

Australian Government Agencies provide a range of services, which are available to provide you with assistance. One such agency is the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA).

### **What do DIMIA do?**

DIMIA staff are able to answer questions about your visa status in Australia and what your visa permits you to do. DIMIA can also talk to you about application options for individuals and/or businesses. You can contact DIMIA in person by visiting one of our offices or by telephone.

DIMIA also routinely visit places of employment to ensure employees are holding valid visas which permit them to work in Australia. DIMIA conduct these visits in all types of industries including the building industry, hospitality industry and sex industry.

### **What if I am unsure about the validity of my visa or the conditions attached?**

DIMIA offers a range of services where you can check your visa status and find out what the conditions mean. You can contact DIMIA on (03) 92353955 to have your questions answered. You will be asked to provide a range of information such as: your name, date of birth and passport number. Once you have been identified, we will assist you with determining your eligibility to work.

If you do not speak English you can contact DIMIA's Interpreting Service on 131-450. You will be connected with an interpreter of your preferred language and a DIMIA officer to assist you with your inquiry.

You can also visit DIMIA in person at any of our offices around Australia. The Victorian offices of DIMIA are located at:

Casselden Place  
Ground Floor  
2 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne

Dandenong Office  
Ground Floor  
51 Princes Highway  
Dandenong

### **What happens if DIMIA visits my workplace whilst I am working?**

You will be asked to provide proof of your identity. Your passport is the best form of identification. Officers will conduct various checks to ensure your visa is valid and that it permits you to work. If you are not permitted to work or do not hold a valid visa you will be required to accompany officers to a DIMIA office, to be interviewed further about your immigration status.

### **Can my employer check my visa validity or conditions?**

Yes, but they must first obtain your permission. DIMIA operates under strict privacy laws. Employers can obtain a form from the internet at: [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au) or by calling DIMIA for an Employer Awareness Kit on 1800-040-070. You must sign the form before DIMIA can provide your employer with information regarding your visa.

This information was provided by Compliance Section, DIMIA, Victoria.