

VISA PAK ISSUE 525 — 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

2021 RESIDENT VISA APPLICANTS GRANTED MULTIPLE RESIDENT VISAS

Introduction — Identification that applicants have been granted a resident visa twice due to duplicate applications and the effect on future Permanent Resident Visa applications.

A number of 2021 Resident Visa applicants have been granted resident visas twice as they unintentionally had duplicate applications lodged.

This has created an issue where these clients could be disadvantaged when applying for a permanent resident visa (PRV) due to the [requirement](#) of having to have held their current resident visa continuously for 24 months. The grant of a second resident visa replaces the first visa, therefore it resets this timeframe and delays the client's PRV eligibility.

In the interests of fairness, it is recommended that an immigration manager in the PRV processing office considers using the power under section 72(3) of the Immigration Act 2009, [delegated under power 13 of Schedule 2](#), to grant a PRV to a resident visa holder as an exception to instructions. Warnings will be placed in AMS on those identified as being affected by this issue.

If an affected client enquires about the ramifications of having the second resident visa granted, please advise them we will take into account the date of when they were initially granted residence when assessing their PRV application.