependent children) allocated in the second program year (2026-27) through a random ballot process. Those selected in the ballot will be able to apply for the visa.

The Australian Government offers a free Falepili Mobility Pathway Support Service in Tuvalu and Australia. The Service provides in-person and online support throughout the ballot and visa application process to help Tuvaluans understand the process and prepare to settle in Australia.

More information is available at:
www.falepilipathway.gov.au
www.facebook.com/FalepiliMobilityPathway

Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme

The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme is a temporary visa program which enables eligible Australian businesses to hire workers from nine Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste when there are not enough local workers available.

Through the PALM scheme, Pacific and Timor-Leste workers take up a range of short-term (up to 9 months) and long-term job opportunities (one to four years) in low and semi-skilled positions, enabling them to develop skills and send income home to support their families and communities.

PALM scheme workers are required to depart Australia to reconnect with their families and communities. This is for three months following the conclusion of a short-term placement and six months following the conclusion of a long-term placement before they can reapply to re-join the scheme.

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Comparison Table

	Pacific Engagement Visa	Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union	PALM Pacific Australia Labour Mobility
Citizenship	Participating Pacific countries and Timor-Leste	Tuvaluan	Participating Pacific countries and Timor-Leste
Location of visa applicant	Anywhere in the world	Anywhere in the world	Participating Pacific countries and Timor-Leste
Age of main applicant	18-45 years when the ballot registration period opens	18 years and over when the ballot registration period opens	21 years and over
Secondary applicants permitted	Yes, spouse or de facto partner and legally dependent children	Yes, spouse or de facto partner and legally dependent children	No
Employment requirement	Yes, job offer	No	Yes, employer sponsor
Health examination	Yes, permanent visa medical examination	Yes, permanent visa medical examination	Yes, temporary visa medical examination
Character checks	Yes	Yes	Yes
Must be free from Tuberculosis	Yes	Yes	Yes
English language requirement	Yes, of primary applicant or spouse or de facto partner included in application	No	Yes, of a reasonable standard (expectations can vary based on needs of industry/employer)
Type of visa	Permanent	Permanent	Temporary
Length of stay in Australia	Travel facility valid for 5 years*	Unlimited travel facility	Short-term work: up to 9 months Long-term work: 1-4 years
Visas available in the 2026-27 program year	3,000 including dependents	280 including dependents	Demand-driven
Ballot process	Yes	Yes	No
Cost of ballot entry	$25	$25	N/A
Cost of visa application (as of May 2026)	$345 for primary applicant $85 for each dependent	$205 for primary applicant $50 for each dependent	$365
Name of visa	Pacific Engagement visa (subclass 192) – Pacific Engagement stream	Pacific Engagement visa (subclass 192) – Treaty stream (Tuvalu)	Temporary Work (International Relations) visa (subclass 403) – Pacific Australia Labour Mobility stream

*After the 5 year travel facility has ceased, visa holders require a Resident Return Visa (RRV)
Note: All dollar amounts are in Australian dollars (AUD).