

APPLYING FOR FURTHER TPV or SHEV

**TELL DHA IF YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CHANGE
GET LEGAL ADVICE. APPLY WELL BEFORE YOUR TPV/SHEV EXPIRES**

When to apply for further SHEV/TPV?

People who have a 3-year Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) or a 5-year Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV) must apply for a further TPV or SHEV **BEFORE** their current visas expires to stay lawful.

A reminder will be sent by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) to the visa holder's email or phone, about 3 months before the visa expires. You must tell DHA if you change contact details or you may not receive the reminder.

DHA suggests applying at least 3 months before your current TPV or SHEV expires. But if you want to change from a TPV to a SHEV you should get legal advice and apply as soon as possible.

If a further application is made before the current TPV or SHEV expires, the current visa will continue until a decision is made. All benefits and work/study rights will continue, but before your current visa expires new forms will need to be lodged with Medicare ([Form MS 004](#)) and maybe Centrelink.

How to apply

First get access to your DHA file through Freedom of Information. You can apply by post or by email on [Form 424A \(link\)](#). You should apply about 5 months before your visa expires.

You can **apply for a further TPV or SHEV** by post ([access Form 1505 here](#)) or online through [ImmiAccount](#).

It is important to **get legal help** to get access to your DHA file and to reapply (See '[Legal Help](#)' below)

Assessing the further application

DHA say they will closely check these things:

- *Has the situation in the home country changed?
- *Have there been any criminal charges or security issues?
- *Has there been overseas travel to the home country?
- *Are there changes to the family group?
- *Have the reasons for claiming protection changed?

DHA may interview people if the country situation has changed or about credibility or identity.

If the application is approved, a further TPV or SHEV is granted with the same conditions and benefits. If DHA refuses the application then merits review may be available.

Legal Help

It is very important to **get your file from DHA and get legal advice before reapplying**.

RAILS (Refugee and Immigration Legal Service - phone 3846 9300 <https://www.rails.org.au/contact>) can give free legal help about applying for a TPV or SHEV.

People in Brisbane can get help with Freedom of Information forms to get access to their DHA files, at the Indooroopilly Uniting Church clinics each Thursday and Saturday from 2-5pm at 74 Station Road, Indooroopilly.

There is also information on the DHA website – www.homeaffairs.gov.au/temporaryprotection

How do I decide between a TPV or a SHEV?

The main differences are that a TPV is for 3 years and a SHEV is for 5 years AND if a SHEV holder, or a family member on their SHEV application, complete 3.5 years of work or study in a regional area, they can apply for some skilled, student or family visas (see RAILS [SHEV Visas Factsheet](#)).

It is your decision as to which visa to apply for. You should think about whether:

- you or your family will be able to find work or study in a regional area
- you would prefer your protection claims to be re-assessed in 3 years or 5 years
- you will be able to afford the fees to study in a regional area
- you are likely to meet the requirements for work, student or family visas in 5 years
- you need support services and if they are available in a regional area.

How are SHEVs and TPVs different?

	TPV	SHEV
How long visa lasts	Up to 3 years	Up to 5 years
Can reapply for a protection visa - TPV or SHEV	✓	✓
Can apply for some other (SHEV Pathway) visas	✗	✓
Able to access work rights, Centrelink, Medicare, job seeker assistance, and short-term counselling	✓	✓
Children (under 18) can attend school	✓	✓
People 18+ can access Adult Migration English Program	✓	✓
Commonwealth-funded subsidies for other study	✗	✗
Allowed to bring family members to Australia	✗	✗
Allowed to visit home country and return	✗	✗
Allowed to other countries and return – ONLY with written permission from Minister BEFORE you leave	✓	✓
Citizenship	✗	✗
Must notify DHA-of change of address within 28 days	✓	✓

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