

Iscah Migration Newsletter

Edition Number 276 | 21st June 2021

Hey

Welcome to our latest edition of the Iscah monthly newsletter. Now being up and running for 20 years in June 2018. Pretty sure we would be the longest running publication in the country. And we continue bringing gems of new information to you every month.

This is free and if you want backcopies go to our website at www.iscah.com If you want to get on the mailing list or unsubscribe, email us to newsletter@iscah.com

On to April's news ...



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1) Recent Migration articles in the Australian media etc

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/the-economy/migration-slump-to-make-australia-older-and-the-economy-smaller-treasury-boss-20210518-p57t0b.html>

<https://www.watoday.com.au/politics/victoria/migration-international-students-will-not-fully-recover-until-2025-20210519-p57tct.html>

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/no-opposition-to-post-covid-mass-migration-plan,15116>

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/may/25/australian-communities-embrace-new-migrants-like-my-family-but-government-must-play-its-part>

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/may/31/coalition-should-target-younger-higher-skilled-migrants-who-bring-long-term-benefits-to-australia-thinktank-says>

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/aussie-tech-sector-claims-skills-migration-assessment-is-lagging-and-inconsistent>

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/home-affairs-to-have-au75-million-simple-visa-system-ready-by-late-2021>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9602953/Why-immigration-ramped-wins-election.html>

<https://greekherald.com.au/news/alex-hawke-migration-will-play-an-integral-part-in-australias-economic-recovery>

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/nsw/there-s-a-way-to-kick-start-migration-safely-and-reap-the-benefits-20210605-p57yej.html>

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/grattan-institutes-first-report-on-skilled-permanent-migration-is-good-in-parts,15157>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/new-agricultural-visa-to-be-extended-to-asean-countries-before-end-of-the-year>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-10/nsw-to-welcome-back-international-students-under-quarantine-plan>

<https://johnmenadue.com/australias-facile-immigration-policy-debate>

<https://www.watoday.com.au/business/the-economy/economic-challenges-will-echo-for-years-to-come-migration-drought-puts-the-squeeze-on-nsw-20210611-p580a4.html>

2) Tasmanian State Migration update

2020–2021 Program Update

2020-21 Skilled Migration Program update – new applications for the current program year will not be accepted after 5:00pm (AEST) Friday, 11 June 2021.

From 5:00pm AEST on Friday, 11 June 2021, Migration Tasmania will not accept any further applications for the 2020-21 State Visa Nomination Program.

We will continue to consider applications lodged before this date until Wednesday, 30 June 2021.

* Subclass 190 nomination applications which have not been finalised by 30 June 2021 will be considered when the 2021-22 program year opens.

* Subclass 491 nomination applications lodged before 20 March 2021 which have not been finalised by 30 June 2021 will also be considered in the new program year.

* All other applications which are not finalised by Wednesday, 30 June 2021 will be closed and the service fee refunded.

The 2021-22 State Visa Nomination Program is expected to commence and call for new applications in July 2021.

(Source: Tasmanian State Government)

3) ACT/Canberra update on territory sponsorship

The ACT's allocation of 491 nomination places has been met for 2020-21. 491 processing will recommence in July 2021.

The next Canberra Matrix invitation round will be held in July 2021.

<http://www.canberrayourfuture.com.au/portal/migrating/article/skilled-visa-act-nomination/>

<http://www.canberrayourfuture.com.au/portal/migrating/article/canberra-matrix-invitation-round>

(Source ACT government)

4) Queensland State Migration update

LATEST NEWS – Queensland

BSMQ State Nomination Program

- No further invitations for visas under the skilled program will be sent out from Monday 14 June 2021.
- For applicants who have received their invitations, please ensure you submit your documents as soon as possible, otherwise there is no guarantee of nomination by the end of the financial year.
- The Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491) is CLOSED
- Queensland 491-SBO (Small Business Owners) Pathway is CLOSED.
- The Skilled Nominated (Permanent) visa (subclass 190) is CLOSED.
- The Business Program is CLOSED.
- Business EOIs submitted up until 24 February 2021 will continue to be assessed up until the below deadlines.
- Please note: BSMQ will advise of new requirements and opening for the next financial year on this homepage when available.

<https://migration.qld.gov.au/>

(Source; Queensland State Government update)

5) Victorian State Migration update

Latest Victorian State Migration Statistics -

<https://liveinmelbourne.vic.gov.au/migrate/program-review>

PUBLISHED: 21 MAY 2021

The Victorian Government's Skilled and Business Migration Program has conducted the final selection round of 2020-21 Registrations of Interest (ROIs) for the skilled migration program. This includes ROIs for nomination under the Skilled Nominated (subclass 190) visa and the Skilled Work Regional (subclass 491) visa.

All candidates selected to apply have been notified and are able to submit an application through the Live in Melbourne portal. All ROIs not selected have now expired and will not be considered further. Candidates who are still interested in Victorian skilled nomination will be required to submit a new ROI during a submission window from July 2021.

We will also be implementing systems changes shortly to reflect the updated status of all ROIs in our system. In the meantime all ROIs will still show as 'Submitted' in the Live in Melbourne portal.

6) Western Australia State Migration update

Official results of the May 2021 WA state selection round have been published

<https://migration.wa.gov.au/services/skilled-migration-western-australia/invitation-rounds/current-invitation-round>

The latest WA State migration invitation round took place on Thursday 18th June
We have only seen 491 invites so far and they were all chefs
the lowest ranked EOI invited was Advanced Diploma 75 points
EOI submitted 14/1/2021

7) Changes to British on Working Holiday visas

Change to working holiday visas for UK citizens -

The UK government has succeeded in removing the rule that obliges Brits on 12-month working visas in Australia to work for 88 days on farms if they wish to stay another year.

<https://amp.smh.com.au/world/europe/a-new-dawn-australia-and-britain-agree-on-historic-trade-deal-20210615-p5817c.html>

8) TRA review skills assessment policy

From 1 June 2021, Trades Recognition Australia (TRA) will implement the updated Assessment Review Policy.

The key change is that TRA will consider the information submitted with the original application plus any additional evidence provided with the review application to support the original application.

For further information refer to the Assessment Review Policy.

Program Guidelines are updated to reflect this change.

9) Enhancing Kiwis' pathway to Permanent Residence

The Morrison Government is amending the New Zealand Pathway to permanent residence to support eligible New Zealand citizen temporary visa holders in Australia to obtain permanent residence. The Pathway is available to New Zealand citizens who were usually resident in Australia for a continuous period of five years immediately prior to their visa application and commenced that period of residence on or before 19 February 2016.

Changes will come into effect on 1 July 2021 providing greater flexibility in the income requirement for the New Zealand stream of the Skilled Independent (Subclass 189) visa by reducing the number of years in which an applicant must meet the specified income threshold.

From 1 July 2021 applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have earned a taxable income at or above a specified threshold for three out of the five income years (reduced from four out of five years) before lodging an application. This includes a requirement to meet the income threshold for the most recently completed income tax year.

The income threshold will align to the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) - currently set at \$53,900 - and will remain at this level for the 2020-21 income year.

To further assist New Zealand citizens on their pathway to permanent residence, the Government is implementing measures to assist temporary visa holders who were on a pathway to permanent residence prior to COVID-19 to maintain eligibility for a permanent Skilled Independent visa (Subclass 189) New Zealand stream. The measures provide:

An income requirement concession if they can demonstrate that their 2019-20 taxable income was adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Allowance for time spent offshore due to COVID-19 travel restrictions to be counted as residence in Australia for applicants who were on a pathway to meeting the 'usually resident' requirement for the visa.

COVID exemption for income for New Zealand citizens applying for 189 visa

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00596>

(Source: Department of Home Affairs)

10) Vetassess review criteria for some Professional Occupations

<https://www.vetassess.com.au/home/updates/post/revised-criteria-for-professional-occupations>

Ok folks
That's all for this month
See you all on Monday 19th July 2021




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