



**THE HON KAREN ANDREWS MP  
MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Travel exemption applications now open for parents of Australians**

From today, parents of Australian citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for a travel exemption, for travel to Australia from 1 November 2021.

Minister for Home Affairs Karen Andrews said the changes would reunite many families separated by the pandemic.

“For more than 18 months, many families with parents overseas have missed weddings, funerals, the birth of grandchildren, and other significant events. I thank these families for their patience and their sacrifice over this period,” Minister Andrews said.

“With today’s change, parents of Australian citizens and permanent residents can reunite in Australia; they can once more hold their grandchildren, and gather in person to share life’s significant milestones.

“The change is possible because many millions of Australians have rolled up their sleeves and been vaccinated. In line with Australia’s National Plan, I look forward to further easing travel restrictions over coming weeks and months as Australia’s vaccination rate continues to climb.”

Applications for a travel exemption can be made through the Department of Home Affairs [Travel Exemption Portal](#), for travel to Australia from 1 November 2021. A variety of parental relationships are recognised, including biological, adoptive, legal, step-parent, and parent-in-law.

Evidence of a parental relationship with an Australian citizen or permanent resident is required, with examples of the type of evidence required available on the Department’s [website](#). Parents must also have a valid passport, visa and proof of vaccination for travel to Australia.

All international travellers remain subject to state and territory quarantine arrangements.

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