

ACCOMMODATION, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION & PASTORAL CARE REQUIREMENTS

The Approved Employer is responsible for finding suitable and reasonably-priced accommodation for seasonal workers.

Accommodation: Accommodation that may be considered suitable for short-stays may be unsuitable for stays of around six months. The Australian Government will not accept any accommodation standards below those that would be considered acceptable for Australian workers.

Requirements:

- meets all State and local government regulations regarding fire, health and safety;
- offers 24 hour access;
- provides a self-catering kitchen;
- is clean and well-maintained;
- has a communal lounge area;
- has adequate laundry facilities;
- provides power for lighting, cooking, and refrigeration;
- has separate bathrooms for men and women and has an adequate ratio of guests to bathroom facilities;
- has separate un-crowded sleeping areas for men and women;
- All beds either have to be a bedframe or ensemble.
- provides a separate lockable cupboard or locker for each individual; and
- has access to transport to and from the worksite and transport to and from local recreation/shopping/cultural activities.
- All accommodation must meet territory legislation such as building legislation.

Transport: Approved Employers must arrange transport for seasonal workers between their place/s of accommodation and their place/s of work; and their place/s of accommodation and shopping and pastoral care facilities regularly.

Requirements:

- The transport vehicle must meet all territory safety standards, be roadworthy and registered appropriately
- All drivers must hold the necessary licence.
- Affordable for seasonal workers
- Be of suitable comfort.

Pastoral Care:

Approved Employers must provide the following pastoral care, there is no standard on how often this must occur as distance and timing from facilities are variables which will be considered in the recruitment assessment.

Requirements:

- Approved Employers must assist seasonal workers to *regularly* access opportunities for recreation
- Approved Employers must assist seasonal workers to *regularly* access opportunities for religious observance
- Approved Employers should provide *regular* access to shopping facilities

Other considerations:

- are lease arrangements and bonds involved and how practical will these arrangements be for seasonal workers?
- are there cooking utensils and other household essentials such as bedding, towels or can these be easily/freely obtained?
- is there heating/cooling?
- how accessible are local shops? Health and emergency facilities?
- do workers need to pay utility bills in addition to rent? If so, how much?
- Is there cleaning equipment available? i.e. a mop and bucket

Own arrangements

Seasonal workers may make their own arrangements for accommodation and are not required to accept accommodation arranged by the Approved Employer. If they do so, this becomes a private matter and accommodation is no longer the responsibility of the employer, unless workers require assistance to be re-accommodated through the Approved Employer.

Local Transportation:

What arrangements are in place for workers to get to and from the worksite?

Will they be charged for this service and if so, how much? If the accommodation is remote from a township as well as the worksite, are the costs of transport cumulatively reasonable for the workers?