



Ref No: MC16-019277

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Thank you for your email of 5 September 2016 to the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Alex Hawke MP, concerning Partner visa sponsorships. The Assistant Minister appreciates the time you have taken to bring this matter to his attention and has asked that I reply on his behalf.

Based on the limited information you have provided, I will assume that the question you have asked is whether a person who has successfully sponsored two partners previously can have a third sponsorship approved.

Under migration law, there are limitations for approving Partner visa sponsorships. One of those limitations relates to 'not approving' a sponsorship if the sponsor has successfully sponsored two Partner or Prospective Marriage visa applicants previously. However, there are also provisions to approve the sponsorship, despite the sponsorship limitations, if there are compelling circumstances affecting the sponsor. A decision on whether a sponsorship would be approved cannot be made until a valid visa application has been made.

You may wish to read *Booklet 1: Partner migration* for further information on sponsorship limitations. The booklet is available from the department's website at <http://www.border.gov.au/Forms/Documents/1127.pdf#search=booklet%201>

Thank you for raising this matter with the Assistant Minister.

Yours sincerely

Megan Scott  
Acting Director  
Family Migration Programme Management Section

20 September 2016