

OFFSHORE REFUGEE & HUMANITARIAN VISAS

SUBCLASS 200 REFUGEE VISA

The criteria includes:

- 1.the applicants can prove they are subject to persecution in the home country or meet the definition of a **Split Family Member**.
- 2.the applicants are living outside their home country
- 3.Successful applicants are often mandated as a refugee by the UNHCR or can evidence risk of harm due to employment with international defence forces or associated companies.

SUBCLASS 201 IN-COUNTRY SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN VISA

To be eligible the applicants can evidence persecution in the home country where they have the right to reside. There is a low probability of success unless they are able to meet the requirements of a split family or can evidence employment with international defence forces or associated companies leading to risk of persecution.

SUBCLASS 202 GLOBAL SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN VISA

To be eligible the applicants must meet all of the below criteria :

- 1.Outside the home country or meet the definition of a **Split Family Member**.
- 2.Subject to discrimination amounting to gross violation of human rights or meet the definition of a **Split Family Member**.
- 3.Proposed by an Australian Citizen, Permanent Resident, eligible New Zealand citizen, other Australia organisation or an “Approved Proposing Organisation” under the Community Support Program (see following [link](#).) For further information visit the Department of Home Affairs [website](#).

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Allows Australian individuals, businesses, or community organisations to sponsor applicants who have a humanitarian need.

The proposer (sponsor):

- 1.Community organisation that is approved by the Department of Home Affairs (APO). Link [here](#).

MEET 'SPLIT FAMILY' PROVISIONS

In the past 5 years, you must have been granted a:

- Refugee visa (subclass 200)
- In-country Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 201)
- Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202)
- Emergency Rescue visa (subclass 203)
- Woman at Risk visa (subclass 204)
- Protection visa (subclass 866), or
- Resolution of Status visa (subclass 851)

The applicant:

- Must be your partner, dependent child or, if you are not 18 or more years of age, your parent or stepparent (immediate family).

The sponsor

- Must have declared the applicant as an immediate family member before your visa was granted.
- Has not come to Australia as an illegal maritime arrival on or after 13 August 2012.

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SUBCLASS 203 EMERGENCY RESCUE VISA

Applicants can be in or out of the home country but must need emergency assistance for a visa due to fear of persecution. Most successful cases are referred for migration to Australia by the UNHCR.

SUBCLASS 204 WOMAN AT RISK VISA

To be eligible a woman must be:

1. Outside her home country
 2. Subject to persecution, or the UNHCR identify the applicants as at risk.
 3. The applicants can prove it is not possible to get the protection of a male relative and must be in serious danger of abuse, victimisation or harassment because of their gender.
- The UNHCR advise that applicants applying for this visa may register as a person of concern.

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Please seek legal advice to evidence the applicants risk of harm, persecution or need for protection and other criteria that apply to each of the visas listed.

HOW TO APPLY FOR AN OFFSHORE REFUGEE OR HUMANITARIAN VISA

The applicants will need to complete Form 842 (Application for an Offshore Humanitarian visa) and a proposer (where applicable) must complete Form 681 (Refugee and Special Humanitarian proposal).

There is no application fee for these visas unless sponsored by an APO.

Where an applicant's entry to Australia has been proposed in accordance with form 681 or form 1417 (Community Support Programme) the application must be sent:

- a) by post to: Special Humanitarian Processing Centre Department of Home Affairs GPO Box 9984 Sydney NSW 2001; OR
- b) by courier to: Special Humanitarian Processing Centre Department of Home Affairs Level 3/26 Lee Street Sydney NSW 2001; OR
- c) by email via the online lodgement portal at: <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/humvisaapplication>

If the visa applicants do not have a proposer, the application form 842, together with relevant attachments and evidence must be lodged outside Australia at a diplomatic, consular, or migration office maintained by or on behalf of the Australian Government.

Disclaimer: This fact sheet contains general information only. It does not constitute legal or migration advice.