

Applying for visas

It is not compulsory to use a lawyer or migration agent when you apply for a visa, but immigration law is very complex. Each visa has many requirements and if you make a mistake, your application could be refused. If you apply for the wrong visa or it is refused, you may need to leave Australia.

Lawyers and registered migration agents can help you to work out what options you have and which visa is best for you. They can also help you make your application strong.

Lawyers and Registered Migration Agents

If you are looking for a lawyer or migration agent, it is important that you **make sure the person is qualified and allowed to assist you**. Unfortunately, some people take advantage of migrants and asylum seekers by charging them fees for work they do not do or agreeing to do work they are not qualified for.

In Queensland, you can check the [Queensland Law Society website](#) to see that a lawyer has a current practicing certificate.

For migration agents, check the [Migration Agents Registration Authority](#) to make sure that your agent is registered.

If you are not happy with the work that your lawyer or migration agent does, you can also contact those bodies to make a complaint.

Legal Advice and Assistance

RAILS employs lawyers and registered migration agents. We provide free legal advice and assistance in relation to some areas of immigration law. If we cannot help you, we may refer you to another free service or to a lawyer or migration agent in private practice.



Level 3, 43 Peel Street South Brisbane (Monday-Friday, 9am -5pm)



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