



LIVE & STAGE PRODUCTIONS CONSULTATION INFORMATION

This information sheet outlines the requirements of union consultation for performers and personnel seeking a [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\)](#) under the Entertainment Activities stream to work in live and stage productions in Australia. These include but are not limited to concerts, theatre, club, dance, musical, burlesque, cabaret, circus, cultural and variety productions.

Performer means anyone who appears on-stage in any capacity during a live or stage production. This includes but is not limited to singers, DJs, MCs, dancers, actors, circus performers, burlesque performers, puppeteers, speakers, variety artists, magicians, and anyone else who performs or is on-stage for an audience.

Personnel means anyone working off-stage during a live or stage production. This includes but is not limited to lighting and sound technicians, instrument technicians, front-of-house and monitor engineers, producers, directors, choreographers, makeup/hair artists, and all other non-performing production and technical crew and support staff.

HOW TO APPLY

All performers and personnel seeking to work in Australia must apply for and be granted a [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\)](#) under the Entertainment Activities stream. The applicant's sponsor or supporter must consult with the relevant union when applying for this visa.

1. MEAA CONSULTATION

We recommend lodging your application with MEAA as early as possible. The consultation process is straightforward if the application complies with union consultation requirements, the Fair Work Act, and the Migration Regulations. If the application does not comply, MEAA will advise accordingly and request further information or documentation.

MEAA accepts applications for union consultation through our online web form <https://www.meaa.org/imports-activity-visa/>

On completion of our consultation, MEAA will advise the sponsor and Home Affairs in writing whether, in its view, the application complies with the union consultation requirements, the Fair Work Act, and any other industrial agreements, policies, or standards of practice. MEAA will provide a written response to all applications within five business days of receiving all the required documentation and information.

Any industrial enquiries regarding consultation requirements should be directed to the International Artist Services Officer via email: imports@meaa.org

2. DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS

Applications for a [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\)](#) must be made by the sponsor/supporter, and all documents lodged online with Home Affairs. These documents must include evidence of union consultation from MEAA.

All Home Affairs and visa enquiries should be directed to [Temporary Activity visa \(subclass 408\) Entertainment Activities stream \(homeaffairs.gov.au\)](#).

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MEAA.org

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MINIMUM RATES OF PAY AND CONDITIONS

Minimum Australian pay and conditions must be met for all performers and personnel working in Australia. There is **no casual or part-time employment provision** for performers or personnel working away from home. To calculate the required minimum wage for each tour party member, multiply the below rates by the number of weeks they will be in Australia. The contract or deal memo must show that all applicants are paid in line with these Minimum rates of pay and conditions.

The relevant legislated award for live performers is the *Live Performance Award*, which has a minimum weekly rate of **\$1211.10** for performers, **\$1236.45** for technical crew, and **\$1366.29** for Stage/Tour Managers. Actors in theatre or musical productions are covered under the *Performers Collective Agreement*, with a minimum weekly rate of **\$1145.70**. Detailed summaries are available.

The current per diems for performers and personnel are:

Meals: \$60.98 per day to a maximum of \$304.81 per week

Incidentals: \$17.26 per day to a maximum of \$86.42 per week

Migration Regulations and the Fair Work Act require all sponsors/supporters to comply with Australian standards for wages and conditions as set out in the relevant award and accept full responsibility through appropriate insurance for all hospital/medical costs that may be incurred. MEAA can only endorse applications that demonstrate that they meet all statutory requirements.

NON-PROFIT ENGAGEMENTS

For an engagement to be considered 'non-profit', you will need to prove that the engagement does not serve commercial interests and address issues of likely profit, whether the profit is provided to non-commercial organisations or charities, a patron, etc. Non-profit organisations are often associated with engagements for non-commercial purposes. Organisations should show that their non-profit status has been accepted by the Australian Taxation Office or a state or territory government agency such as the NSW Department of Fair Trading. The organisation must meet Australian taxation obligations. You must include support material that demonstrates that the proposed event is non-commercial. A copy of your budget (including, if applicable, ticket prices, seating capacity, and estimated ticket sales) and promotional material or a letter giving details about the event and the sponsor/supporter should be included. Airfares, medical insurance, meals, and single-room motel accommodation must still be provided by the sponsor/supporter and outlined in a contract signed by both parties.

PROMOTIONAL

A Promotional application is defined as when an international performer seeks to promote themselves or their work through interviews or short performances for print, radio or television, in-store appearances, media showcases and the like. Performances where tickets are sold to the public or performances where a sponsor/supporter is seeking to engage an international artist to promote their organisation should refer to the payment provisions for commercial tours as outlined above. If your application meets the requirements for a promotional tour, please include a detailed itinerary, the visa applicant details, and information as to which party will be meeting travel, accommodation, and other costs for the tour, etc.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY

MEAA recognises and respects your privacy. Information requested by MEAA is treated in the strictest confidence. It is requested only to the extent necessary for MEAA to advise the Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Communications and the Arts by the provisions of the Migration Regulations regarding applications for a Temporary Activity visa (subclass 408). You can inspect the MEAA Privacy Statement at <https://www.meaa.org/privacy-policy>.

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