



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

MIGRATION SERVICES TO AUSTRALIA INFORMATION BRIEF

APRIL 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

On the 19th March 2019 the Federal Government officially announced a permanent reduction in the Australian Migration Programme numbers from 190,000 to 160,000 per annum for the 2019-20 programme year. The Australian Migration Programme incorporates permanent skilled and family visas and is distinct from the Australian Humanitarian Program. The Department of Home Affairs confirms, skilled migration will account for approximately 108,000 – or more than 67% of this figure, with more than 47,000 family visas- or more than 29% to be granted in the 2019-2020 programme year¹. This official announcement reflects the trend of actual visa grants in the 2017-2018 programme year and was anticipated as discussed in our [December 2018](#) brief.

On the 11th March 2019 the Department of Home Affairs announced changes to the combined list of eligible skilled occupations. Each visa subclass has had from 212 to 673 new occupations added; depending on the subclass. Regional migration was the winner, including farmer and dressmaker on the list. These changes do not affect Subclass 189, 190, 489, 482 and 186 applications lodged prior to 11 March 2019.

NEWSWORTHY

The Global Talent Scheme (GTS) is a niche pilot scheme under the Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS) Subclass 482 visa program. There are two streams; established business stream and the start-up stream.

The GTS enables employers to sponsor overseas employees, filling highly-skilled positions that cannot be filled by Australian employees or through the occupation list related to the mainstream 482 visa. The GTS provides a great opportunity for both established businesses and start-ups having trouble finding Australian employees, that wish to employ highly-skilled and specialised staff from overseas.

The aim of the visa is that overseas employees act as 'job multipliers' in Australian businesses for future Australian jobs. Applicants have the capacity to apply for permanent residency after three years in the same occupation with the same employer. For more information on the GTS contact iomausmigrationservices@iom.org

HELPFUL HINTS

With the recent changes to migration legislation, the reduction in visa grants and states increasingly applying a needs-based approach to their invitations, the quality of your application has never been more relevant. At IOM, we work with you to find the best migration pathway based on your background and requirements. Call IOM on 1300 921 811 to book a consultation now.



OCCUPATIONAL CEILING DATA

On 10th March 2019, 1490 Subclass 189 invitations and 10 Skilled Regional Subclass 489 invitations were issued. These figures do not include state nomination under Subclass 190 or 489. A total of 22,710 invitations were issued between 1 July 2018 and March 2019. All occupations are currently still open for invitations, with no occupations having reached the ceiling for the programme year.

Currently, the minimum points for skilled occupations is 75 points (189) and 85 points for Subclass 489. Accountants are requiring 85 points, engineering and ICT professionals, require 75 points.

¹ <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/what-we-do/migration-program-planning-levels>. 28/3/2019

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