



Australian Citizenship Act 2007

(excerpts)

.....
'The Parliament recognises that Australian citizenship represents full and formal membership of the community of the Commonwealth of Australia, and Australian citizenship is a common bond, involving reciprocal rights and obligations, uniting all Australians, while respecting their diversity.

'The Parliament recognises that persons conferred Australian citizenship enjoy these rights and undertake to accept these obligations:

- (a) by pledging loyalty to Australia and its people; and
- (b) by sharing their democratic beliefs; and
- (c) by respecting their rights and liberties; and
- (d) by upholding and obeying the laws of Australia.'

(Australian Citizenship Act, p. 1)

Australian citizenship grants 'the right to vote and participate in the government; the ability to work in the Australian Public Service or the Australian Defence Force; travel freely with an Australian passport; live under the protections of the Australian government, both at home and abroad; and bestow Australian citizenship to your children, partner and family.'

(Australian Citizenship Act, p. 1)

'The most common way you become an Australian citizen ... is by being born in Australia and by having a parent who is an Australian citizen or a permanent resident at the time of your birth.

'There are some other, less common, ways of becoming an Australian citizen ... These cover:

- citizenship by being born in Australia and by being ordinarily resident in Australia for the next 10 years ...
- citizenship by adoption ...
- citizenship for abandoned children...
- citizenship by incorporation of territory...'

(Australian Citizenship Act, p. 13)

In addition, non-citizens have the right to apply to become citizens.

Notice, particularly, the obligations and rights of citizenship quoted above.

Four obligations of citizenship:

- (1) Loyalty to Australia and its people
- (2) Share all citizens' democratic beliefs
- (3) Respect all citizens' rights and liberties
- (4) Uphold and obey the laws of Australia

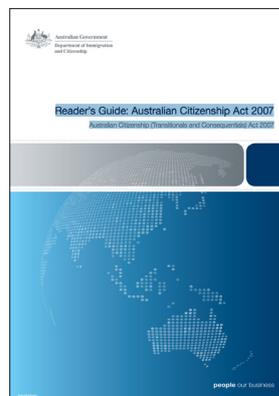
Five rights of citizenship

- (1) The right to vote and participate in the government
- (2) The ability to work in the Australian Public Service or the Australian Defence Force
- (3) To travel freely with an Australian passport
- (4) To live under the protections of the Australian government at home and abroad
- (5) To pass on your citizenship to your children, partner and family

Further reading:

Reader's Guide: Australian Citizenship Act 2007

Australian Citizenship (Transitional and Consequential) Act 2007



http://www.citizenship.gov.au/_pdf/Readers_Guide_Australian_Citizenship_Act_2007.pdf