Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Changes to Training (subclass 407) visa application requirements

The Training visa is designed for people who want to improve their skills through structured, workplace-based training in Australia.

The Australian Government is updating Training (subclass 407) visa application requirements to ensure the program supports genuine skills development as intended.

From 11 March 2026, in addition to other validity requirements, all new applicants for a Training visa will need to wait for the following before they can make a valid Training visa application:

- their sponsor must be approved as a temporary activities sponsor, and
- their sponsor must have an approved Training visa nomination for them, unless the sponsor is a Commonwealth agency.

Previously it was possible to validly lodge the visa application at the same time as the sponsorship and Training visa nomination application. You just needed approval before the Training visa could be granted.

Sponsors should lodge the sponsorship and nomination applications well before the proposed training start date.

Applicants in Australia must ensure that they hold a valid visa while they wait for the department to process the sponsorship and Training visa nomination. Applicants will only be able to get a Bridging visa for their Training visa application once they lodge a valid Training visa application.

Why the change is happening

The changes support the Government's commitment to reduce 'permanent temporariness', where individuals who may not meet the eligibility criteria for permanent residence extend their stay through multiple temporary visa applications. This situation can make them vulnerable to exploitation.

Important: Training visa applications submitted through departmental systems after 11 March 2026 will not be valid if the sponsor and Training visa nomination have not yet been approved. The department will notify the applicant that the application is not valid and refund the visa application charge.

Applicants may need to leave Australia or apply for a different visa while they wait for the sponsorship and/or Training visa nomination to be approved.

For more information see:

- Training visa (subclass 407)
- Become a sponsor - Temporary activities sponsor
- Visa processing times

Commonwealth agency sponsors

Separate arrangements apply for Australian Commonwealth agency sponsors. Commonwealth agencies must get approval as temporary activities sponsors before the applicant lodges a Training visa application. Commonwealth agencies don't need a nomination.

Prioritisation within Sponsorships and Nominations for subclass 407

There has been high growth of lodgements for the subclass 407 visa over the last 2 years, and the refusal rate has increased.

- 21,407 visa applications were lodged in 2024-25. This is 183.1 per cent higher than the 7,563 applications lodged in 2023-24
- The refusal rate in in 2025-26 to 31 December 2026 was 40.9 per cent. Refusal rates over the same period in 2023-24 were 6.3 per cent

To manage the ongoing demand for this visa within finite resources, sponsorships and nominations for position types where there has been ongoing demand with strong quality indicators will be streamlined. This includes sectors such as:

- Health care and Social Assistance
- Professional Scientific and Technical
- Education and Training
- Engineering
- Aviation
- etc

Consideration of sponsorships and nominations with the following factors will be considered, but not streamlined, leading to extended processing times:

- Where there appears to be intent to maintain ongoing work in Australia rather than a genuine training outcome
- Nominations with a training duration not commensurate to the level of skills development to be obtained
- Nominations with long a duration of training and a low rate of pay/remuneration

These settings will continue to be reviewed.