

Iscah's Analysis of the Skill Select Round 9th November 2016

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Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers – DIBP did NOT invite any of these in the 9th November 2016 round. You heard that right there were ZERO invites. The total number has stayed at 1280 both for the 26/10/2016 and 09/11/2016 rounds. There are only 1539 places in total which leaves just 259 places for the next 7 months of the program year. We have seen privately some invites at 70 points in the 23rd November 2016 round in this occupation. That suggests to us that DIBP realised that this occupation was about to fill up too soon. So they closed it off for the 9th November round then made it Pro Rata from the 23rd November. So we may find shortly there are only around 17 places per round from now on. That will mean likely 70 points needed for an invite and maybe even it being closed off for 489 (family sponsored) invites for the rest of the program year.

Electronics Engineers - DIBP also did NOT invite any of these in the 9th November 2016 round. The total number has stayed at 560 both for the 26/10/2016 and 09/11/2016 rounds. There are only 1000 places in total which leaves just 440 places for the next 7 months of the program year. We have seen privately some invites in the 23rd November 2016 round in this occupation too. That suggests to us that DIBP realised that this occupation was about to fill up too soon. So they closed it off for the 9th November round then made it Pro Rata from the 23rd November. So we may find shortly there are only around 29 places per round from now on. That will mean likely 65 points (with 60 points still a slight chance) for an invite and maybe even it being closed off for 489 (family sponsored) invites for the rest of the program year too.

Pro Rata occupations –

Accountants - still on track pro rata at 98 invites per round. At that rate the 2500 places will be used up in the last round in May 2017. 70 points was needed again and the invite date only moved forward by 3 days from the 25th August to the 28th August. Based on that an EOI lodged now at 70 points would take around 10 months for an invite.

Auditors – Still no explanation of why the 12th October 2016 round took the 70 point invitation date backwards (??) from 11/09/2016 to 20/04/2016. Anyhow things have almost caught up now and invitations have progressed again to 25th July 2016. The progress at 70 points will slow down soon though as DIBP get close to inviting the September applicants who remained before the invitation date went backwards in October. I can see this occupation moving as slow as Accountants soon and

an EOI lodged today at 70 points will probably take around 10 months as well. The 55 places each round will see the occupational ceiling close also in the last round in May 2017.

ICT Business Analysts – What is going on here ? The invitation dates at 65 points has gone 4/5/2016, 7/5/2016, 12/5/2016, 18/5/2016 then BACK WARDS to 15/3/2016. It makes no sense given the stated formula used by DIBP in their policy documents. Anyhow based on the 60 invites per round, the ceiling will be used in mid May 2017. And quite possible soon 70 points may be needed for an invite. A 65 point EOI lodged today would not expect an invite for over 12 months under current policy.

Software and Applications Programmer – The 65 point passmark continues to steadily receive invites. 2613 of the 5662 places have been used and with invites at 225 per round the places should last right through to the last skill select round in June 2016. An EOI lodged now at 65 points would likely receive an invite within 2-4 weeks.

Other Engineering Professionals – DIBP did not pro rata this occupation until over half the occupations were used (503 out of 1000) just two rounds into the program year. So now as they limit the invites to just 28 per round it has forced the invite mark up to 65 points with about a 6 weeks wait for a 65 point EOI lodged today. Based on 28 per round this occupation will close in mid April 2017.

Computer Network Professionals – Similarly for this occupation, DIBP did not Pro Rata it until 561 of the 1426 places were used after just 2 rounds. Now at 50 places per round this occupation will also close in mid April 2017. Also 65 points are needed for a current invite and an EOI lodged now at that mark would likely take 4 weeks for an invite.

Overall Skilled Program – DIBP are nowhere near their intended targets for the 189 at this time of year. For the 9th November 2016 round they were going to invite 1600 in this category and could only find 845 to meet the 60 points or more once the Pro Rata limitations were enacted.

Similarly for the 489 it looked even worse. The published target invites were 200 and a measly 15 !!! were invited. Again the Pro Rata policy is severely limiting DIBPs ability to meet their current skilled migration program targets.

The Department of Education are part of the process here and someone somewhere does not have a grasp of the pipeline numbers to be so far out in what intended invites Vs what is really there available.

We predicted a few weeks ago that Mechanical Engineer will go Pro Rata and we still think that the Pro Rata policy itself may be relaxed shortly too in order to allow DIBP to get anywhere near their intended target for the 189s (and possibly 489s) this program year.

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