

SAFE HAVEN ENTERPRISE VISAS

Who can get a SHEV?

If you hold or are able to apply for a Temporary Protection visa (TPV), then you *may* be able to apply for a Safe Haven Enterprise visa (SHEV).

To apply, you must:

- complete the correct form and pay the application fee; **and**
- state that you **intend to work or study in a *specified* regional area** of Australia while accessing minimum Centrelink payments.

To be granted a SHEV, you must meet the same requirements as for a TPV:

- you must be found to be in need of Australia's protection; **and**
- meet character requirements; **and**
- have had a medical examination.

If you arrived in Australia by boat without a visa, then you will need the Minister's permission to apply for a SHEV. You do not have to hold a TPV before you can apply for a SHEV.

What is a SHEV?

A SHEV is a temporary visa usually lasting for 5 years.

If you hold a SHEV:

- you **cannot** sponsor family members for Australian visas;
- you **cannot** leave Australia unless you have the permission of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection;
- you **cannot** travel to your home country;
- you must tell the Department within 28 days each time you move to a new residential address;
- you can work and get Medicare;
- you can apply for some Centrelink payments as **specified by the Minister**; and
- If you are under the age of 18 you can attend government schools.

If you hold a SHEV can you apply for other visas in Australia?

If you hold a SHEV, you *may* be allowed to apply for another SHEV or TPV. If you apply for another SHEV or TPV, your claims for protection will be assessed again.

If you or a member of your family has held a SHEV for at least **42 months** (3½ years) and, during that time, you or a member of your family:

- worked or studied full time for an education course specified by the Minister, or undertook a combination of that work/study; **and**
- did not receive specified Centrelink payments while working; **and**
- undertook the above work/study while residing in a **regional area specified by the Minister**;

you *may* be able to apply for other visas in Australia, including partner, family, student, skilled, employer sponsored/business, or temporary work visas (but not a Permanent Protection visa). However, if you do apply for one of these visas, you must still meet the specific requirements for that visa before it can be granted.