

Iscah Migration Newsletter

Edition Number 243 | 17th September 2018

Hiya Everyone,

Just another normal month in Australia politics. A new prime minister and a new immigration minister since we last spoke.

Both moves will be good for the Australian migration program after the shambles of the last 2 years.

This monthly newsletter 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 September's news ...



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1) New 489 regional for NSW

NSW Have a new region (Central West) now open for 489 state sponsorship. Unfortunately their IT system crashed on the first day

Here is their latest news

Skilled Regional (Provisional) Visa (Subclass 489)

Regional Development Australia Central West (RDACW) is working in partnership with the NSW Department of Industry to deliver the 489 Program in NSW for the Central West Region.

RDA Central West has developed a list of eligible occupations for the 489 Program and in accordance with the State partnership can select and nominate candidates with the required skills and eligibility as listed in the Central West Skills Occupation List for the Skilled Regional (Provisional) Visa subclass 489.

RDA Central West Skills Occupation list July 2018

CLOSED OCCUPATIONS POSTED HERE

ALL OCCUPATIONS ON THE OCCUPATION LIST ARE NOW CLOSED as at the 21st August 2018 at 10:00 am.

221111 Accountant (General) – CLOSED AS OF 6:30 PM 20/08/2018

221112 Management Accountant – CLOSED AS OF 6:30 PM 20/08/2018

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSURE DATE AND TIME.

Please note; receipt of your application and processing fee for a 489 Visa does not guarantee approval by RDA CW or an invitation from the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) (formerly DIBP).

IMPORTANT: Applicants that have registered and paid BEFORE the closing date and time for Accountant's (221111 & 221112) HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED. Please email your application through with supporting documents as per the information provided below on this webpage.

Applicants that have registered and paid BEFORE the closing date and time (10:00 am 21st August 2018) for all other occupations on the Central West list HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED. Please email your application through with supporting documents as per the information provided below on this webpage.

RDACW will confirm receipt of your application by email over the coming weeks.

RDACW has temporarily closed all occupations due to the large amount of applications received. Future updates will be posted here.

IMPORTANT: CLOSED Occupations (due to maximum number received) will be posted here with the date of closure. No applications will be accepted post the closure date.

(Source: www.rdacentralwest.org.au)

2) Increased staff for Australian citizenship backlog

Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Alan Tudge, says more staff will be assigned to deal with the huge numbers of citizenship applications over the next six months.

Language English

The Department of Home Affairs is looking to deploy more staff to process the citizenship application backlog which has spiralled to more than 200,000 as of 30th April 2018.

The Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Alan Tudge has said more staff will be assigned to deal with the huge numbers of citizenship applications in next six months.

“Over the next six months we’ll be putting on an extra 150 people to deal with some of the citizenship applications,” he said in an interview to ABC 774.

“Massive spike in applications”

When questioned about the delay, he pointed to three reasons which include a massive spike in applications over the last few years, almost a tripling since 2010.

“There has been an almost tripling of the applications - first point.

“Second point is that we did overall increase the identity checks and security checks about 12 months ago.

“And thirdly, we are dealing with that big backlog of the boat arrivals from three or four years ago, which are now coming through for citizenship,” he said.

He rejected the claim that the department was understaffed.

“We’ve had 20 per cent more people in the last three years. We’re about to put on an extra 150 people,” he said.

He also pointed out that 75 per cent of applications are 'still done within 15 months!'

Citizenship application processing times

Last updated: 18 July 2018 (for month ending 30 June 2018)

Australian Citizenship application type	75% of applications processed in	90% of applications processed in
Conferral (lodgement to ceremony**)	14 months	17 months
Descent (lodgement to decision)	2 months	5 months
Evidence (lodgement to decision)	23 days	44 days

**A small proportion of applicants for Australian citizenship by conferral are not required to attend a ceremony. For Descent and Evidence applications, allow an additional 10 days for printing and postage of your certificate. If you applied from outside Australia, postage will take longer.

A spokesperson from the Department of Home Affairs told SBS Hindi, "Increased demand for Australian citizenship has also coincided with an increase in the number of cases that require complex identity assessment. "In particular, there has been an increase in the number of people applying for citizenship who supply limited or no identity documentation from their country of origin. These applications are generally more complex and require additional time and effort to process.

"Australia is also facing greater national security threats now than in previous years. To ensure the safety of all Australians, the Government has introduced additional measures to strengthen processes for verifying the identities and good character of citizenship applicants.

"The Department of Home Affairs is adding an additional 150 extra staff to the processing of citizenship applications, which reflects the high value placed on Australian citizenship."

"Citizenship changes back on agenda"

While more than 200,000 applicants are awaiting the outcome of their application, the citizenship changes are back on the government's agenda.

The Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Requirements for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures) Bill has been proposed for introduction and passage in the spring sittings, according to the list released by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The legislation makes several changes to citizenship requirements. They include changing the period of permanent residency from one year to four, a modest English language requirement, a new values test, and stronger character checks.

Potential citizens will also need to demonstrate their integration into the community, including by "behaving in a manner consistent with Australian values".

The amended bill, which makes the wait longer and eligibility tougher for migrants, was struck down after the government missed the deadline in the Senate, thus striking off the bill by default on October 18th, 2017.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

3) Update on DoHA processing times after visa lodgement

Latest DoHA processing times - after visa lodgement

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards/global-visa-citizenship-processing-times>

4) WA international Students response to the WA Premier

WA International Students response to the Premier's announcement of who will be eligible for State 489/190 sponsorship



Following the State governments announcement last week that they will reopen options for graduates to be state sponsored for a 489 or 190 visa we thought we would examine the reaction from Students who intended to or did commence study in Western Australia. Will this change their opinion of studying in WA ? And more importantly what will they advise their family and friends ?

In particular we were very concerned that the State government seems to just be targeting high academia students and giving NO sponsorship opportunity to Degree, Diploma or Trade occupation graduates. This seems counter productive as other states do offer pathways for these graduates.

Even more so when you understand that these Degree, Diploma and Trade occupation graduates make up over 70% of international students studying in WA.

Our survey this week was answered by 129 international students who either were going to, are currently, or have completed their studies in Western Australia.

Survey Results

http://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/WA-International-Students-response-to-the-Premiers-announcement-of-who-will-be-eligible-for-State-489.pdf

(Source: Iscah)

Further info ...

Thanks to all those who completed the survey and read our report.

It looks like the expanded WA graduate list will be open around October (as per the Premiers statement). And we think it wise now to wait to see what the new options are for WA graduates.

We are very hopeful that options will be available beyond the narrow cohort listed in the Premiers Statement and so encourage more students to choose WA as the state to enroll in.

5) Update on DoHA processing times after visa lodgement

Update to processing times

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/about/access-accountability/service-standards/global-visa-citizenship-processing-times>

6) Update on South Australian sponsorship times

Update on South Australian state government sponsorship processing times

<http://migration.sa.gov.au/resources/processing-times>

7) Students protest against Canberra State changes

International students confronted with an uncertain future in Australia following a policy change by the ACT government are holding a protest rally.
Language English

International students will participate in a protest later this week against the ACT government's recent changes to its migration program because of which they have been confronted with an uncertain future in Australia.

Divya*- an international student from India- moved to Canberra from Perth in September last year after completing a masters degree in professional accounting. Once in Canberra, she enrolled in a Diploma of Business and found herself an accounting job.

The ACT Government, in July 2017, introduced a policy to allow Canberra residents to access state nomination even when their occupation was not marked 'Open' on its in-demand occupation list. Applicants seeking to avail this were required to have lived in the ACT for at least 12 months and complete at least a Certificate III level course from a local educational institution before making an application.

This attracted thousands of international students from across Australia who moved to the national capital for a pathway to permanent residency.

Shattered dreams

Divya would have been eligible to apply for a state nomination in September this year and looked all set for an enduring future in Australia. But that was before the Andrew Barr Government tweaked the migration policy and Divya's dreams came crashing down when it was partially wound back on 29 June this year, leaving hundreds of students in the lurch.

"I saw the ACT Government's policy and responded to that. I didn't have even an inkling that a state government could go back on its word and change its policy overnight," she told SBS Punjabi.

Divya says she has already spent nearly \$50,000 on her education in Australia and she will have to enrol in another course as her visa deadline looms in October.

"The government did not give any notice and simply changed the policy. They could have announced the program closure in advance so that applicant who had already moved could apply for state nomination and those moving to Canberra could make an informed choice," she said.

Divya says because of her visa running out in October, her son can't start his pre-school which is affecting her family.

"The whole thing [the decision to move to Canberra] now seems to be a terrible mistake. We have ended up at nothing," she adds.

Review of the immigration program

The ACT Government said the change was made due to oversubscription to 190 visa. But as its criticism grew, the government said last month it would have to "find a more flexible way" to manage the program within the limitations set by the Federal Government.

The Government has announced a review of the immigration program.

"The ACT Government is aware of the impacts the restrictions have had on individuals already in Canberra who may have been close to achieving the eligibility criteria when the restrictions were applied. These circumstances will be taken into account as we continue working with stakeholders to improve the ACT Skilled Migration Program," a notice on the ACT government website reads.

"Implied promise"

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

However, in calling for a protest rally on Friday, representatives of the affected students say the “retrospective” effect of the policy change unfairly breaches the ACT Government’s “implied promise” to people who moved there.

“These students have collectively invested hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars in Canberra to be able to move here to fall within the criteria,” says Nicholas Houston of VisAsustralia who has several clients caught in the situation.

“The ACT Government is fully aware of this movement of people and the revenue they bring to this city, and while it and the Commonwealth Government may say they do not specifically promise a permanent visa outcome, it is not a question of what they say with fingers crossed behind their back but what the policy is intended to do and does,” Mr Houston adds.

Students affected by the change are expected to share their stories during the protest rally outside the ACT Legislative Assembly in Canberra on Friday and an online petition calling on the state government to fulfil its “implied promise” will be presented to the government.

The petition also calls for the number of places of 190 visa to be increased to 1500 from the current 800. It has gathered over 2,100 signatures.

*Not her real name.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

8) An article about Australian Prime minister's immigration record

<https://johnmenadue.com/abul-rizvi-scott-morrison-record-on-immigration/>

And where now for Immigration policy :

<https://insidestory.org.au/where-to-now-for-immigration-policy/>

9) Support for Victorian Migrant Workers

The Migrant Workers Centre is part of a wider push to empower a part of the workforce who have long complained of exploitation. Source: AAP

A new service in Victoria, The Migrant Workers Centre, is hoping to get the state's newest workers a fair deal. Many employers have also been found to take advantage of unsuspecting workers.

Today, the Victorian Trades Hall Council has launched The Migrant Workers Centre: a place devoted to looking after the state's newest workers.

Director of the Centre, Matt Kunkel, told SBS News a hub where workers on temporary and permanent visas can go to learn about their rights was long overdue.

"It's much harder for people of colour and workers out there from a migrant background to get treated fairly at work," he said. "It's also not just that migrant workers are vulnerable, it's that bosses are also doing the wrong thing."

"What we're really seeing is a wide range of people coming in from all industries and over the place, and the thing that they have in common is that nobody taught them or told them what their rights at work were."

While issues migrant workers report vary from language barriers to a perceived lack of respect, underpayment or non-payment of wages is the main concern.

Mr Kunkel said he knows of several migrant workers who have not received super payments for six months.

"In those circumstances we're looking at several thousands of dollars of unpaid superannuation for each of these workers. It all really adds up."

'I feel very sad'

Taqi Khan is part of the National Union of Workers, where he looks after migrant farmworkers - a group which has reported particularly high rates of exploitation.

Australia's agricultural sector, which is deeply reliant on migrant workers, has come under fire for how it treats migrants filling its lower-skilled jobs.

Unions told a 2016 senate inquiry that exploitation of seasonal farm workers was commonplace, something echoed by the Fair Work Ombudsman's interim findings of a three-year investigation into exploitation in Australia's horticulture industry earlier this year.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

10) NSW State Migration information

Brief Info from the NSW government on state migration -
The main occupations in order used for 190 sponsorship for 2017/18 were

- 1 Accountant
- 2 Developer Programmer
- 3 Software Engineer
- 4 ICT Business Analyst
- 5 Chef
- 6 Systems Analyst
- 7 Civil Engineer
- 8 Motor Mechanic
- 9 Electrician
- 10 Construction Project Manager

Changes to NSW for 2018/2019
- No Stream 2
- More 489 places and 9 regional areas now

(Source: NSW State Government)

11) Update from NSW-Orana regional 489 processing

Update from Orana about 489 sponsorship -
Due to the extreme number of applications being received via our web portal, effective immediately, RDA Orana will pausing our application system.
If you currently have an application in process and your visa is expiring within 2 weeks, please forward your visa, quoting your RDA reference number to migration@rdaorana.org.au with the subject text RDA Ref no 180*** - Your Name - Visa expiring - DD/MM/YYYY
Please do not call or email our office seeking information or updates as this delays everyone's assessments.

(Source: NSW government)

12) Extended waiting times for Social Security payments

A reminder about extended waiting periods for social security payments for new Permanent Residents –

<https://www.dss.gov.au/living-in-australia-and-overseas/updates>

13) Latest skilled newsletter from DoHA

Information on TSS ,SAF, Labour market testing and Permanent visas

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/work/newsletters/september-2018>

14) Update for Victorian State 489/190 sponsorship

Update for Victoria State 489/190 sponsorship -

Changes to the Skilled Migration Program operations

The Skilled and Business Migration Program (SBMP) is making some necessary program changes to skilled visa nomination processes to strengthen targeting, streamline operations and improve customer experience.

Changes to application criteria and processing timeframes will be applied to the current fast-tracked visa nomination pathways for international PhD graduates and 457 visa holders.

A quick reference to these changes:

Removal of the 457 streamlined processing pathway for all occupations

An expanded "Invitation Only" procedure across three industry groups: Information & Communication Technology, Building & Engineering and Nursing.

Standardising skilled visa nomination application processing times.

These changes take effect from Monday 10 September 2018.

More detail on each change follows:

Removal of the 457 streamlined pathway

Victoria's Skilled Migration Program will undergo some changes in our efforts to maximise opportunities to address critical skills in demand as well as transition to the new arrangements announced by the Australian Government in March 2018.

To help facilitate this shift, the current 457 streamlined processing pathway will be removed. This change comes into effect on Monday 10 September 2018.

It is important to note that while the streamlined service closes, 457 holders remain eligible for Victorian visa nomination and will retain their existing alternate pathways to permanent residency.

Expanded "Invitation Only" application process

To support key growth industries secure the talent they need, the Skilled Migration Program will expand the "Invitation Only" application procedure.

The "Invitation Only" application procedure will continue to be applied across three industry groups: Information & Communication Technology, Building & Engineering and Nursing, with 457 visa holders and applicants holding valid job offers now subject to this procedure.

SBMP will continue to periodically invite eligible, high calibre applicants in these industry groups.

Skill demand will continue to inform the number of invitations issued, which remain dependent on the number of available nomination places provisioned to Victoria by the Commonwealth under the General Skilled Migration Program.

This change will come into effect on Monday 10 September 2018.

Standardising skilled nomination application processing times

A further change to standardise processing times will help drive more program efficiencies and improve customer experience.

The current nomination pathway for international PhD graduates will remain, however the processing time will be extended to 12 weeks instead of the current fast-tracked two week processing service.

This change will take effect on Monday 10 September 2018.

The change brings this pathway in-line with the standard 12 week processing time applied across all other skilled nomination applications.

(Source: Victorian State government)

15) Morrison considers students and migrants to regional areas

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has flagged an overhaul of the migration system based on a region-by-region approach to encourage more migrants to settle outside major cities.

Mr Morrison told Fairfax Media priority will be placed on encouraging migrants to go to parts of the country that need growth.

Migrant regional plan must be 'fair and transparent'

"Smaller capitals like Adelaide and Hobart and so on and even Perth – they want more people. But in Sydney and Melbourne they don't. I get that," he said in an interview the newspaper.

Alan Tudge in his former role as Multiculturalism and Citizenship Minister proposed the idea of requiring migrants to settle in regional areas, although the practicalities of how this would be achieved was left unaddressed.

Currently, permanent migrants have freedom of movement to settle in a location they choose.

One idea put forward in the population-immigration debate is to incentivise migrants by using a points system to fast-track temporary workers who choose to settle in areas other than Sydney and Melbourne.

Mr Morrison also said there could be merit in slowing the flow of international students to universities in Melbourne and Sydney.

[Read More](#)

"There is no case for it in Adelaide, there's no case for it in Perth, there's no case for it in Hobart or James Cook University [in Queensland]," he said.

"But there could be a case for it in Melbourne or the University of New South Wales or UTS (University of Technology, Sydney)," he said.

With an honours degree in applied economic geography from the UNSW, Mr Morrison has held portfolios on immigration, population and productivity issues.

Debate spurred by population milestone

The population and congestion debate gathered steam last month when the Australian Bureau of Statistics' clock reached the milestone of 25 million people.

Demographers said the rate of growth by global standards has been "relatively rapid".

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

16) New health cover rule proposed for tourists

In a letter to his state and federal counterparts, NSW Health Minister Brad Hazzard has suggested health insurance be made mandatory for all visitors on temporary visas, including tourists, to ensure that taxpayers' funds are not used for providing health care to visitors.

All visitors coming to Australia will be required to have a health insurance under a proposal mooted by the New South Wales Health Minister, Brad Hazzard.

In a letter to his state and federal counterparts, Mr Hazard suggested health insurance be made mandatory for all visitors on temporary visas, including tourists to ensure that taxpayers' funds are not used for providing health care to visitors.

The Daily Telegraph reports NSW taxpayers paid around \$30 million a year on medical bills for tourists and visitors who are ineligible for Medicare.

"Every time an uninsured visitor does not pay for their treatment in one of our public hospitals, taxpayers foot the bill," Mr Hazzard is quoted as saying.

Currently, health insurance is mandatory only for certain visas, such as student and some temporary work visas.

Overseas visitors on temporary visas are not eligible for Medicare benefits unless they are from a country with which Australia has a 'Reciprocal Health Care Agreement'.

Currently, Australia has agreements with the United Kingdom, Malta, Finland, Sweden, Italy, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Ireland, Belgium, Norway and Slovenia. If you are visiting Australia from these countries, you are generally covered for medically necessary treatment in a public hospital.

"Expensive but necessary"

Many Indian families in Australia have learnt the importance of travelling with private health insurance the hard way.

Pradeep* Singh's mother had to be admitted to hospital when she lost consciousness on a visit to Melbourne.

The family had not considered travel insurance and incurred thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs.

"We have seen many families learn it the hard way," Jasvinder Sidhu, Melbourne based community worker told SBS Hindi.

He believes a mandatory health insurance policy, especially for senior people, will be beneficial.

"Evidence shows many families have realised the importance of health insurance for their visiting parents after having incurred huge costs. Many times our community has come together to raise funds in such cases.

"I believe having a health insurance especially for our senior people is necessary, even if it adds to the expenses. Maybe for younger tourists and visitors, with no prior ailments, it can be optional. But for seniors and aged-parents, it will prove to be beneficial," he says.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

17) Unofficial Skill Select Results 11th September 2018

Our estimate is again around 2000 invites.

Pro Rata Occupations look to have been given about 1550 places and Non Pro Rata Occupations about 450 of the invites

To produce our results we collect data from our own clients, online forums, other online sources, and feedback from our FB and newsletter followers. As well as using mathematical logical assumptions we know in the past to be correct.

If you aware of any more recent invites for any of these occupations please email us at query@iscah.com with some details so that we can see if this table can be updated over the next 24-48 hours.

(Please note it is highly likely there are more recent invites we are unaware of ... this is just the best we know so far)

http://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/September2018results.png

iscah estimated invitation dates after Skillselect round of :	EOI points score		All EOIs to this effect date we believe have been invited			
11th September 2018	65 points	70 points	75 points	80 points	85 points © iscah2018	
2211 Accountants	6/10/2015	24/10/2016	18/10/2017	25/05/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2212 Auditors	27/07/2015	26/12/2016	26/09/2017	27/04/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2334 Electronics Engineer	18/09/2017	6/12/2017	21/08/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2335 Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers © iscah 2018	27/04/2017	11/01/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2339 Other Engineer Profs	3/01/2017	30/10/2017	01/07/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2611 ICT Business Analysts	11/08/2016	13/09/2017	25/05/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2613 Software Applications Programmer @ iscah 2018	18/04/2017	30/10/2017	21/08/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
2631 Computer Network Prof	4/03/2017	16/01/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
ALL the other NON-pro rata occupations	28/09/2017	20/06/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	10/09/2018*	
Assumptions - Approximately 1850 total invitations (Split 1400 Pro Rata , 450 Non Pro Rata)						
* iscah estimates of CHANGED DATES from the latest round have an asterisk next to them * and are in dark GREEN						

18) When will you get your 189 EOI invitation

Here are Iscah's latest estimates of how long we think you will have to wait for a 189 invitation from 12th September 2018. Depending on when you lodged your EOI, what the effect date is and the occupation. These may not turn out to be DoHA settings, we are just trying to give a rough estimate in this age of uncertainty. If their policies change .. WE WILL CHANGE OUR ESTIMATES ACCORDINGLY
Our main assumptions are based on DOHA continuing to invite around 2000 EOIs per month. And we also assume that 60% of invites will go to Pro Rata occupations as advised by DoHA, on average through 2018/19.

We have also added the text of "EOI to expire before invite" to some EOIs. This is because any that were lodged 12 months ago that we are predicting will not get an invite before July 2019 will mean that the 2 year period of the EOI will expire. So they cannot get an invite on current estimates.

http://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Sep12thPredictions2018.png

Assumptions		EOI Lodged				Copyright Iscah 2018
AVERAGE of 2000 invitations per month for the rest of the 2018/19 program year Pro Rata to be given around 60% and NON Pro rata around 40% of these numbers Each Pro Rata occupation to have no more than 75% of their normal monthly allocation "not before July 2019" doesn't mean you will get an invite, it just means unlikely before then		today (12th September 2018)	3 months ago(12/6/18)	6 months ago(12/3/18)	12 months ago(12/9/17)	
Iscah Estimated Time period for an EOI invite - 189 visa as at 12th September 2018						
2211 Accountants © Iscah	80 points	3 months	next round	invited	invited	
	75 points	not before July 2019				
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
	65 points	EOI to expire before invite				
2212 Auditors © Iscah	80 points	5 months	2 months	invited	invited	
	75 points	not before July 2019				
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
	65 points	EOI to expire before invite				
2334 Electronics Engineer © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	invited	
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
2335 Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	7 months	5 months	2 months	not before July 2019	
	65 points	not before July 2019				
2339 Other Engineering Professionals © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	5 months	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
2611 ICT Business Analysts © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	3 months	next round	invited	invited	
	70 points	not before July 2019				
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
2613 Software Applications Programmer © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	not before July 2019	9 months	7 months	not before July 2019	
	65 points	not before July 2019				
2631 Computer Network Professionals © Iscah	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	4 months	3 months	next month	EOI to expire before invite	
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	EOI to expire before invite	
ALL other NON pro rata occupations	80 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	75 points	next round	invited	invited	invited	
	70 points	2 months	invited	invited	invited	
	65 points	not before July 2019	not before July 2019	9 months	invited	

Note the assumptions that we listed at the top of the spreadsheet. These predictions will change if DoHA stop giving priority to non Pro rata occupations

These estimates are heavily influenced by the number of invitations that DoHA issue each round, the limitations against some of the pro rata occupations, and a number of other factors listed here - www.iscah.com/use-189-eoi-predictions/

(Source: Iscah)

19) New visa for skills shortages

While the exact details of the visa are not known, Federal Agriculture Minister David Littleproud has said delivering a special agriculture visa for the current picking season is his key priority.

Jaswinder Singh Mavi and his family own 300 acres of orange farm land on the outskirts of Griffith in New South Wales' Riverina region.

The Mavis are just out of what they call a very stressful and busy picking period that lasts from May to August.

"One of the biggest issues for us is sourcing workers during this extremely busy season," says Mr Mavi who is a prominent figure in Griffith's Sikh community.

He says the family often has to rely on labour sharing contracts with friends and relatives to see them through the season.

"Our family owns six farms and we share the labour amongst ourselves and we seek help from our relatives in Melbourne and ask them if they know anyone who needs work. But it's difficult to work that way.

"But in spite of doing all this, at times we aren't able to pick fruit in time and if the weather takes a turn for bad before picking, it just rots on plants," Mr Mavi tells SBS Punjabi. He isn't the only farmer facing these issues.

Currently, the farmers are sourcing seasonal workers using a variety of visas, including season worker program and working holiday maker visa which at times lead to several complications.

Growcom, the peak representative body for the horticulture sector in Queensland, says the current visa settings aren't right.

"We have a situation whereby many overseas workers come here and work illegally," Growcom CEO David Thompson argues in a blog for Fairfax Media.

Mr Thompson said they would love to hire Australians but the "volatile" nature of the industry made it hard to employ locals for the job.

Uneasy over the uncertainty over the availability of labour, the farming sector has been demanding a special visa for the agriculture sector, which now seems close to reality with Federal Agriculture Minister David Littleproud throwing his weight behind the farmers.

"Agriculture has a huge shortage of labour, particularly for picking, and an ag visa can help address that," Mr Littleproud said.

"We need a specific farm visa so farmers and those who want to work on farms don't have to wade through multiple different types of visas," Mr Littleproud told SBS Punjabi.

Australian farmers are seeking a short-term multiple-entry visa without any labour market testing or requirement of sponsorship with the workers being allowed to move between employers within the agriculture sector.

Mr Littleproud recently indicated that the agriculture visa could be made available soon.

"When I became Agriculture Minister last December, I made it a key priority to deliver an agriculture visa for this picking season," he said.

Mr Mavi says a stand-alone visa for the agriculture sector will be helpful for him to secure the right workers suited to his needs.

"Now even if we are able to source foreign workers, language is a huge barrier between the employer and

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

the worker. If this special visa is started, we would like to have people from Punjab come here and work for us," he says.

Farming industry bodies have demanded that there should be no requirement for labour market testing and it shouldn't be employer-sponsored.

"We contend that only employers who demonstrate sustainable workplace practices should be able to access visa workers and one mechanism to achieve this would be through the Fair Farms certification scheme," Mr Thompson said.

The Department of Home Affairs says the Government is committed to supporting the skills needs of regional Australia and is always looking at ways to improve the migration system.

"Australia's immigration needs aren't the same in all areas, and policy should take that into account," Immigration Minister David Coleman told SBS Punjabi.

"Where the system can be improved to better match immigration patterns to needs in specific locations, we should do that. In particular, we need to look closely at ways of filling employment gaps in regional areas," Mr Coleman told SBS Punjabi.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

20) Migrants to regional areas

David Coleman, the Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, says the government is looking at its regional migration options. Source: AAP

The federal government is interested in directing migrants to regional areas rather than Sydney or Melbourne, Immigration Minister David Coleman says.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison last week signalled plans to slow the intake of some temporary migrants and to encourage new arrivals to settle outside of the congested major cities.

Mr Coleman says giving immigrants good reasons to move to regional areas and ensuring they remain living where they said they will is key.

Migrant group warns against government's regional push

"I don't want to get into specifics about particular visas and so on... but what I would say is that it's about creating the right structure," he told Sky News on Sunday.

"So the right incentives, the right reasons for immigrants to choose those regional areas.

"It's also about ensuring that that's followed through upon. Obviously if people come on a visa that's meant to be based in a regional area then compliance needs to be there to make that happen."

Making the process easier for people to migrate to a regional area could also be helped, Mr Coleman said.

"One of the most important things we can do is make the arrangements for regional visas as simple as possible."

The migrant volunteers helping to contribute \$290 billion to our 'social good'

Mr Coleman said he is "not so much focused" on the overall number of immigrants coming in as meeting the nation's regional and economic needs.

The minister says there are a number of regions, including South Australia, the Goldfields in Western Australia and Victoria's Warrnambool that have been calling for more immigrants.

"We know there are unmet needs in those regional areas and I'm looking very closely at what we can do to meet those."

About 87 per cent of skilled migrants move to Melbourne or Sydney.

(Source: www.sbs.com.au)

21) Official results 11th August 2018 Skill Select

www.homeaffairs.gov.au/WorkinginAustralia/Pages/11-august-2018-invitation-round.aspx

(Source: DoHA)

OK folks, see you all on the third Monday in October.

Stay safe and have a fun few weeks.



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