

Iscah Migration Newsletter

Edition Number 206 | 17th August 2015

Hiya,

Hope you have had a super month and ready for our latest update on all the Aussie visa news.

This newsletter is a free publication sent out on the third Monday of every month. It keeps you updated with any visa news we have heard of that we think may interest you. If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe, drop us an email to newsletter@iscah.com

Well what a great week of sport, Aussie girls won the world netball title, Kiwis won the rugby (good to be half aussie, half kiwi ha), the Freo Dockers are warming up for the footy finals sitting nicely on top of the ladder, and Jason Day (class act) won his first golfing major. Oh and I won my golf, woohoo !

On to much less important things now , this month's visa news ...



Contents

- 1) New app for checking your visa
- 2) Hospitality sector's deal over 457 visas to lure foreign workers
- 3) Six Things you can do to increase your chances of a permanent visa
- 4) Accountants prospects for Skilled Migration
- 5) NSW have released their state demand list for the 190 visa
- 6) Flagged Occupation for 2015/2016
- 7) Iscah Q&As for August 2015
- 8) SkillSelect – 3 August 2015 Round

1) New app for checking your visa

Visa holders in Australia can now check their visa information anywhere, anytime using the new myVEVO app.

Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash said the free mobile app offers a range of benefits such as the ability for visa holders to access important visa information, including their visa start and expiry dates, visa status and visa conditions.

“The myVEVO app will be incredibly helpful for not only the visa holders themselves, but also for employers who seek to verify work right entitlements quickly and easily,” Minister Cash said. One feature that will greatly assist employers is a function where an email is automatically generated to a third party from the Department.

“This provides legitimate evidence of someone’s visa conditions and it will confirm how many hours they are permitted work,” Minister Cash said.

“Given the widespread use of smartphones in today’s age, the myVEVO app is an appropriate tool for quick and easy verification of a visa holder’s work rights.”

“Students can use the app to check their study rights and email visa details directly to their education provider while work and holiday visa holders can confirm with an employer their ability to work with ease.”

“My VEVO allows travellers to take their visa details with them wherever they go.”

The app has had an incredibly strong uptake since its release in May this year, with more than 25,700 downloads globally on Android and Apple devices.

The app is another way visa holders can protect themselves from unscrupulous operators, including labour hire companies who have misrepresented clients in the past by providing false information about visa entitlements and charging inappropriate fees.

myVEVO complements the existing Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) service that can be accessed on the Department’s website. The app also stores a user’s visa and passport credentials after the first login, making it simpler and faster to use.

This is in line with the Government’s Digital Transformation agenda, to develop digital services that are simpler, faster and easier to use.

(Source: DIBP)

2) Hospitality sector's deal over 457 visas to lure foreign workers

The hospitality industry is looking to lure more foreign cooks, chefs and other staff to Australian restaurants after striking a deal with the government to make it easier to bring in overseas workers through the 457 skilled migration visa program.

Restaurant & Catering Australia said it had reached an "historic" agreement to address "chronic labour shortages gripping the hospitality sector", which involves lowering the temporary skilled migration income threshold by 10 per cent.

"This moderate concession means it will be more feasible for operators to hire overseas workers, should they be able to demonstrate they have experienced prolonged vacancies in their businesses," John Hart, R&C A chief executive, said today.

Under the Restaurant (Fine Dining) Industry Labour Agreement, businesses will be need to meet criteria to access skilled migrants, including having an la carte menu, having uniformed staff and a maître d' and industry recognition through award programs. The agreement also outlines the skills, qualifications and English language requirements needed to work in Australia.

Hospitality businesses were facing a "critical" time and "extreme difficulty finding staff", with an industry-wide shortfall of 56,000 workers, Mr Hart said.

Chefs, cooks and restaurant managers the most difficult vacancies to fill.

"R&CA has long advocated for a labour agreement that will streamline migration processes and provide businesses with access to semi- and high-skilled labour."

Mr Hart added that "skilled migration has contributed to the evolution and fusion of cuisine types here in Australia".

"With skilled migration also comes job creation for local Australians".

However United Voice National President Jo-anne Schofield said: "There is no shortage of people in Australia willing to work in restaurants. The industry's real problem is not a shortage of workers, it is its failure to provide good jobs with fair pay and working conditions."

United Voice said the industry has an application before the Fair Work Commission to cut weekend and evening penalty rates for hospitality workers.

"The restaurant industry does not need this agreement. It needs to stop its attack on pay and working conditions".

In the 2014-15 financial year, the accommodation and food services industry was the largest user of the 457 temporary work (skilled) visa program, with 4,350 applications granted.

Cooks, cafe and restaurant managers, and chefs ranked in the top 15 nominated occupations for primary applications in that year.

(Source: The Australian newspaper)

3) Six Things you can do to increase your chances of a permanent visa

1 Improve English language marks

Obtain as high a mark as possible in one of the acceptable English language tests. There are a number available now for skilled visas here

www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2015Englishmarks.pdf

General feedback is that applicants are obtaining slightly higher marks in the PTE/Pearson academic test

2 Study an occupation on the Skilled Occupation List (SOL)

This opens the possibility of applying for the points test (189 visa) the relative sponsored (489) and the old temporary graduate visa (485)

www.border.gov.au/Trav/Work/Work/Skills-assessment-and-assessing-authorities/skilled-occupations-lists/SOL

3 Keep up to date with frequent changes to Immigration Laws

Iscah update visa news daily here www.facebook.com/iscah.migration and monthly here

www.iscah.com/free-newsletter/

4 Get a snapshot of your occupation

Get a free snapshot of whether your occupation is on any of the state occupation lists which opens up the possibility or sponsorship for the 489 and 190 visas

www.iscah.com/snapshot-of-your-occupation/

5 Check if your occupation is on the Flagged List

Here is the list of occupations that will be carefully watched over the next 12 months to see if they should be included in the NEXT skilled occupation list of July 2016

www.iscah.com/2016-flagged-occupations/

6 Ask us any Visa question that is bugging you

If you drop us a private FB message we will answer your visa question for free.

www.facebook.com/iscah.migration

(Source: Iscah)

4) Accountants prospects for Skilled Migration

DIBP have halved the allocation of places for the 2015/2016 program year for Accountants to 2525. Whilst Auditors have remained steady at 1000.

We mention Auditors as many Accounting graduates can instead be assessed as an External Auditor (only need 60 points) by completing an Audit/Assurance unit.

Last program year around 7000 Accountants lodged an Expression of Interest (EOI) and if those numbers continue this program year, well, 7000 does not go into 3525 (2525 + 1000).

As a result of Accountants jumping into the occupation of External Auditor, their allocated places have just 390 left after just two months. That occupation looks like it will be filled by October 2015 given DIBP are not using pro rata policy on it.

DIBP do have a pro-rata policy for Accountants and as such only 420 of the 2525 places have been used in the first two months. It would seem at the rate of 210 per month, these numbers will last right through the program year to June 2016. However invitations are only been offered to those who have achieved 65 points at present. I do not expect more than a handful (if any) will get an invite at 60 points in this program year.

Also the occupation of Accountant currently appears on the State/Territory demand lists of NSW, NT, QLD, TAS and WA. If you can be sponsored by one of these areas then you only need 55 points (as their sponsorship gives you the 5 extra you need to get to the required 60 points under state sponsored categories). However each state/territory have their own eligibility criteria that often includes having studied and/or worked in their state. Further NSW (which does not have any work or study criteria) will allocate places based on Points then IELTS. Expectations are that NSW will use their places very shortly for this occupation and so they are unlikely to offer a saving hand for long.

So in short 65 points will be needed for most accountants. The most obvious way to attain this is through extra points for English language skills. Most people will have 10 points for English at the moment and the next level up is 20 points for 8,8,8,8 IELTS, 79,79,79,79 (PTE) or other options here www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2015Englishmarks.pdf

Our feedback is that applicants who can attain 7s or 7.5s in IELTS are attaining 79s in the PTE/Pearson test. So this may be the best short term way of getting an invite under the occupation of Accountant at 65 points.

Alternatively if you can find a permanent job offer as an accountant then employer sponsored categories such as 186, 187 and 457 become possible.

(Source: Iscah)

5) NSW have released their state demand list for the 190 visa

www.industry.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/76009/NSW-Occupations-List-for-190_2015-July.pdf

6) Flagged Occupation for 2015/2016

When the new skilled migration list is released on the 1st July each year, a list of published of occupations that have been “flagged” as possible to come off the following years list. Generally only around 10% actually do. Here is the latest list of occupations that will be carefully monitored to see if they will be REMOVED from the Skilled Occupation List on 1st July 2016.

ANZSCO Code	Occupation
133513	Production Manager (Mining)
221111	Accountant (General)
221112	Management Accountant
221113	Taxation Accountant
224111	Actuary
224511	Land Economist
224512	Valuer
232212	Surveyor
232213	Cartographer
232214	Other Spatial Scientist
233111	Chemical Engineer
233211	Civil Engineer
233212	Geotechnical Engineer
233213	Quantity Surveyor
233214	Structural Engineer
233215	Transport Engineer
233411	Electronics Engineer
233511	Industrial Engineer
233512	Mechanical Engineer
233513	Production or Plant Engineer
233611	Mining Engineer (except Petroleum)
233612	Petroleum Engineer
233911	Aeronautical Engineer
233912	Agricultural Engineer
233913	Biomedical Engineer
233914	Engineering Technologist
233915	Environmental Engineer
233916	Naval Architect

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

ANZSCO Code	Occupation
234611	Medical Laboratory Scientist
234711	Veterinarian
234912	Metallurgist
241411	Secondary School Teacher
251311	Environmental Health Officer
251312	Occupational Health and Safety Adviser
252712	Speech Pathologist
271111	Barrister
271311	Solicitor
321111	Automotive Electrician
321211	Motor Mechanic (General)
321212	Diesel Motor Mechanic
321213	Motorcycle Mechanic
321214	Small Engine Mechanic
322211	Sheetmetal Trades Worker
331111	Bricklayer
331112	Stonemason
331211	Carpenter and Joiner
331212	Carpenter
331213	Joiner
332211	Painting Trades Workers
333111	Glazier
333211	Fibrous Plasterer
333212	Solid Plasterer
333411	Wall and Floor Tiler
351311	Chef*
399111	Boat Builder and Repairer
399112	Shipwright
411211	Dental Hygienist
411212	Dental Prosthetist
411213	Dental Technician
411214	Dental Therapist

* Indicates that the occupation excludes positions in fast food or takeaway food service.

7) Iscah Q&As for August 2015

Here is a small selection of questions and answers from Iscah's facebook over the last month

Q) I am applying for a 489 family sponsor visa, so for that my visa needs to provide functional english. So what are her options to prove this.

A) You can evidence Functional English as per this link

www.border.gov.au/about/corporate/information/faqs/how-can-i-prove-i-have-functional-english

Q) Hi, I just got 6 each and am in a regional area I just wanna ask how much minimum salary my employer need to pay me yearly and how many year contract it will be for RSMS

A) A 2 year contract. There is no 'minimum salary' for this visa. You need to meet 'market salary' criteria which depends on if there is an Australian in the same position as you and the occupation.

Q) Hi I'm on a bridging visa A and wanted to go back home for 12 days. Would you be able to help me?Thanks.

A) You need to apply for a Bridging Visa B, Form 1006, send to the Department, and obtain this before you travel.

Q) Hi . I am getting my assessment as analyst programmer 261311. Can you please advice me whats the point required for 189 visa. I am planning to apply in September. is it 60 points ?

A) 60 points is required to lodge an EOI but you may not get invited for some time as those with 65points are being invited first.

Q) Is there any cross check system being introduced with ATO and immigration department? Will international students who are working more than limited hours by visa be checked?

A) Yes, most definitely www.ato.gov.au/General/Gen/DIBP-Visa-Holders-Data-Matching-Program/.

Q) Hi, how much band required for 457 and any other way to get pr instead of sponsors. I'm doing a diploma in business management

A) For 457 you need 5 overall and not less than 4.5 on each band (else an exemption from studies or passport). There is no real PR chance without employer sponsorship for that qualification.

Q) Had a few questions. I believe I will meet 60 points after completing my studies in November though my student visa is expiring in March, what would be my best option , to apply directly for PR or should i apply TR first ? If i apply directly for PR, can i travel abroad ? How much do you guys charge for TR/PR process ? Thanks

A) You have to be invited to apply for PR, so if you don't get an invitation in time, than you'll need to apply for TR. It depends on the visa you are holding....if holding a bridging visa A, you will need to apply for a bridging visa B that allows you to travel. All our fees may be found here; www.iscah.com/fees/

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Q) Hello Sir/Madam I just want to ask a little question. I'm working as a cook for a restaurant and going to apply for RSMS 187 and the salary package they offered me is 42000 is it ok? Or do they have offer little more And what are the changes in RSMS from 1st of July can we still apply for RSMS with cert 4 if don't have 2 of years experience.

A) There were no major changes on 1st July. You need Cert IV as Cook and 6666 on each band of the IELTS. You need to demonstrate Market Salary, which is if there is an Australian employee in the same position, evidence you are being paid the same, otherwise you have to look for statistical data and other similar advertised positions.

Q) If I hold a 186 visa can my employer complain about me and I lose my visa ?

A) There is no cancellation provision on the 186 ,,,, there is on the 187 visa. Just ensure that you give the appropriate notice according to your employment contract.

Q) Can i upload original documents to DIBP or they should be certified?

A) Coloured copies of originals, otherwise they must be certified.

Q) My student visa was granted with a No further stay condition on it. Will this affect me being able to apply for a permanent visa after my studies ?

A) There is an automatic waiver for an a no further stay condition for skilled migration onshore (points test, 485, and employer PR), therefore allowing you to apply for these visas.

(Source: Iscah)

8) SkillSelect – 3 August 2015 Round Results

The table below shows the number of invitations issued in the SkillSelect invitation round on 3 August 2015.

Invitations issued on 3 August 2015

Visa Subclass	Number
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	2300
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)	80

During 2015-16 the following number of invitations have been issued:

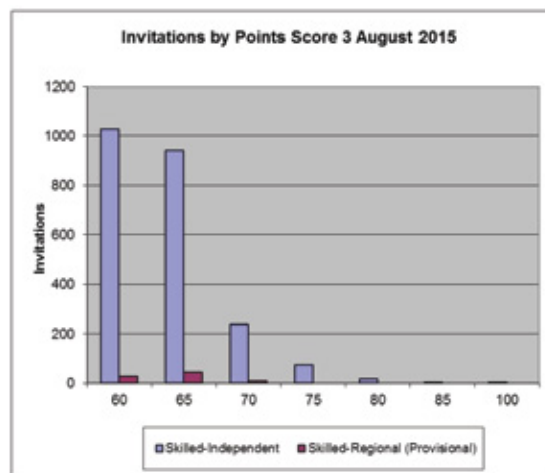
Invitations issued during 2015-16

Visa Subclass	July	August	Total
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	2300	2300	4600
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)	80	80	160
TOTAL	2380	2380	4760

The above figures do not include invitations issued for State and Territory Government nominated visa subclasses. State and Territory Governments nominate throughout the month for specific points tested skilled migration and business innovation and investment visas. Separate results for these visa subclasses are provided monthly.

3 August 2015 results

The following graph shows the points for clients who were invited to apply in the 3 August 2015 round.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Invitation process and cut offs

The highest ranked clients by points score are invited to apply for the relevant visa. For clients who have equal points scores, the time at which they reached their points score for that subclass (referred to as the visa date of effect) determines their order of invitation. Expressions of Interest with earlier dates of effect are invited before later dates.

Visa Subclass	Number	Visa date of effect
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	60	9 July 2015 11:10am
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)	60	13 June 2015 7:40pm

Due to the continuing high numbers of EOIs received for the below occupations, invitations for these occupations will be issued on a pro rata basis in each monthly invitation round over the 2015-16 programme year. These arrangements are subject to change throughout the programme year. SkillSelect first allocates available places to Skilled – Independent (subclass 189) visas and then remaining to Skilled – Regional (subclass 489) (Provisional – Family Sponsored) visas. If all places are taken up by subclass 189 visas then there will be no invitations issued for subclass 489 visas in these occupations:

- ICT Business and Systems Analysts
- Accountants
- Software and Applications Programmers.

The points score and the visa date of effect cut-off for the above occupations in the 3 August 2015 invitation round is as follows. Below points score and visa date of effect is for Skilled Independent (subclass 189).

Points scores and the visa dates of effect cut off for the above occupations in the 3 August 2015 invitation round

Points	Description	Points score	Visa date of effect
2211	Accountants	65	2 July 2015 6:32am
2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	65	23 June 2015 12:30pm
2613	Software and Applications Programmers	60	2 April 2015 4:13pm

(Source: DIBP)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Ok folks that is me all done and dusted for August. Have a great month and see you all on Monday 21st September 2015.

Cheers




Steven O'Neill

 iscah.migration


 iscahmigration

 iscah.com

 Phone: 08 9353 3344

 Fax: 61-8-9353 3350

 E-mail: newsletter@iscah.com

 Iscah Migration
Suite 14 (Kewdale Business Park)
133 Kewdale Road, Kewdale
Perth Western Australia, 6105
PO Box 75 Welshpool BC 6986



Registered Migration Agent 9687267