

Checklist for planning your move

Use this checklist to plan your move to Australia.

It provides estimated timeframes and activities involved in moving to Australia to work as an internationally qualified health professional. It is not a complete list and should be used as a guide only. The suggested timeframes may vary depending on personal circumstances and external factors such as changes to immigration policies, registration requirements or delays in any of the processes.

Refer to [Ahpra](#) (or the relevant National Board or professional association), the [Department of Home Affairs](#) and your employer for more information about the registration, visa and employment processes.

Planning your move to Australia	Notes
12–18 months before your move	
Create a list of possible places you would like to live in Australia.	
Check eligibility for professional registration and/or accreditation.	
Research visa types and requirements for you and your family.	
6–12 months before your move	
Begin your job search.	
Apply for professional registration and/or accreditation.	
Apply for your visa (if you are seeking an independent visa).	
Secure employment.	
3–6 months before your move	
Research relocation services.	
Develop a budget for when you move.	
Book flights to Australia.	
Prepare your current home for sale or rent, or organise an end to your lease if you are renting.	
Research child care and schooling in the area you will be living and working, and enrol your child(ren).	
Organise shipping for any personal belongings that you cannot pack in your suitcase.	

1–2 months before your move

Organise temporary accommodation for when you arrive.

Arrange for your mail to be redirected.

Compile personal records and paperwork into a secure travel file.

Organise private health insurance and any other required insurances.

Apply for an Australian bank account.

Confirm relocation and arrival support from your employer.

Request up-to-date immunisation records from your family doctor in your home country, including batch numbers.

Arrival to one month after your move

Set up an Australian phone number.

Register with Medicare if you are eligible.

Activate your bank account.

Register for a tax file number with the Australian Taxation Office.

Transfer your driver's licence.

Fulfil any remaining requirements for employment, such as obtaining a working with children check (if needed) and getting any outstanding immunisations.

If you are eligible for Medicare, register for the [Australian Immunisation Register](#) and have your family's immunisation records uploaded at a registered vaccination provider (e.g. a pharmacy).
