



Approved employers

Who can employ seasonal workers?

Only organisations approved by the Australian Government can recruit seasonal workers under the Seasonal Worker Programme. These organisations are referred to as 'approved employers'.

How does an organisation apply to become an approved employer?

Organisations may be interested in becoming an approved employer of seasonal workers to recruit and place workers with their own business (e.g. an orange grower), or they may wish to recruit seasonal workers to place with another business in a labour hire arrangement. All organisations interested in becoming an approved employer should complete an application form on the [Seasonal Worker Programme website](http://www.jobs.gov.au/seasonal-worker-programme) (www.jobs.gov.au/seasonal-worker-programme). This form is then assessed by the Department of Jobs and Small Business.

Approved employers enter into agreements with the Department of Jobs and Small Business and the Department of Home Affairs.

Who can apply to become an approved employer?

Any organisation can apply to become an approved employer, including labour hire companies and employers in the agriculture sector nationwide, accommodation sector in selected locations.

Approved employer responsibilities

- ✓ Testing the labour market, and trying to recruit local workers before seeking access to seasonal workers
- ✓ Employing seasonal workers in accordance with Australian workplace legislation

- ✓ Providing briefings to seasonal workers on arrival into Australia and before departing back home
- ✓ Providing seasonal workers with a minimum average of 30 hours per week for up to nine months
- ✓ Paying for the full cost of each seasonal worker's return international airfare and domestic transfers up front, and recouping from the combined cost any amount over \$300 from seasonal workers' pay over time
- ✓ Organising and providing access to council approved accommodation and transport to and from work for each seasonal worker (at the seasonal workers' expense)
- ✓ Reporting to the Australian Government
- ✓ Providing pastoral care for workers, including opportunities for recreation and religious observance, a 24 hour contact number, and assisting workers to access services in the local community.

Find out more

More information about the Seasonal Worker Programme can be found at:

Website: [Seasonal Worker Programme](http://www.jobs.gov.au/seasonal-worker-programme) (www.jobs.gov.au/seasonal-worker-programme) and [Temporary Work \(International Relations\) visa](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/403) (www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/403)

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