

## **E-3 Visa for Australian Nationals**

The E-3 non-immigrant classification allows for the admission of a temporary worker who is a national of Australia. The E-3 is similar to the H-1B in that it is granted to those entering the U.S. to perform services in a “specialty occupation”, requiring possession of a bachelor’s degree or higher (or its equivalent), in the field in which the alien wishes to work. E-3 non-immigrant status is initially granted for a period of no more than two years. Extensions of stay may be granted indefinitely in increments not to exceed two years. Non-immigrant aliens who are already legally in the United States may apply to change their status to that of an E-3 specialty worker and, eventually, apply to extend their stay in E-3 classification. Congress has established a cap of 10,500 new E-3 workers each year.

### **Documentation required to apply for the E-3:**

- Proof of Australian nationality,
- A letter from the prospective U.S. employer describing the alien’s occupation, the alien’s anticipated length of stay, and salary/remuneration arrangements,
- Evidence that the alien meets the educational requirements for the position to be filled (a bachelor’s degree or higher or its equivalent in the specific specialty occupation),
- Evidence that the alien meets any licensing or other occupational requirements, and
- Evidence that the prospective U.S. employer has filed with the Department of Labor a labor condition application (LCA) specifically designated for E-3 Specialty Occupations.

### **E-3 Dependents**

Unlike the dependent of an alien in H-1B non-immigrant classification, the dependent spouse of an E-3 temporary worker may apply for and receive work authorization.