



Australian Government
**Department of Immigration
and Border Protection**

Cessation of Australian Visa Labels

Official Fact Sheet

From 1 September 2015, Australia will cease issuing visa labels to holders of Australian visas.

Only a small number of labels will continue to be issued to holders of the Document for Travel to Australia (DFTTA) after 1 September 2015. The DFTTA is issued to Refugee and Special Humanitarian visa holders and to a small number of visa holders who do not have, or cannot obtain, a passport recognised by the Australian Government. This arrangement will be facilitated until the staged rollout of the Australian Migration Status (AMS) ImmiCard is completed. The AMS ImmiCard, an International Civil Aviation Organisation compliant machine-readable official travel document, has been progressively replacing the DFTTA since May 2015.

Travelling to and from Australia

Australian visas are granted electronically and stored in a central database, enabling visa holders, registered Australian organisations and airline staff to check visa details online.

Australian visa holders can provide evidence that they have the authority to travel to, enter and/or remain in Australia by showing the passport or ImmiCard that is linked to their electronic visa record.

Australian visa holders must notify the Department of Immigration and Border Protection of their new passport details to ensure that their record is up-to-date. Failure to update their passport details will result in delays when travelling to Australia. Visa holders or registered Australian organisations will be unable to check visa details online.

Visa holders can update their passport details by completing Form 929 (Change of address and/or passport details) or online if they have an ImmiAccount.

Digital checking

The Department's move to digital services is part of the ongoing shift by the Australian Government to adopt digital service delivery channels which are more convenient to use and easier to access anywhere, anytime.

The visa holder's passport or ImmiCard is linked to their electronic visa record through a unique identifying number. This number is required by visa holders and other parties when doing a digital visa check.

Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO): VEVO is a free web service available that allows visa holders to check their visa details and conditions online.

Visa holders are also able to send their visa details and conditions to any third party (including foreign governments) through email from the VEVO system. This ensures the secure and accurate transfer of information to any third parties.

With a visa holder's permission, VEVO can also provide registered organisations, such as potential employers, information about a person's visa conditions.

myVEVO mobile app: Visa holders can also check and email their visa details wherever they go through the myVEVO mobile app.

For more information about VEVO and myVEVO, visit www.border.gov.au/vevo.

Advance Passenger Processing (APP): Airlines that fly to Australia must provide details of all passengers to Australia's immigration and customs authorities ahead of their arrival in Australia.

Digital verification through the APP is well understood and accepted by airlines that fly direct to Australia. When a passenger checks in prior to boarding the aircraft to fly to Australia, airline staff use APP to check the passenger's passport details electronically and confirm that the passenger has the authority to travel to Australia.

Airlines that do not fly directly to Australia and do not have access to the APP system can contact the connecting airline for the passenger's flight to Australia to request an APP check or a TIETAC check (check-in function within the Electronic Travel Authority System) to confirm whether the passenger has a valid Australian visa.

Further information

For information about Australia's electronic visa record, visit www.border.gov.au/aboutyourvisa.