



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

MIGRATION SERVICES TO AUSTRALIA INFORMATION BRIEF

SEPTEMBER 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

Migration Health Policy Changes

Effective from 1 July 2019 changes to the migration health policy may open migration options for persons with certain health conditions.

Visa health criteria imposes certain restrictions on health conditions that may impact on an applicant's capacity to be granted a visa.

In the case of a significant health condition the Medical Officer of the Commonwealth (MOC) provides an opinion on an applicant's health condition and if this condition would likely result in significant health and community costs if a visa were to be granted.

From 1 July 2019 however the significant cost threshold has been increased by 22.5 %, from \$40,000 to \$49,000. Timeframes for health costs have also changed, with the total time frame for costs to be assessed against for permanent residency visa applications limited to five years for non-permanent conditions, and ten years for enduring health conditions.

For example, if you applied for a permanent visa with a life-long condition, the estimated costs of the health condition could not exceed \$49,000 over a ten-year period.

Subclass 457 Granted Under Grandfathering Provisions

The Department of Home Affairs has revised policy to enable 457 visa holders under grandfathering provisions to apply directly for a Subclass 186 Temporary Residents Transition Stream with only 23 months of work experience, down from 24 months. This policy reduces the need for many applicants to apply for a subsequent Subclass 482 visa to meet the work experience requirement.

IOM can provide advice on your migration pathway options by calling 1300 921 811

¹ <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/skillsselect/invitation-rounds/2/9/2019>

HELPFUL HINTS

If you plan to apply for a skilled visa, consider how the changes from 16th November may affect you. There are opportunities to receive additional points that may provide you a competitive edge.

Applicant Characteristic	Current Points	From 16 November 2019
Nomination by State/Territory	5	15
Skilled spouse/de facto partner	0	10
No spouse/de facto partner	0	10
Certain STEM qualifications	5	10
Spouse/ de facto partner with 'competent English'	0	5

This table applies to:

1. Subclass 189 Skilled Independent Visa
2. Subclass 190 State Nominated Visa; and
3. Subclass 491 Skilled Work (Regional) Visa (replacing Subclass 489)

OCCUPATIONAL CEILING DATA

During the recent August invitation round for Subclass 189 and Subclass 489 visas, 100 Subclass 189 visas and 100 Subclass 489 visas were issued. Minimum points score for Subclass 189 was 85 points. Accountants' minimum points score was 90 points.

All occupations are currently open. Registered Nurses have the most positions available in 2019-2020 Programme Year, with 17,509 positions. Many trades have high occupation ceilings; such as electricians with 8,624 positions available.

South Australia has two skilled occupation lists; [Skilled Occupation List](#) and [Supplementary Skilled List](#). An occupation on the Supplementary List and meeting other relevant criteria requires a "high points" score to be eligible to receive an invitation. The high points score is currently a minimum of 85 points. Occupation points scores for the standard Skilled Occupation List are unpublished.