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Australia Work & Holiday Visa Ballot

Step-by-Step Application Procedure • Subclass 462 • Indian Passport Holders

IMPORTANT — 2026-27 STATUS

The Australian Department of Home Affairs states that registrations for the China, India and Vietnam Work & Holiday (subclass 462) ballot for Program Year 2026-27 closed on 25 June 2026. This guide explains the process so applicants can understand the procedure and prepare for a future ballot or, if already selected, complete the visa application correctly.

1. Understand the Ballot First

For Indian passport holders, the first Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462) is managed through a pre-application ballot. You do not lodge the full visa application before being selected. You first register for the ballot during the registration period. If randomly selected, you receive instructions to lodge the actual visa application online.

The ballot does not guarantee a visa. A selected applicant must still satisfy all standard subclass 462 visa requirements.

2. Basic Eligibility Checklist

- Hold a valid Indian passport.
- Be 18 to 30 years old (inclusive) when applying for the first subclass 462 visa.
- Apply from outside Australia.
- Have not previously entered Australia on a subclass 417 or 462 visa.
- Must not be accompanied by dependent children while holding the visa.
- Meet the required education criteria for Indian applicants.
- Meet the English-language requirement.
- Meet health, character and other visa requirements.
- Have sufficient funds for the initial stay and onward/departure travel, where required.

3. Documents to Prepare in Advance

Document / Evidence	Why it matters
Indian passport	Identity, nationality and passport details.

Document / Evidence	Why it matters
Education documents	Evidence that you meet the subclass 462 education requirement.
English evidence	IELTS/PTE/Cambridge or other accepted evidence, unless you satisfy an accepted English-language education pathway.
Bank / financial evidence	Evidence of funds and ability to support yourself and leave Australia when required.
Character documents	Police/other documents if requested based on your circumstances.
Health documents	Medical examinations or other health evidence if requested.
Translations	Non-English documents should be translated according to Home Affairs requirements.

4. Step-by-Step Ballot Registration

1 Create or log in to ImmiAccount

Go to the Australian Department of Home Affairs website and create an ImmiAccount, or sign in if you already have one. Use an email address you regularly check.

2 Check the official ballot opening dates

The department publishes the registration opening and closing information. Registration is only possible during the official registration window. Do not rely on social-media dates or unofficial agents.

3 Choose the Work & Holiday (subclass 462) ballot

Follow the official pre-application/ballot process for Indian passport holders. Enter your details exactly as they appear on your passport and other identity documents.

4 Complete the registration carefully

Provide the requested personal, passport and contact information. Review every field before submitting. Incorrect information can create problems if you are later selected.

5 Pay the ballot registration fee

The ballot has a registration fee. For the current program framework, the official Home Affairs material states the ballot registration fee is AUD 25. Keep your payment/transaction record.

6 Submit and save your registration details

After submission, save the confirmation and take a screenshot or download the relevant record. Keep your ImmiAccount login and email access secure.

7 Wait for random selection

The department conducts random selections from eligible registrations. Registration itself is not a visa application and does not guarantee selection.

5. If You Are Selected

8 Check your email and ImmiAccount

If selected, follow the instructions in the notification from the Department of Home Affairs. Use the same identity/passport information associated with your ballot registration.

9 Prepare the full visa application

Complete the first Work and Holiday (subclass 462) visa application online through ImmiAccount. Attach the documents requested by Home Affairs and answer all questions truthfully.

10 Pay the visa application charge

The ballot registration fee and the visa application charge are separate. Check the current official visa pricing before payment because charges can change.

11 Submit the visa application

Submit the application within the deadline stated in your selection notification. Do not wait until the last day if documents or health/character checks may be required.

12 Complete any additional requests

Home Affairs may request further documents, biometrics, health examinations, police certificates or other information. Respond by the deadline shown in the request.

13 Wait for the visa decision

Monitor ImmiAccount and your email. Do not make non-refundable travel arrangements until Home Affairs confirms in writing that the visa has been granted.

6. Important Rules to Remember

- Ballot registration ≠ visa application. You must be selected before you can lodge a first subclass 462 visa application if you are an Indian passport holder.
- Selection ≠ automatic visa grant. You still have to satisfy all visa requirements.
- Use accurate information. Passport, name, date of birth and contact details should be entered carefully.
- Watch your deadlines. If selected, follow the expiry date/deadline in your official notification.
- Do not book travel too early. Home Affairs advises applicants not to arrange travel before the visa is granted in writing.

7. What You Can Do on the First Subclass 462 Visa

- Stay in Australia for up to 12 months.
- Work in Australia to help fund your holiday.
- Study for up to 4 months.
- Travel to and from Australia during the visa period, subject to the visa conditions.

8. Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Using an unofficial website or paying someone for a 'guaranteed' ballot selection.
- Entering passport information incorrectly.

- Missing the official ballot registration window.
- Assuming ballot registration means the visa has been applied for.
- Ignoring the education or English-language requirements until after selection.
- Missing requests or deadlines in ImmiAccount.
- Booking flights before the visa is granted.

9. Official Australian Government Sources

- Work and Holiday visa (subclass 462): [Department of Home Affairs — First Work and Holiday visa](#)
- Working Holiday Maker program: [Department of Home Affairs — WHM program](#)
- Country cap / ballot status: [Department of Home Affairs — Status of country caps](#)
- Latest WHM updates: [Department of Home Affairs — Latest news](#)

Disclaimer: This guide is an informational checklist based on Australian Department of Home Affairs information available at the time of preparation. Visa rules, fees, dates, document requirements and processing arrangements can change. Always verify the latest requirements on the official Australian Government website before registering or applying.

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