

## WHY USE A REGISTERED MIGRATION AGENT

### Why shouldn't I use an unregistered person?

Unregistered people may:

- be unaware of current legislation and procedures
- provide incorrect advice
- make false claims about your chances of success.

Unregistered people are breaking the law and penalties of up to 10 years jail can apply.

To report an unregistered person telephone 1800 009 623 (free of charge). Information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### What is a migration agent?

A migration agent is a person who can:

- advise on immigration matters
- help you to prepare and lodge an application
- deal with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (the department) on your behalf, usually for a fee.

### Do I need to use a migration agent?

No, you do not need to use a migration agent to prepare and lodge an application with the department.

However, if you do not feel confident lodging an application or if your case is complex, you may wish to use a registered migration agent.

### Why use a registered migration agent?

Registered migration agents are required to:

- have a sound knowledge of migration law and practice
- act professionally and in a timely manner
- abide by the migration agent's Code of Conduct
- have appropriate insurance
- pass character tests (including criminal history checks).