



Guarantor/Referee in Switzerland

Who needs a guarantor?

If you are using the *Australian Passport Renewal Application form (PC7, 1-page form)*, a guarantor is **not** required.

If you are using the *Application for an Australian Passport Overseas form (PC8, 5-page form)* you **must** provide a guarantor. A guarantor is not optional. Your guarantor must complete Section 11 of the application form. He/she must also endorse the back of one photo by writing in English "*This is a true photo of [your full name]*" and sign underneath.

General Guarantor Criteria

You should ensure that your guarantor:

- ✓ is 18 years of age or older
- ✓ is not related to you/the child by birth or marriage
- ✓ is not in a de facto relationship with you or a parent
- ✓ does not live at the same address as you, the child or a parent
- ✓ has known you/the child for at least 12 months or since birth for a child under 1 year of age
- ✓ is willing and available to be phoned to discuss your application with us during normal business hours
- ✓ meets the guarantor qualifications below.

Guarantor Qualifications

There are two types of guarantors you can choose from:

1. A current Australian passport holder

OR

2. A non-Australian (foreign national) who is currently employed in one of these occupation groups:

- ✓ Accountants (certified/registered)
- ✓ Bank Manager or Director (of a department but **not** a bank employee/clerk)
- ✓ Professional Engineers (currently licensed)
- ✓ Judges, Barristers, Attorneys, Lawyers, Solicitors
- ✓ Registered Medical Practitioners – Doctors/GP, Psychiatrists, Dentists, Pharmacists
- ✓ Registered Nurses, Midwives, Chiropractors, Optometrists, Physiotherapists and Psychologists
- ✓ Registered Veterinary Surgeons
- ✓ Police Officers (with at least 5 years continuous service)
- ✓ Ministers of Religion and Marriage Celebrants
- ✓ Teachers, Professors (who have been teaching for more than 5 years)
- ✓ Public Servants/Local Government employees (who have been employed continuously for at least 5 years by their current employer)
- ✓ Notary Public (Note: Cannot be a guarantor unless he/she also meets the above general criteria)

What if I can't find a guarantor in Switzerland?

Some applicants find it difficult to obtain a guarantor in Switzerland. Usually this is because they have recently relocated to Switzerland and do not know anyone here who has known them for longer than 12 months.

If you are unable to obtain a guarantor in Switzerland, you should obtain a guarantor from a country where you previously lived - e.g. Australia. You will need to send them Section 11 of the PC8 form, together with one of your passport photos, for them to endorse and sign. Once they have signed the documents, they must send the originals back to you so that you can submit them when you lodge your application. We cannot accept faxes or emails from your guarantor. They must send the originals back to you before you lodge.