

Foreign Investment

Foreign investment has made a substantial economic and social contribution to Australia and will bring ongoing benefits in the future. Foreign investment underpins higher rates of economic activity and employment, provides access to new technology and skills, facilitates access to overseas markets and promotes continued competition.

For information on the Australian Government's approach to foreign investment, please refer to [Australia's Foreign Investment Policy](#).

A foreign person may need to notify and seek approval from the Australian Treasurer prior to undertaking an acquisition or making an investment in Australia. Whether a person needs to notify depends on a number of factors including:

- whether the investor is a foreign government or non-government investor
- the type of acquisition
- the value of the investment
- Australia's free trade agreement commitments.

Assistance available from Austrade

Working in partnership with Australian state and territory governments, the Australian Trade Commission – Austrade – provides international investors with the information needed to establish or expand a business in Australia. Services for international investors include:

- initial coordination of investment enquiries and assistance
- information on the Australian business and regulatory environment
- market intelligence and investment opportunities
- identification of suitable investment locations and partners in Australia
- advice on Australian government programs and approval processes.

Austrade's services for international companies are free, comprehensive and confidential.

Austrade contributes to Australia's economic prosperity by helping Australian businesses, education institutions, tourism operators, governments and citizens as they:

- develop international markets
- win productive foreign direct investment
- promote international education

- strengthen Australia's tourism industry
- seek consular and passport services.

Email: info@austrade.gov.au

Website: austrade.gov.au

Foreign Investment in mining

Foreign persons may require approval to acquire an interest in a tenement or the underlying land used to carry on a mining operation. Whether foreign investment approval is required depends on a range of factors including:

- the type of tenement
- who the interest in the tenement is being acquired from
- whether the foreign person is a foreign government investor
- the type of underlying land
- the value of the interest being acquired.

For further information, please see the NOPSEMA guidance note on [Foreign Investment in Mining \[GN24\]](#).

Business acquisitions

Foreign persons may require approval to acquire an interest in an Australian entity. Whether foreign investment approval is required depends on a range of factors including:

- the level of the interest being acquired
- whether the foreign person is a foreign government investor
- the value of the Australian entity.

For further information on how to apply and Australia's foreign investment rules, see the Foreign Investment Review Board website or call the enquiry line.

Foreign Investment General Enquiries:

Phone: +61 2 6263 3795

Email: firbenquiries@treasury.gov.au