Higher degree research students and the 485 Post Study Work Visa

- The 485 visa PSW allows international students to remain in Australia to get work experience. There are some important factors to remember when applying for this visa as an HDR student.
- For all 485 PSW visa applicants, you can’t apply until you have completed the requirements for your degree, and you must then apply within 6 months of the date you are notified of your course completion.
- For HDR students this is the date on the letter which advises you that you’ve completed the requirements to be awarded the degree. It is **NOT** when you submit your thesis. It is **NOT** when you’re advised that you’ve been awarded but need to make emendations. It is also **NOT** the date your degree is conferred (your graduation date).

The University will send you an email advising you when you have completed your requirements. This is the evidence you need to provide to the Department of Home Affairs with your application.

Further information can be found on the [Department of Home Affairs website](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au).

[Our Legal Service](https://www.legalservice.unimelb.edu.au/) can help you if you need advice about applying for a 485 or any other visa.

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