

Hiya

Welcome to November's edition of our monthly newsletter covering all we have seen in the last month

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On to this month's news



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1) Parents of adult Australian citizens and permanent residents

From 1 November 2021, the definition of 'immediate family member' will include the parents of adult Australian citizens and permanent residents. This is for the purpose of assessing exemptions to Australia's travel restrictions only.

A person is considered an adult if they are aged 18 years or over. The definition of parents of Australian citizens and permanent residents includes:

- biological parents
- legal (including adoptive) parents
- step-parents

parents in-law

Note: If the parent of an Australian citizen or permanent resident, as defined above, is in a de facto relationship, you must provide evidence of the de facto relationship in order to be considered under this category.

Before you can travel, you will need to have your relationship with your adult Australian child confirmed by submitting a travel exemption request. You must submit your request through the Travel Exemption Portal. Select the category 'I am an immediate family member' and then 'parent of adult Australian citizen or permanent resident'.

You will need to provide evidence of:

- your adult child's Australian citizenship or permanent residency; and
- your parental relationship to the Australian citizen or permanent resident.

Refer to 'Examples of evidence that you can provide' below for more information.

[Immediate family of Australian citizens or permanent residents or New Zealand citizens usually resident in Australia | COVID-19 and the border \(homeaffairs.gov.au\)](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/covid-19/border-immediate-family)

2) s48 bar lifted for 190, 491 and 494 visa applications

From 13th November people affected by a s48 refusals will now be able to lodge an ONSHORE application for 190 , 491 or 494 visa's;

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L01483/Explanatory%20Statement/>

Please note – applicants must still hold qualifying visa to lodge. BVE is not a qualifying visa.

3) AAT News

AAT's Bulletin with recent news may be found here;

<https://www.aat.gov.au/aat-bulletin-archive>

4) Confirmation of extension to existing Prospective marriage (300) visas

On 10 December 2020, Prospective Marriage visa holders or former visa holders who were outside Australia on that day, and who held a Prospective Marriage visa at any time between 6 October 2020 and 10 December 2020 had their visa validity period extended to 31 March 2022.

On 29 October 2021, Prospective Marriage visa holders who held a subclass 300 visa and were outside Australia on 15 September 2021 had their visa validity period extended to 31 December 2022.

5) Skill Select invite round for 189 and 491 Family on 29th October 2021

The table below shows the number of invitations issued in the SkillSelect invitation round on 29 October 2021.

Visa subclass	Number
Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189)	200
Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491) – Family Sponsored	200

More statistics here;

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/skillselect/invitation-rounds>

6) Western Australia News

Western Australia's invite priority

WA have advised that priority will be given to invites in the following order :

- Priority 1 - residing in WA
- Priority 2 – residing in Australia
- Graduate stream – qualification level
- Highest points score and initial submission date
- Consider occupation ceilings – to ensure a spread of occupations
- EOIs for s491 generally ranked higher than s190 (if places are available for both visas)
- One nomination per program year, except in exceptional circumstances
- Can receive multiple invitations, although one invitation for each EOI

<https://www.migration.wa.gov.au/services/skilled-migration-western-australia/latest-news>

WA State migration - s48 etc

WA will allow those people invited in the October round who were s48 barred to now accept and be processed for state nominations. The WA state government will email those with a current invitation advising them. Please wait for this and do not contact the WA state government.

Also WA are still waiting for a decision on whether the Federal government will allow a further allocation of up to 5000 more places for 491/190 for this program year to WA.

Western Australia invite round 26/10/2021

Official results:

SNMP General stream – WASMOL schedule 1			
Other Australian State	Not applicable	70	22/02/2021
SNMP General stream – WASMOL schedule 2			
Western Australia	Not applicable	65	20/10/2021
SNMP Graduate stream – higher education graduates			
Other Australian State	Bachelor degree	75	14/09/2021
SNMP Graduate stream – vocational education and training graduates			
Other Australian State	Advanced Diploma	100	10/05/2021

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

Scores required for each occupation -

https://migration.wa.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/Current%20documents/Last%20invited%20expression%20of%20interest%20by%20occupation%20-%20October%20invitation%20round.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2JmFzYZiEk09D1HPXhqe_dhIFXBYu8vmy5CCXMtis4ol586o6xsYzousM

7) South Australia News

s48 - SA applicants currently subject to a section 48 bar for the subclass 491 and 190 visas are no longer required to provide confirmation they will be travelling offshore to lodge their visa application, when applying for South Australian state nomination.

https://www.migration.sa.gov.au/news-events/changes-migration-act-section-48-bar-lifted-certain-skilled-visas?fbclid=IwAR0tI3QusxjkFy_MesS7BUfsPfZL2Z1Thp5GeY7m1QgdRofhdTpunbEcwg

8) ACT/Canberra News

November Invitation Round

https://www.act.gov.au/migration/resources/canberra-matrix-invitation-round?fbclid=IwAR0IQNEcVW4VslucV5OadDX9EPH2joS957qi5syMD-gYJBxax0V1AK_yIXM

9) Queensland News

QLD now open...all details here;

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

10) Victoria News

Update on Victoria's state migration numbers

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

11) Tasmania News

s.48 - Migration Tasmania will accept applications from candidates seeking review of a visa refusal or cancellation decision at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal or Australian Federal Court. Please refer to the Home Affairs announcements and updates.

12) VETASSESS News

New requirements for Pathway 2 applicants in licensed trades Applicants who hold an Australian VET qualification will need to demonstrate at least 12 months full-time (or equivalent part-time) paid employment in their nominated occupation. The employment must have been completed in Australia in the three years prior to lodging the application.

Applicants with a current identified Australian occupational licence (not subject to restrictions) must demonstrate 12 months full-time (or equivalent part-time) paid employment in the nominated occupation that has been completed in Australia or New Zealand in the three years prior to lodging the application.

The above changes will be applicable for all new skills assessment applications lodged from 1 November. For more information, please email us at tradeassess@vetassess.com.au.

https://www.vetassess.com.au/home/updates/post/pathway-2-applicants-in-trades?fbclid=IwAR3qjLEL6nhl6j4ZI-snQ-iCM-acddQs3_qY9Q4agSqBTHvfVe85W-b2gxA

Christmas Shutdown

VETASSESS Priority Processing service for professional occupations will be suspended during the end of year break. Last day for accepting applications in 2021 will be 1 December and the service will resume on January 4, 2022.

Please ensure you submit any Priority Processing applications by close of business 1 December 2021. Other Skills Assessment applications for professional occupations will be accepted as usual.

13) Visa Processing times

DHA processing times updated * Note this is for applications recently decided. It does not mean that current or future applications will be the same speed

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times>

14) Newly Arrived Resident's Waiting Period (NARWP)

Proposed changes for some Australian welfare payments

Pending the passage of legislation, the NARWP for carer and family payments will increase to four years from 1 January 2022. The changes will affect:

- Carer Payment
- Carer Allowance
- Family Tax Benefit Part A
- Family Tax Benefit Part B
- Parental Leave Pay
- Dad and Partner Pay.

permanent visa or relevant temporary visa on or after 1 January 2022.

Migrants who come to Australia on humanitarian visas will not be affected. All existing exemptions will remain in place for vulnerable migrants, including those who have experienced substantial changes in their circumstances, or who are in financial hardship.

Staying updated about the proposed changes

Information about the proposed changes, including the relevant visas affected, is available on the Recent and upcoming policy changes page on the DSS website.

DSS has also engaged a communications agency, Etcom, to raise awareness and inform prospective migrants of the proposed changes.

Should legislation pass, Etcom will develop and distribute information kits.

Kits will be available in English and also translated into a selection of languages, and will include:

- factsheets
- a poster, and
- social media materials.

Digital information kits – including all translated versions – will be available to download from the DSS website.

(Source - Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS))

15) Recent media Articles

Skilled migration increase on the cards

shorturl.at/klxTW

Australia will allow entry to visa holders from Singapore in pilot travel arrangement

shorturl.at/gkyU1

The international education crisis will linger long after students return to Australia. Here's why

shorturl.at/dMQ45

Australian voters rethinking immigration in wake of extended border closures

shorturl.at/mxJRU

Victoria to scrap quarantine for fully vaccinated international arrivals

shorturl.at/mpyG8

South Australia's adds, an additional 24 Engineering occupations

shorturl.at/gxCKX

Migration drop-off at heart of SA labour

shorturl.at/bozQ3

New pathway to permanent migration encourages gaming of visa system

shorturl.at/iDKY5

VETASSESS - The global competition for talent to fill skills

shorturl.at/eqt48

Australia plans migration reboot to address looming worker shortages

shorturl.at/cqIV2

Migration sugar boost needs careful consideration

shorturl.at/borwJ

Government's brazen disregard for non-discriminatory migration program

shorturl.at/rsNQT

Skilled migration needed to relieve aged care staffing crisis, providers say

shorturl.at/yDIS1

Safe Return of International Students to

shorturl.at/goFKM

Ok folks, that's all for this month

See you all on Monday 20th December 2021



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