

Family Violence and Permanent Visas

This factsheet is for **permanent residents** who have experienced family violence in Australia. This may includes people with a:

- Partner (Migrant) Visa (subclass 100);
- Partner Visa (subclass 801);
- Protection Visa (subclass 866);
- Humanitarian Visas (subclass 200, 201, 202, 203, 204); and
- Resident Return Visa (subclass 155).

If you have a Temporary Partner Visa, see RAILS' factsheet on Family Violence and Temporary Visas.

Check your visa status

If you are unsure what type of visa you have, you can check using the Visa Entitlement Verification Online system ([VEVO](#)).

What is family violence?

'Family violence' in Australian immigration law is **THREATS OR BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS YOU, OR YOUR FAMILY OR PROPERTY, WHICH MAKES YOU HAVE GOOD REASON TO FEAR FOR YOUR WELLBEING OR SAFETY.**

It is not only physical violence. Mental and emotional abuse, coercive control, technological abuse, sexual violence, social abuse, gaslighting or manipulation and visa abuse also meet the legal definition of 'family violence' if they make a person afraid for their safety or wellbeing.

Telling Home Affairs about Family Violence

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE PERMANENT RESIDENCE, INCLUDING A PERMANENT PARTNER VISA AND YOUR RELATIONSHIP ENDS DUE TO FAMILY VIOLENCE, YOUR PARTNER CANNOT AUTOMATICALLY CANCEL YOUR VISA.

There are, however, some steps you should take to protect yourself:

1. Tell Home Affairs about the family violence as soon as possible. You can do this by completing [Form 1022 – Notification of Change in Circumstances](#).
2. Update your contact details with the Department of Home Affairs, including your address, email and phone number. You can do this through Home Affairs' [webform](#).

You can also update your details through your ImmiAccount but if you think another person may have access to your ImmiAccount or email, you should not use that account.

Support Services

If you have experienced domestic and family violence, there is support available.

SUPPORT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Service		Contacts
Queensland Police		• Phone: 000 (EMERGENCIES) • Phone: 131 444 (non-emergencies) • Website: https://www.police.qld.gov.au/domesticviolence
Queensland Ambulance		• Phone: 000 (EMERGENCIES)
1800 RESPECT		• Website: www.1800respect.org.au • Phone: 1800 737 732 (24 hours per day, every day)
DVConnect Womensline		• Phone: 1800 811 811 (24 hours per day, every day) • Website: https://www.dvconnect.org/
DVConnect Mensline		• Phone: 1800 600 636 (24 hours per day, every day) • Website: https://www.dvconnect.org/
People who are nonbinary or genderfluid can call either DVConnect Womensline or DVConnect Mensline		
Immigrant Women's Support Service		• Website: https://iwss.org.au/ • Phone: (07) 3846 3490 (open Monday to Friday, 9am – 4pm)

LEGAL SERVICES

Service		Contacts
Women's Legal Service Queensland		Phone: 1800 957 957 Website: https://wlsq.org.au

Caxton Community Legal Centre

Phone: 1800 229 633

Website: <https://caxton.org.au>

Legal Aid Queensland

Phone: 1300 65 11 88

Website: <https://wlsq.org.au/>

This factsheet is general information not legal advice. You should always speak to a lawyer before applying for a visa, sponsoring someone or doing anything that might affect your immigration status. Last updated 7 September 2026.

