

THE NEW SPONSORED PARENT (TEMPORARY) VISA – (SUBCLASS 87)

Another Path to Reunite with Your Australian Family Members up to 10 Years Stay in Australia

Now this new path is open to parents who wish to reunite with their adult children in Australia without concerning the limited timeframe of each stay required by a visitor visa; or those who could not meet the “Balance of Family Test” for a parent visa application.

This new visa will allow parents to visit Australia for up to 3 or 5 years, and is renewable for up to a maximum of 10 years. If parents, who held or hold multiple entries visitor visas, have been questioned or even declined entrance to Australia at the Border merely on the basis they have visited the country “too frequently” or “exceeds certain proportion of their visa travel period”, then they may consider this new visa channel and travel to and from Australia freely during the grant period.

To obtain this visa, there are two stages. First, the adult child must apply for and obtain a Parent Sponsor Approval by the Department of Home Affairs (‘DHA’). Second, the parent or parents of the sponsoring adult child must lodge a visa application to the DHA within 6 months of the Parent Sponsor Approval.

However, the parent is not able to work in Australia, or able to access to Medicare services on this temporary visa.

The sponsorship is open for application since 17 April 2019. The visa will be open for application on and after 1 July 2019, and must be lodged within 6 months of the Parent Sponsor Approval.

Below are the summarised criteria for the sponsors (the adult child) to check their eligibility in obtaining the Parent Sponsor Approval:

- you must be at least 18 years of age and be the child, or the child’s partner of the visa applicant
- an Australian citizen, or an Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen usually resident in Australia for at least 4 years prior to the sponsorship application
- you have not been an unlawful non-citizen or held a bridging visa (other than a bridging visa A, B or C) during the last 4 years
- you have no debt to the Australian government; otherwise, you must either have paid it back or arranged to pay it back (i.e. payment instalment plan with the government)

- you have no substantial criminal record
- you agree to provide the government with your income evidence, when required, up to two years after your sponsorship has ceased; and you must pay outstanding public health debt of sponsored person, even after their subclass 870 visa have expired
- you must meet the income test (no less than the minimum taxable income threshold of the full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings for the last income year (usually is the most recent completed financial year) published by the relevant government authority) :
 - the current publish is up to November 2018, being \$1,604.90 per week (next issue will be released on 15 August 2019), equals **\$83,454.80** annual salary calculated based on 52 weeks per year; or
 - If you alone cannot meet the minimum \$83,454.80 annual income for the last financial year, you can add your partner's and/or the parent's another adult child's income together (that child must be an Australian citizen, permanent resident or an eligible New Zealand citizen). If the **combined income** meets the threshold and your own income is at least equal to half of that amount (currently being \$41,727.40), then you still pass the income test for this sponsorship application.

For the incoming financial year (1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020), there will be only 15,000 places available for this subclass 870 visa approvals. We are able to advise and assist you with applying for this sponsored parent (Temporary) Visa, for both stages. Please contact the author to find out how we could be of assistance to you and your family to achieve your goal.

Should you require any guidance, please contact **Stella Zheng** on (07) 5570 9309.

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