

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(91) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

When a 410 visa holder in Australia applies for an onshore 804 parent visa, they are issued with a bridging visa, which they can choose to accept or keep the 410. If they keep the 410, but with the bridging visa on the DIAC system as issued, are they classed as 410 visa holders or 804 applicants?

Answer:

When a Subclass 410 visa holder applies for a visa onshore, such as the Subclass 804, they are granted a bridging visa, which 'sits behind' their Subclass 410 visa until such time as this substantive visa expires.

As a result, once a Subclass 410 visa holder applies for another visa onshore they are able to remain in Australia lawfully until processing of their visa application is finalised, without renewing their Subclass 410 visa.

The visa holder may therefore choose not to renew their Subclass 410 visa when it expires.

A person is considered to be a Subclass 410 visa holder, and thus included in the statistics, for as long as they continue to hold this visa. This continues to be the case even if they are an applicant for another visa.