Health Waiver Australia: PIC 4007 Guide for 2026

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If your visa application has been refused — or is at risk of refusal — because you do not meet Australia's health requirements, a health waiver may be your best option. This guide explains when a health waiver is available, how to apply, and what you need to demonstrate.

What Is a Health Waiver?

Australia's health requirement (Public Interest Criterion 4005 and 4007) requires visa applicants to be free from conditions that could:

- Be a threat to public health
- Result in significant costs to the Australian health care system
- Prejudice access to health care for Australian citizens and residents

If you do not meet this requirement, some visa subclasses allow you to request a **health waiver** under PIC 4007.

When Is a Health Waiver Available?

A health waiver is available for most permanent visa subclasses, including:

- Partner visas (subclass $^{820}/_{801}$, $^{309}/_{100}$)
- Parent visas
- Skilled visas (some subclasses)
- Protection visas

Note: Health waivers are generally **not available** for temporary visas such as visitor visas and student visas.

What You Need to Demonstrate

To obtain a health waiver, you must show that:

1. The Condition Would Not Be Undue The costs and impact of your health condition on the Australian community would not be "undue" — considering the overall circumstances of your case.

2. Compelling Circumstances There are compelling circumstances that justify granting the waiver — such as:

- Strong family ties in Australia
- The best interests of any children involved
- Humanitarian considerations
- The availability of treatment in your home country

How Costs Are Assessed

The Department uses a "significant cost threshold" to assess whether your condition would result in significant costs. For 2026, this threshold is approximately **$51,000** over the relevant period (usually 5 years for permanent visas).

Cost Category	Examples
Medical treatment	Surgery, ongoing medication, specialist consultations
Hospital care	Inpatient stays, emergency care
Community services	Disability support, aged care, special education
Allied health	Physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy

Tips for a Strong Health Waiver Application

1. **Obtain detailed medical reports** that clearly describe your condition, treatment needs, and prognosis
2. **Provide cost estimates** from Australian health providers for your expected treatment
3. **Demonstrate your ties to Australia** — family, employment, community involvement
4. **Address the best interests of any children** who would be affected
5. **Show that you have private health insurance** or can self-fund treatment where possible

How I Can Help

Health waiver applications require careful preparation and a thorough understanding of the criteria. I will review your medical situation, assess your eligibility for a waiver, and prepare a comprehensive submission. Many health waiver applications succeed with the right approach.

Book a consultation today from $97.

About the Author

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