

Iscah Migration Newsletter
Monthly Edition Number 314
18th September 2024
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Hey everyone

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly visa newsletters. This has all the information we have seen for the last 4 weeks.

If you have any visa questions please email us to query@iscah.com

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1. WA invite results 13th September 2024

Just priority occupations invited

<https://migration.wa.gov.au/our-services-support/state-nominated-migration-program>

2. Change to the way that WA interpret some of their study criteria

The WA government have had a strict rule that the study used to complete their 2 year study in WA requirement has to be entirely face to face study. None of it can be online. The only concession was any study that was impacted during any Covid interruptions

That has not changed

WA also have a priority selection process where having certain qualifications can enhance the chance of success. Obtaining an Advanced Diploma was one way of doing this. Many students having completed 2 years of face to face study have then gone on to obtain an Advanced Diploma. Often this is fast tracked and part of it is online study. WA have approved many nominations with this pattern of study over the last 3 years. And nothing on their website talks about this not being able to include any online study,. The only stipulation was that the study for the 2 years requirement has to include no online study,

Until now ...

WA have now made it clear to us that they require any qualification used to meet the 2 years study rule and IMPORTANTLY ANY study used to obtain any subsequent extra qualification for priority to also have ZERO online study.

We have seen a number of emails from the DTWD backing this up as well with them questioning clients with the following

DTWD requested in relation to an Advanced Diploma

- "• Your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) notice/s for your Western Australian study XXX/2022 to YYY/2022.
- A signed letter (for each qualification / study period) from the Western Australian educational institution/s where you completed your two years of Western Australian study.

The letter should confirm the following:

- o the details of the courses completed or partially completed;
- o that you were enrolled as a full time student, and your study was completed on campus through face to face delivery;
- o that you had a full time study load; and
- o the study commencement and completion date.

For the purposes of WA State nomination, components of study used to meet the face-to-face study requirement must be completed on campus and in Western Australia. ..."

Separately the DTWD have made it clear this is not just the 2 years of study but ANY other qual used for priority

We have requested that they amend their website to make this clear.

3. South West DAMA occupations updated

<https://www.dardanup.wa.gov.au/our-shire/about-us/south-west-dama.aspx>

4. VETASSESS

Shorter assessment times for professional and general occupations. A standard assessment is now expected to take eight to 10 weeks to process, down from 10 – 15 weeks. Every assessment is different, and we may need more time if we do not receive all the documents and information that we need.

Assessment times for trade occupations vary depending on the program and whether all the documentary evidence required has been provided. Visit the Trades Recognition Australia [website](#) for approximate processing times.

You can find updated VETASSESS assessment times here;

<https://www.vetassess.com.au/current-processing-times>

5. TRA

Job Ready Program Processing Times

The Job Ready Program is experiencing a high number of applications and average processing times are currently longer than expected.

The Job Ready Program requires a **minimum of 12 months** participation in suitable full-time (or part time equivalent) employment. The program must be completed within 3 years.

The Job Ready Program is currently experiencing high levels of demand. While this may impact how quickly we process different activities within the program, we are still managing demand within the overall participation timeframe.

As at August 2024, our average processing times are found here;

<https://www.tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/news/job-ready-program-processing-times-3>

6. Change to NSW definition of deemed work points for 491 and 190 EOIs

This was announced by NSW last Friday ..

NSW Skilled Employment Definition

Criteria for Claiming Skilled Employment

Skilled Employment NSW will adopt the Home Affairs policy. We are removing the NSW deemed skilled date definition.

10.4.1 Assessing periods of skilled employment

When assessing periods of skilled employment for the purpose of awarding points, the following must be taken into account:

- the opinion of the relevant skills assessing authority, and
- the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) including any other requisite qualifications/work experience relevant to the claimed skilled employment; and
- any other relevant information

.....The regulations require only that an applicant is employed in a nominated skilled occupation for a particular period of time. The provision does not require the applicant to have the skills of a particular standard during that period of employment.....

7. This 403 visa is available for innovative UK citizens for 3 years

For IECSEP, innovation is broadly defined as the development or implementation of a new or improved product, process, or organisational method, or combination thereof. IECSEP recognises that innovation drives efficiency and productivity growth in all industries, and that innovators are working across a broad and diverse range of occupations. Innovation Stream applications are welcome from applicants working across all sectors, including service-based industries, and academia

8. Engineers Australia

Engineers Australia are changing the requirements for skills assessments under the MSA program for engineers associates which includes draftspersons and technicians

From 1st September 2024

You can apply via the Australian qualification pathway if:

- your program is accredited by Engineers Australia, and
- you started your program during or after the year of accreditation commencement.

Else

If you have an Australian provisionally-accredited qualification, apply through the competency demonstration report (CDR) assessment pathway.

This applies to non-accredited Australian Advanced Diplomas and Associate Degrees. Those non-accredited applications would now be assessed through the CDR pathway.

(Source: Engineers Australia)

9. News

Australia: Parent visa logjam grows, wait time hits 31 years

<https://scroll.in/article/1071996/australia-parent-visa-logjam-grows-wait-time-hits-31-years>

Australia Student Cap May Hurt Economy, Says Migration Expert

<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/business/international/2024/08/20/australia-student-cap-may-hurt-economy-says-migration-expert/>

Reports of government student visa cut misleading

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/reports-of-government-student-visa-cut-misleading,18889>

Australia's migration policy out of step with history and reality

<https://www.themandarin.com.au/252655-australias-migration-policy-out-of-step-with-history-and-reality/>

Australia needs a National Migration Institute: ANU expert

<https://reporter.anu.edu.au/all-stories/australia-needs-a-national-migration-institute-anu-expert>

Australia Caps Foreign Students in Bid to Curb Migration

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/australia-caps-foreign-student-intake-014255799.html>

Improving the sustainability of international education

<https://ministers.education.gov.au/clare/improving-sustainability-international-education>

Universities brace for Labor's planned cap on overseas students

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/podcast-episode/universities-brace-for-labors-planned-cap-on-overseas-students/1q3ctvqiq>

Record numbers of temporary graduates in immigration limbo

<https://johnmenadue.com/record-numbers-of-temporary-graduates-in-immigration-limbo-chart/>

Economists expect migration to prop up growth in June quarter again but say true effects are balanced

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-09-04/economists-expect-migration-to-prop-up-growth-figures-again/104306804>

Migration remains a hot-button issue. But Australia should be careful not to throw the baby out with the bathwater

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/article/2024/sep/06/australia-migration-statistics-housing-crisis-gdp-interest-rates>

Revealed: 15 Australian universities to have their international student cap slashed
<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/article/2024/sep/09/revealed-15-australian-universities-to-have-their-international-student-cap-slashed>

Universities Australia chair urges parties not to make students a 'political pawn'
<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/universities-australia-chair-urges-parties-not-to-make-students-a-political-pawn/42n9an7dc>

Ok folks

That's all for this month, stay safe

See you all on Monday 17th October

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