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Refugee Visas

About Australian Refugee Visas

In Australia, asylum seekers are eligible to apply for refugee visas under the Australia's Special Humanitarian Programme (SHP). Refugee Visas, also known as Protection Visas, are granted on a permanent basis (Protection Visa, subclass 866). The controversial Temporary Protection Visas, which allowed an asylum seeker to live in Australia temporarily on the basis of being a refugee, are not currently available.

Under the Refugees Convention, a person is a refugee if they are outside of their country of origin and they have a well-founded fear of persecution in that country from which the government is unable or unwilling to protect them.

Persecution claimed must be on the basis of the one or more of the following grounds:



Race



Nationality



Membership
of a particular
social group



Religion



Political
opinion