

Migration Health Assessments for Australia-Bound Migrants

All applicants are required to undergo a migration health assessment as part of their visa application process for Australia. In this document, you will find important information related to your upcoming migration health assessment at IOM's Migration Health Assessment Centre (MHAC) in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

IOM SRI LANKA MHAC Contact Information

Address: Institute of Bankers of Sri Lanka Building (IBSL), No. 80A, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka.

Phone Number: +94 11 2031 700

Opening Hours: 08:00 AM – 04:30 PM Monday – Saturday

Email address: slaushap@iom.int

What Should I Expect at my Appointment?

The scope of the migration health assessment varies depending on factors such as your visa category, age, gender and current health status. The list below shows some of the procedures that you or your family (if they are applying to migrate with you to Australia) might receive:

- Registration.
- Counselling to explain the health assessment process (at the end of the counselling you will sign an informed consent form).
- Medical examination, which may include the following:
 - A review of your medical history and current symptoms.
 - Taking your measurements and vital signs.
 - A detailed physical examination to assess your physical and mental status.
 - A chest X-ray.
 - A *tuberculin skin test (TST)* or Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA – blood test) for tuberculosis.
 - HIV test (*applicants applying for certain visa categories may also be tested for syphilis, hepatitis B and C*).

Breakdown of Migration Health Assessment Procedures, by Age of Applicant:

< 11 years old	Medical examination
11 – 15 years old	Medical examination; chest X-ray
≥ 15 years old	Medical examination; chest X-ray; laboratory blood tests
≥ 75 years old	Medical examination; chest X-ray; laboratory blood tests

All basic requirements are done on the same day, during the same appointment.

Will I need additional tests or procedures?

Additional tests or treatment may be needed to complete the health assessment and/or to comply with the requirements of the immigration authorities, based on health conditions identified during your examination. In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your appointment.

Will I receive any vaccines?

Immunizations are not currently required as part of the migration health assessment for Australia unless special arrangements apply (such as immunization in case of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases in the country of origin). However, you are strongly encouraged to complete immunizations before you travel to Australia and bring your immunization record with you. If you wish, the IOM doctor can review your record and provide advice on missing vaccinations.

Important Notes

Minors:

Applicants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who can provide consent and make decisions on their behalf. If parents are not present, the guardian should have a legal authorization letter (Guardianship letter) attested by an attorney.

Pregnancy:

Women of child-bearing age may be requested to provide a urine sample to test for pregnancy before undergoing a chest X-ray. If you are pregnant and undergoing a migration health assessment, you may choose to either get the chest X-ray with a double lead shielding to protect you and your unborn baby (after completing 14 weeks of pregnancy) or wait to proceed with the migration health assessment until after giving birth. If you choose to proceed with the chest X-ray, you will be requested to sign an additional consent form.

Tuberculosis (TB):

TB is a contagious bacterial infection that is spread from person to person through tiny droplets in the air. TB can be either:

- (1) Latent TB: when you have the bacteria in your body, but you don't have any clinical manifestations. In order to diagnose latent TB, active TB should be ruled out.
- (2) Active TB: when you have the bacteria and have clinical, radiological or laboratory manifestations.

You might be asked to undergo further testing if the doctor suspects you have TB. In such an event, you will be provided with additional counselling and more information during your appointment.

You will be requested to provide three (3) sputum samples over 3 consecutive days. These samples are then tested in a laboratory; it can take up to 10 weeks to obtain a result.

If you are required to complete further testing, your health assessment certificate will be put on hold until the results are received. If you are found to have TB, you will need to successfully complete treatment before resuming the immigration process.

Good news! TB is treatable and most people can be cured at home with a few months of treatment.

What Do I Need to Bring to My Appointment?

Identification:

- o **Valid / Duly updated Original Passport** (In case your passport has already been submitted for visa processing, kindly submit a certified photocopy along with the confirmation of visa submission.)
- o If the applicant is a minor, the Original Passport or NIC of the accompanying parent/guardian.
- o **Children under the age of 18 must present their original birth certificate translated into English, accompanied by a photocopy of the document.**
- o An electronic or printed copy of the **e-Medical referral letter which has the HAP ID .**

Medical Records:

- o If you possess medical reports regarding past or current medical conditions, please provide existing specialist and/or other **relevant medical reports** for known conditions and any previous medical records such as clinic books, prescriptions, diagnosis cards, lab reports, and X-rays.

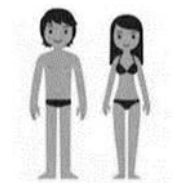
- If you are currently prescribed any medications, kindly ensure to bring both the tablets and the corresponding doctor's prescription with you. ➤ Vaccination records (optional).
- COVID-19 Vaccination card
- Children under 11 years old will need to bring their Vaccination Card / Child Health and Development Record

Other:

- Spectacles or lenses if you wear them.
- Present SL Address, Phone number (landline & mobile number), Further correspondence email address typed or clearly written down on a separate paper.

Advice for the Migration Health Assessment

- Kindly review all your documents and their validity before attending the Health Assessment to prevent any inconvenience.
- For the physical examination, you will need to undress and put on a medical gown, while keeping your underwear on (refer to the image on the right). Additionally, a separate examination gown will be provided for the chest X-ray. Hence, it is recommended to wear comfortable clothing, avoiding tight-fitting long sleeves, and choosing attire that is easy to change out of.
- You may request a chaperone to be present at your physical examination.
- Please do not conceal any medical conditions; deliberate attempts to hide them will be reported to the Australian immigration authorities.
- Please do not conceal your pregnancy; being pregnant will have no impact on your immigration prospects.
- Please reschedule your appointment if you or your child are unwell, have a fever or developed a rash, and promptly seek medical attention from your regular provider. In case of any infectious illness symptoms or other development after booking, contact us at least one day before your scheduled medical appointment for rescheduling. It's important to note that new screening measures are in place to safeguard everyone's health, and entry will not be permitted if you exhibit any of these symptoms.
- The medical examination may last up to 4 hours; however, **fasting is not required** and please ensure you are well hydrated before your appointment.
- Please note that, due to security and space limitations, only the applicant is allowed inside the premises.
- Onsite parking is not available at the MHAC
- Please arrive at the IOM Migration Health Assessment Centre 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.



Migration Health Assessment Fees and Payment Information

Fees, by Age of Applicant:

Category	Fee
<11 years	40 USD
11 to 15 years	70 USD
15 to 75 years	90 USD
≥ 75 years	50 USD
Health care worker	95 USD
IGRA	70 USD

How to Pay for the Migration Health Assessment:

- Payments should be made at the IOM MHAC on the day of the appointment in Sri Lankan Rupees (LKR). Please consult the applicable IOM exchange rate shown in the banner at the top of the page; it can also be found in the “My Appointment” section of the site.
- **We accept both cash and card payments, including Visa, Mastercard, and UnionPay.** However, please note that we do not have the facility to accept American Express or Discovery cards.