
Arrival checklist

Sydney and New South Wales.
Your future starts here.



Advantage
Business Migration Support

Practical steps to easy
settlement in Sydney
and NSW

Welcome to NSW, Australia's premier state.

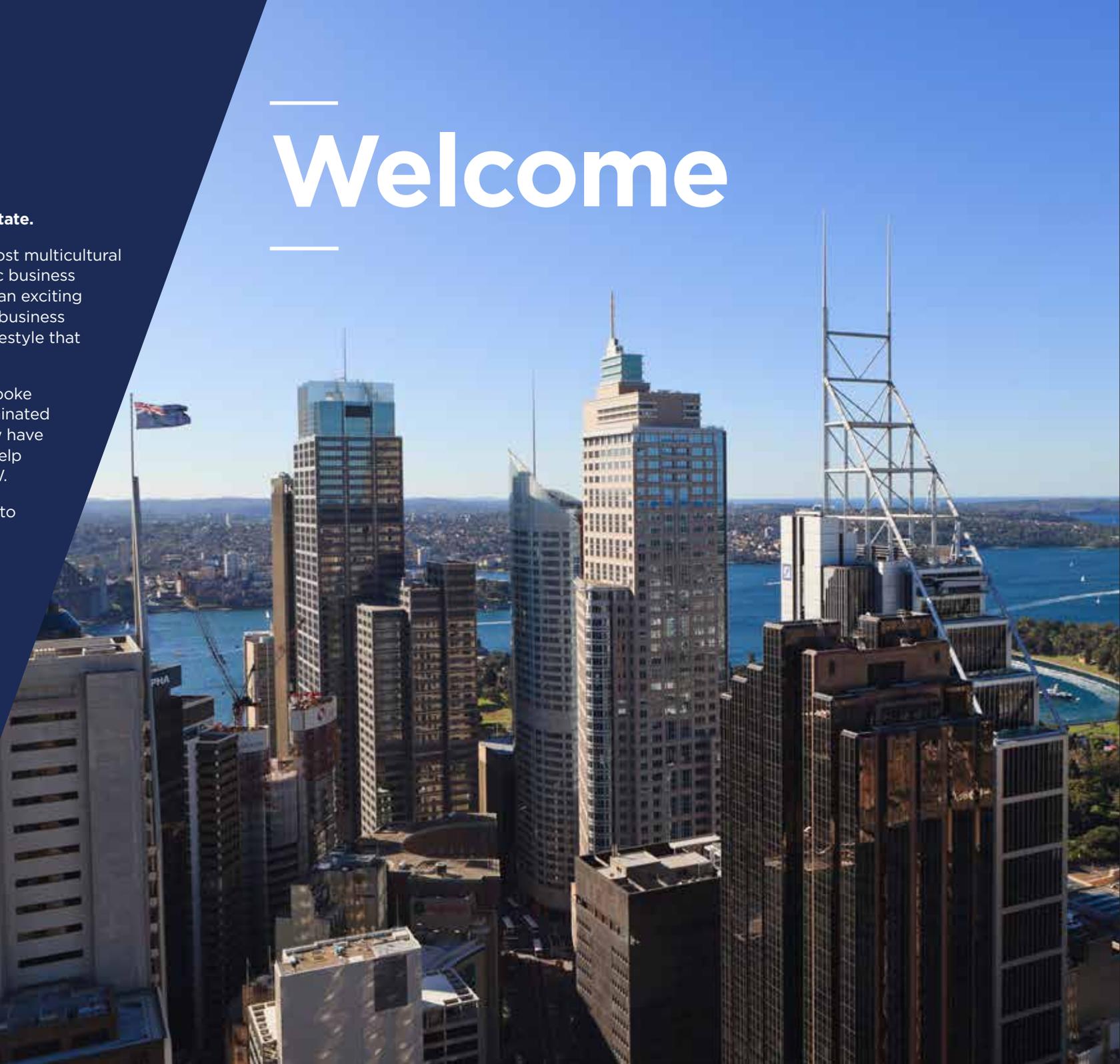
NSW is Australia's oldest, largest and most multicultural state and a major global and Asia Pacific business and cultural hub. In NSW you can enjoy an exciting career in a stable, thriving and dynamic business environment coupled with the kind of lifestyle that most people only dream about.

As a member of Advantage, NSW's bespoke customer service program for state nominated business and investor migrants, you now have access to key information and tools to help you settle and thrive in Sydney and NSW.

This arrival checklist has been designed to assist you with practical steps to ensure your settlement in Sydney and NSW is easy and informed.

For more information on living and working in Australia's premier state, download the **Advantage Guide to Living in Sydney and NSW**.

Welcome



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MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website industry.nsw.gov.au/migration

Contact your dedicated Migration Relationship Officer.

Housing and utilities

- Rent a new home for you and your family, if applicable. You can **download several factsheets** on renting from NSW Fair Trading.
- Purchase a home for you and your family, if applicable.

Read the guide to **Buying a home** from the **Australian Securities and Investment Commission** (ASIC), Australia's corporate, markets and financial services regulator.

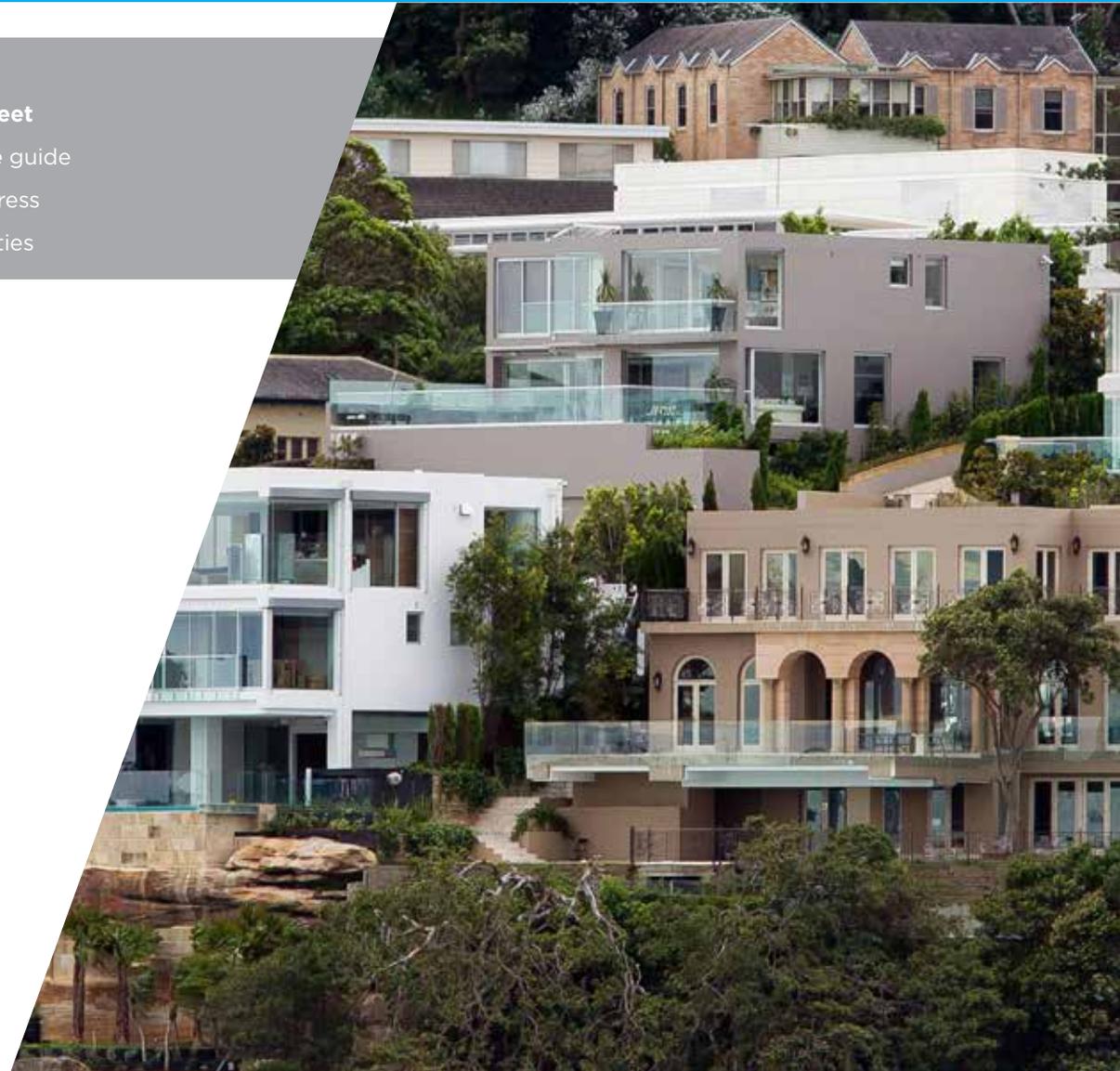
Most Australian banks have guides and information on buying a home. You can visit their websites for details (see Banking section for a listing of banks operating in Australia).

If you're not a permanent resident, make sure to refer to the **Foreign Investment Review Board** (FIRB) rules on buying property.

- Once you've found a home where you intend to live for the long term, visit the Australian Government's **Change my address** page for a list of organisations that might need your address. If you change your address, it is a requirement of your nomination that you advise NSW Business & Investor Migration within three months.
- Set up utilities in your new home: electricity, gas and water. Read about **Choosing electricity and gas providers** on the NSW Resources & Energy website.

CHECKLIST

- Renting factsheet**
- Buying a home** guide
- Change of address
- Setting up utilities



Arrival guide

Education

The state's education system is world-class, with affordable childcare options, comprehensive primary and secondary schools and universities, colleges and Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes providing adult education.

Students in NSW have the choice of public or private schools. The main education provider is the NSW Government; two-thirds of NSW primary and high schools are public schools.

→ Learn more about the options available at **Study.Sydney**

→ Childcare:

For information on childcare and to find a local provider, visit the **MyChild.gov.au** website.

→ School:

In Australia, there is a two-tiered system of comprehensive schooling:

- Primary schools cater to children aged 5 or 6 up to 11 or 12
- High schools are for children aged 12 or 13 and over.

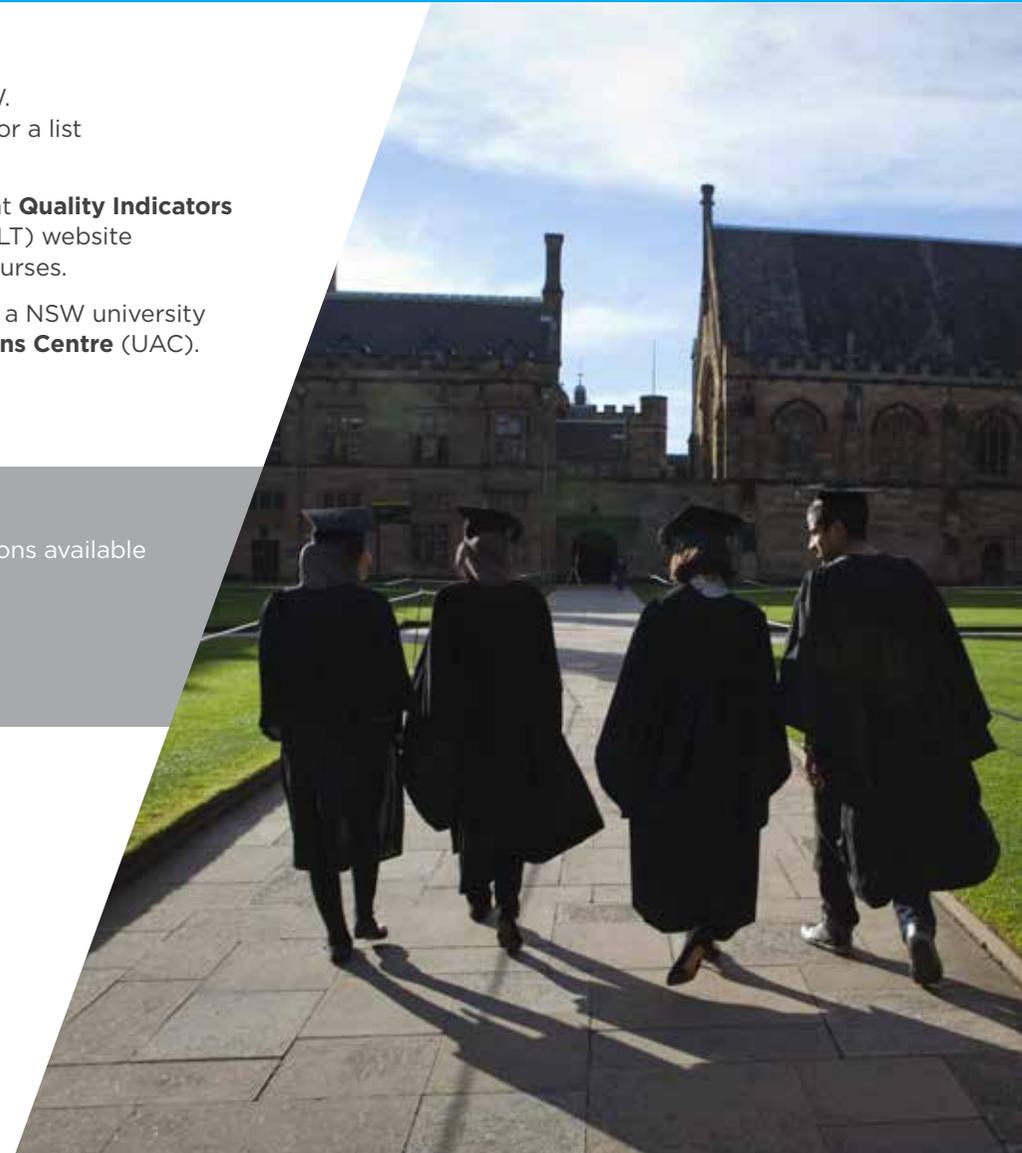
You can find information on different schools using the NSW Department of Education **School finder**.

→ University:

- There are 11 universities in NSW. Visit **StudyinAustralia.gov.au** for a list of Australian universities.
- Visit the Australian Government **Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)** website to compare universities and courses.
- You can apply for a position at a NSW university with the **Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)**.

CHECKLIST

- Learn about **Study.Sydney** options available
- Childcare
- School
- University



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Health

- Enrol yourself and your family into **Medicare**, if you are eligible.

Medicare covers many hospital, medical and pharmaceutical costs. Read about **what is covered** under Medicare.

- Purchase private health insurance.

You can visit **PrivateHealth.gov.au** for information on health insurance, tips and advice and to compare policies.

CHECKLIST

- Research **Medicare** eligibility
- Purchase private health insurance



Establish your business

Running a successful business takes time and dedication and there are many tax, legal and regulatory issues to take into consideration. Here are some tips to get you started:

- Visit **NSW Business Connect** for advice and support.

Contact your **Migration Relationship Officer** and request a fee-free referral to an expert business advisor, if you haven't received one already.

Your dedicated business advisor can offer face-to-face support, provide expert advice on managing your small business and can help develop your key business skills.

- Choose your **business structure and type**.

There are various business types including companies, partnerships and trusts. Read about **Business structures** on **Business.gov.au**.

- Apply for an **Australian Business Number (ABN)/ Australian Company Number (ACN)**.

An **ABN** is a unique, 11-digit number that identifies your business. It doesn't replace your personal tax file number (TFN). Your ABN is used for various tax and other business purposes.

An **ACN** is a unique, nine-digit number issued to all companies, and must be shown on a **range of documents**.

- Register your **business name, website name and trade mark**.

Your business name is also known as your 'trading name' and it's the name under which your business operates. You can **register your business name** through ASIC.

A domain name is the website address on the internet. You can visit the **auDA website** for more information on how to register a domain name in Australia.

A **trade mark** is a way of distinguishing the goods/ services of your business from others. Registering your trade mark protects its unauthorised use.

- If you employ people, you have several obligations to fulfil, including providing mandatory minimum conditions and pay, superannuation and insurance.

NSW Industrial Relations provides information on wages, employee rights, obligations and employment conditions in NSW.

For information on ensuring a healthy and safe working environment for any people who work for you, as well as people who come into contact with your business, visit **SafeWork NSW**.



Establish your business

- Organise any licences, permits and registrations you may need to operate your business.

Use the **ABLIS** search tool to find the licences, permits and registrations you need for your business.

Register for an **Australian Business Account (ABA)** to better manage your licences, permits and registrations. Once you register, you will have access to all of them in the one place.

Visit **ServiceNSW**, a NSW Government one-stop shop initiative that provides access to more than 800 services under one roof, including driver's licences, Fair Trading permits and other state-based licences. You can download the **Service NSW app**, a free app that helps you securely view and manage your licence and vehicle registration in NSW.

- Subscribe to industry newsletters.

Austrade's **Export update** and **Investment update** may be of use for your business forecasting and for finding investment opportunities.

NSW Department of Industry has a range of newsletters that may provide useful information for you:

- **Business update** provides useful information on trade, business and investment opportunities.
- The **NSW Department of Industry** also has useful information on economic and business opportunities in regional NSW.

- Join your local business chamber.

Joining a business chamber may be able to assist you with your business needs and can help you better settle into life in Sydney and NSW. NSW Department of Industry has a **list of business organisations** operating in the state. You can also join the **NSW Business Chamber**, which offers members a suite of tools, events and services.

CHECKLIST

- Visit **NSW Business Connect**
- Choose your **business structure and type**
- Apply for an **ABN** or **ACN**
- Register your **business name, website name** and **trade mark**
- NSW Industrial Relations**
- Visit **SafeWork NSW**
- Visit **ServiceNSW**
- Subscribe to industry newsletters
- Join your local business chamber



Arrival guide



Taxation

In Australia, the three levels of government collect different taxes.

- Federal government: **Australian Taxation Office** (ATO) collects the majority of tax. Most tax is in the form of an income tax on personal income, a corporations' tax, and a 10% goods and services tax (GST).
- State government: **NSW Office of State Revenue** (OSR) also collects tax, usually in the form of taxes on land and business payroll tax for employees.
- Local councils: each council collect rates on homes in their area, usually based on the home's value.

We recommend you consult your financial advisor, accountant or lawyer on taxation issues, as there may be other taxes that affect you or your business. Here are some practical steps to get you started:

Personal

- Apply for a personal **Tax File Number** (TFN).

Your TFN is a personal reference number for Australian taxation and pension systems. You keep the same TFN even if you change your name, change business activity, move interstate or go overseas.

The Australian Tax Office also has a **Moving to Australia permanently** guide to help understand our tax system.

Business (goods and services)

- Register for **Goods and Services Tax** (GST)
You may not have to register for GST if you **meet certain criteria**.

Business (salaries and wages)

- Sign up for **Pay As You Go** (PAYG) withholding.
- Register for **Payroll Tax** (if you meet the **threshold**).
- Find out if you have to pay **Fringe Benefits Tax** (FBT) for items such as a company car.

CHECKLIST

- Visit **Australian Taxation Office** (ATO)
- Visit **NSW Office of State Revenue** (OSR)
- Apply for a personal **Tax File Number** (TFN)
- Consider registering for **Goods and Services Tax** (GST)
- Sign up for **Pay As You Go** (PAYG) withholding
- Register for **Payroll Tax** (if you meet the **threshold**)
- Find out if you have to pay **Fringe Benefits Tax** (FBT)



Banking and insurance

- ➔ Visit your bank to pick up your bank card, if you opened a bank account prior to your arrival in Australia, or to open a bank account in person.

A **list of all banks** operating in Australia is available through APRA.

You can also open both personal and business accounts at most banks.

Some banks offer business coaching and advice. It's useful to ask what services they offer to business owners.

- ➔ Purchase insurance for your home, car, belongings and business.

Read the ASIC MoneySmart guide to **Insuring your home**.

Large general insurers can often insure all of the above. You can find a list of all **registered insurance companies** on the APRA website.

You can also discuss your insurance needs with your bank.

Pensions and superannuation

- ➔ Sign up for an Australian superannuation or super account.

A super account is also known as a pension. Check out the **ATO's guide to super** for more detailed information.

- ➔ Check with your provider to see if you can transfer your super account(s) to Australia.

Whether this is possible will depend on the rules of your super or pension fund.

Transferring overseas money may mean you have to pay tax on some or part of the funds.

CHECKLIST

- Visit your bank
- Purchase insurance for your home, car, belongings and business
- Sign up for an Australian superannuation account
- Research transferring current superannuation account(s) to Australia



Arrival guide



Lifestyle and culture

Sydney and New South Wales offer a diverse range of recreational activities, from excellent food and wine festivals to roadtrips, luxury and boutique shopping, hiking, art and cultural events.

New South Wales is Australia's most multicultural state and more than 200 languages are spoken here. You're sure to find plenty of things to see and do, but here are some tips to start the search:

- For inspiration on what to do in the state, check out **Visit NSW** or **Sydney.com**.
- Download VisitNSW app **Official Sydney Guide** for mobile or iPad from iTunes.
- Buy a NSW National Parks pass from **Service NSW** for easy access to more than 850 parks and reserves across the state.
- Check out the **SBS Your language** portal for news articles, TV shows, radio, and settlement information in over 75 languages.

Multicultural NSW also has a list of the many multilingual newspapers, radio stations and television stations available in the state.

- Register with your **local library**.

Libraries are operated by your local government and provide a whole range of materials such as books and encyclopaedias, videos and internet access.





Lifestyle and culture

- The **Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)** provides weather forecasts and information on fire-bans across the country. You can **download BOM's app** for your phone or tablet to plan your activities or holidays.
- See if you are eligible to sign up for English classes through the **Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)**.
AMEP provides free English language lessons to **eligible migrants**. These English classes are offered in NSW through **AMES** or **Navitas**.
- Multicultural NSW Language Services provides comprehensive interpreting and translation services in 104 languages and dialects. Refer to **Multicultural NSW's Interpreting and Translation service** for more information and contact details.

CHECKLIST

- Check out **Visit NSW** or **Sydney.com**.
- Download **VisitNSW app**
- Buy a **NSW National Parks** pass
- Check out the **SBS Your language** portal
- Register with your **local library**
- Weather updates from **Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)**
- Sign up for English classes through **Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)**
- Free interpreting service with **Multicultural NSW's Interpreting and Translation service**



Arrival guide



Transport

While many people own a car, Sydney and regional NSW provide many options in terms of public transport. Here's how to get around in our state:

- Discover your **local public transport** options and timetables.

NSW offers a variety of services through its train, bus, ferry and light rail networks.

You need to **purchase an Opal card** to travel on Sydney public transport. You can load credit onto your Opal Card at **retailers** or **major train stations**.

You can plan your public transport trips on the **Transport for NSW** website, where you can also **find transport apps** for your phone or tablet.

- Purchase a car.

Every year, all cars in NSW are required to be:

- **insured** with a mandatory insurance (known as a green slip)
- **inspected** by a mechanic (known as a pink slip), unless your vehicle is exempt, and
- **registered** with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS).

- Visit **ServiceNSW** to apply for a driver's licence.

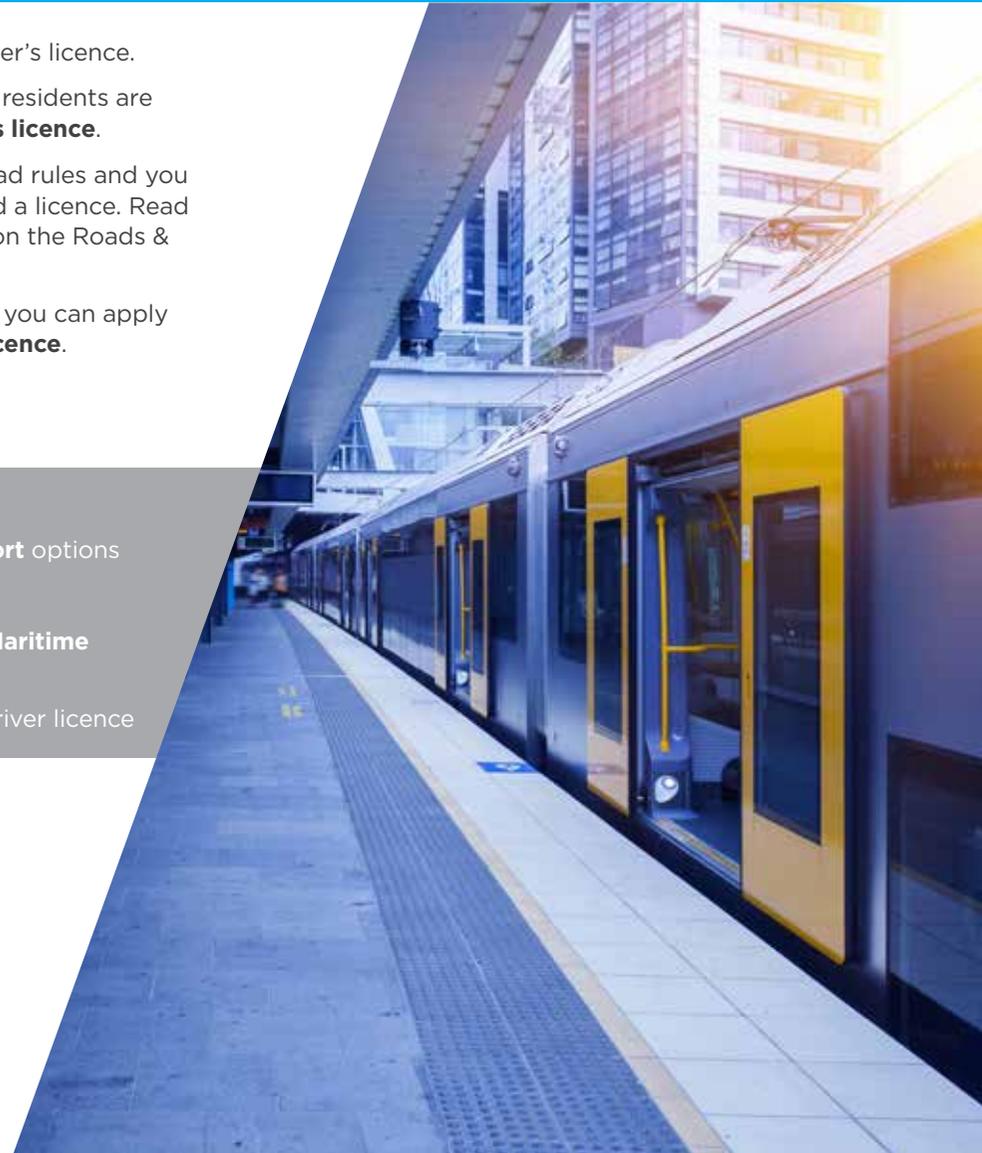
If you intend to drive, all permanent residents are required to apply for a **NSW driver's licence**.

Some countries have very similar road rules and you may not need to sit any tests to hold a licence. Read about these **Recognised countries** on the Roads & Maritime Services website.

If you are not a permanent resident, you can apply for a **Temporary Overseas Visitor licence**.

CHECKLIST

- Discover your **local public transport** options
- Purchase an **Opal card**
- Register vehicle with **Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)**
- Visit **ServiceNSW** to apply for a driver licence



Get your phone and internet connected

- Set up a pre-paid mobile phone account or sign up to a phone plan.

Read the ACCC's guide to **Choosing a mobile plan** for information on types of plans, charges and more.

- Sign up for an internet account.

Find out about **what internet plans** are available in Australia on the **ACCC website**.

CHECKLIST

- Set up a pre-paid mobile phone account or sign up to a phone plan
- Sign up for an internet account



Arrival guide

Keep in touch

- Let your family and friends know you have arrived and settled safely.
- Complete and return your **Business & Investor Nominee Information Update** form.

It is a requirement that you contact NSW Business & Investor Migration within three months of your arrival in the state. You are required to provide details of your current residential address and updates on your business, if applicable. If you change your address, you need to complete and submit a new form within three months.

If you are keen to grow your business in NSW, settle successfully and enjoy a better lifestyle, contact us:

- Get in touch with your dedicated Migration Relationship Officer

✉ business.migration@industry.nsw.gov.au

☎ +61 (2) 9934 0704
(9.00 am-5.00 pm AEDT Monday to Friday)

CHECKLIST

- Touch base with family and friends
- Complete and return your **Business & Investor Nominee Information Update** form
- Get in touch with your dedicated **Migration Relationship Officer**





Contact

If you are keen to grow your business in NSW, settle successfully and enjoy a better lifestyle, contact us:

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Email
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PUB17/446

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