

TEMPORARY PROTECTION VISAS

Who will get a TPV?

If you are an asylum seeker in Australia you can no longer be granted a Permanent Protection visa if:

- You arrived in Australia without a visa;

OR

- you arrived in Australia with a visa but were refused entry to the Australian community (for example, if you arrived by plane and were not allowed to pass through immigration clearance at the airport).

If you are one of these people and do not hold a Permanent Protection visa, you will be given a Temporary Protection visa (TPV) if you are found to be in need of Australia's protection, meet character requirements and have had a medical examination.

What is a TPV?

A TPV is a temporary visa usually lasting for 3 years.

If you hold a TPV:

- you **cannot** sponsor family members for Australian visas;
- you **cannot** leave Australia unless you have the permission of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection;
- you **cannot** travel to your home country;
- you must tell the Department within 28 days each time you move to a new residential address;
- you can work and get Medicare;
- you can apply for some Centrelink payments as **specified by the Minister**; and if you are under the age of 18 you can attend government schools.

If you hold a TPV can you apply for other visas in Australia?

If you hold a TPV you **cannot** apply for any other kind of visa apart from another TPV or a Safe Haven Enterprise visa (SHEV) (see: Information Sheet 'Safe Haven Enterprise visas').

If you apply for another TPV or a SHEV your claims for protection will be assessed again at that time.

When did these changes start? Who do they apply to?

These changes started on **16 December 2014** and apply to asylum seekers who did not hold a Permanent Protection visa at that time. This includes those who had already applied for a Permanent Protection visa but were still waiting for a decision from the Department or Refugee Review Tribunal.