Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Changes to Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa application rules for Indonesian passport holders

Check how the new rules affect you before making work, travel or relocation plans

From 1 December 2026, there are new rules for Indonesian passport holders seeking their first Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa.

The opportunity to live, work and travel in Australia through the Working Holiday Maker program remains available to eligible Indonesian passport holders. What is changing is how you apply for your first visa.

From 1 December 2026, you must register for a ballot and be selected before you can apply for your first Work and Holiday visa. You can no longer apply directly.

Indonesian passport holders no longer need a Letter of Support to apply for a first Work and Holiday visa, or to register for a ballot.

If you lodged an application for your first Work and Holiday visa before 1 December 2026, these changes do not affect that application. Your application will be assessed under the rules that were in place when you lodged it.

How the application process works

Before you can apply for your first Work and Holiday visa, you must register for a ballot and be selected. Ballot registrations are selected at random.

There will be one ballot for Indonesian passport holders each year, with defined registration and selection periods.

The visa process has four separate stages:

1. Ballot registration
2. Ballot selection/invitation to apply
3. Visa application
4. Visa decision.

Registering for a ballot does not guarantee that you will be selected. If you are selected, you will be invited to apply for a visa. Being selected and lodging an application does not guarantee that your visa will be granted.

If you are selected in a ballot and you meet the relevant visa requirements, you will have 28 days from the date of your invitation to lodge your visa application.

If you are not selected, you can register for a future ballot and try again, provided you still meet the eligibility requirements.

Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Applying for a first Work and Holiday visa

If you want to apply for a first Work and Holiday visa, visit the New Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa pre-application process page on the Department of Home Affairs website to:

- check whether you are eligible to register
- find out when ballot registration opens
- understand how to register.

If registration is open and you are eligible, you can register for the ballot. You must be outside Australia when you lodge your first visa application and when we decide your application.

Make sure you understand the new process before making work, travel or relocation plans.

Department of Home Affairs website

Planning a second or third Work and Holiday visa?

There are separate new rules for people seeking a second or third Work and Holiday visa. For more information, visit Working Holiday Maker program - Latest news.

Visit the Department of Home Affairs website for the latest information about how the new Work and Holiday visa application process affects you.