



ImmiCards

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship is replacing the paper Visa Evidence Card (VEC), otherwise known as a PLO56 document, which is currently issued to humanitarian visa holders or eligible bridging visa holders.

This document will be replaced by two secure plastic ImmiCards from 25 March 2013.

- The **Evidence of Immigration Status (EIS)** ImmiCard will be issued to Irregular Maritime Arrivals (IMA) granted a subclass 050 Bridging Visa E (BVE) when they leave detention.
- The **Permanent Resident Evidence (PRE)** ImmiCard is for IMAs who have been granted a Class XA (subclass 866) protection visa.

The card is an accountable and secure plastic card that contains a passport sized photograph and basic biographic data such as surname, given names, date of birth and sex. The card contains a unique card number, which is linked to the client's file and biometrics in the department's system.

The ImmiCards will form the base document for IMAs living in the community to establish a social footprint and obtain future proof of identity documentation.

Clients who currently have a PLO56 will not be issued with an ImmiCard. They will continue to use their PLO56 document to enrol for services.

Evidence of Immigration Status (EIS) ImmiCard

The EIS ImmiCard is issued to IMAs who have been granted a Bridging Visa E. The EIS card:

- records a client's claimed identity at the time of visa grant
- assists clients to access services in accordance with temporary visa conditions
- is **not** evidence of a valid visa or work rights.

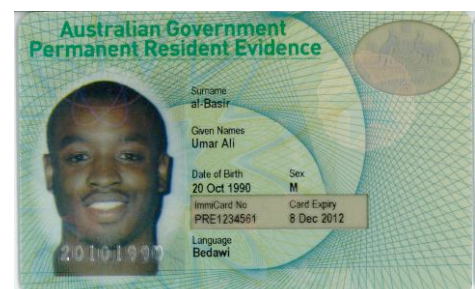
Agencies, landlords and future employers must check visa status and visa conditions of an EIS card holder electronically through the department's free Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) system.



Permanent Residence Evidence (PRE) ImmiCard

Protection visa applicants can order a PRE ImmiCard online when they are granted their visa. The PRE card:

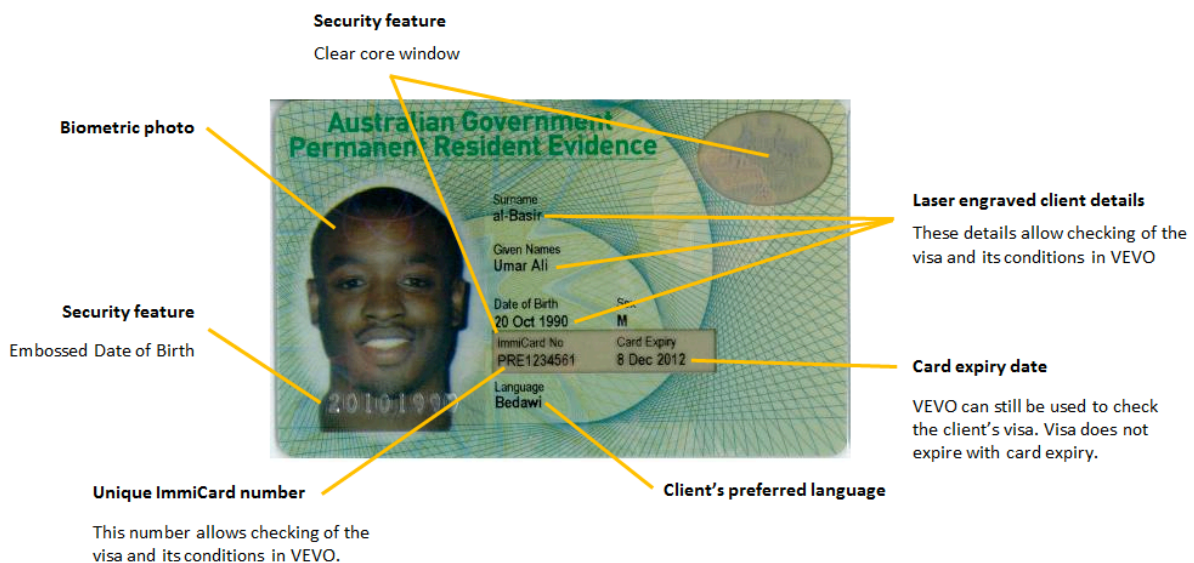
- confirms their permanent resident status
- states a client's recorded or 'satisfied' identity for the purpose of permanent visa grant
- supports access to services such as:
 - Medicare
 - social security support through Centrelink
 - the right to work
 - public education.



Agencies, landlords and future employers can check current visa status and visa conditions of a PRE card holder electronically through the department's free Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) system.

Checking visa conditions

It is important that you check a client's visa and its conditions when they present an ImmiCard. You can check this online through the department's free Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) system. You can find more information about VEVO at www.immi.gov.au/vevo.



Security

The ImmiCards contain enhanced security features that align with the whole-of-government National Identity Security Strategy and will provide the highest level of identity protection.

Expiry and replacement

The ImmiCard expires one year after it is issued. The ImmiCard number can still be used to verify visa status through VEVO after a card has expired.

A client can order a replacement card when their ImmiCard is lost, stolen or damaged within the first 12 months. The replacement card is sent through registered post to the client's residential address.

The replacement card will always be issued with the same details as the original card. Details on the ImmiCard cannot be changed.

More information

For more information on the ImmiCard you can visit the department's website www.immi.gov.au/visas/humanitarian/immicards or email immicards@immi.gov.au.