

Dear Amir

Thank you for your e-mail in relation to your visa application under Australia's General Skilled Migration programme.

Yes you do have to provide Overseas Panel Clearance for yourself and for your spouse. For further information on Medicals and Overseas Police Clearances (same as panel check) please read below.

Applicants for an "offshore" General Skilled Migration visa can undertake health and character checking prior to their application being allocated to a case officer. The benefit of applicants undertaking health and character checks may be a reduction in the amount of time required before a decision can be made, however, applicants and migration agents should be aware that:

- * Health examinations have limited validity periods and if these expire before the application is finalised these checks may be requested again, and must be provided at the applicant's cost.

- * The ASPC may still need to undertake other checking in respect of the application that may delay a decision.

- * Undertaking health examinations and providing police clearances does not guarantee an application will be successful.

Alternatively, applicants can wait on a request from a case officer before proceeding with these checks.

Yours sincerely,

Department of Immigration and Citizenship