

## Four-year plan for visa holders

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Foreign entrepreneurs would be given four years to prove their idea is successful to qualify for a permanent visa under a plan being considered by the government.

The entrepreneur visas are part of Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's innovation policy announced in December, to allow foreigners with an innovative idea and investor backing to commercialise the concept and be allowed to stay if they are successful.

The aim of the visa is to allow easier pathways to permanent residency for postgraduate researchers with science, technology and engineering qualifications.

Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton said the government was considering rules around the visas including how long people should be allowed to stay before their scheme is deemed successful, whether states and territories should be involved, whether those with real estate ideas are excluded and whether other classes of visa should be cut.

The government will be looking at assessing applicants on where they get their funding.

In a consultation paper launched on Thursday, the department is asking stakeholders to consider if ideas from residential real estate development or residential real estate schemes should be excluded, and whether ideas should be restricted to science and technology.