

Iscah Migration Newsletter

18th August 2014 | Edition 194

Hiya Everyone

Hope you had a great few weeks.

Footy fever is hyping up again as the finals approach. The might Freo Dockers look a chance again and hopefully we turn on some magic and get that bit of luck that everyone needs to win the flag in September. This town will never be the same if that happens

Ok on to our monthly rap of all the changes we have come across in migration. Hope you enjoy it and remember that past publications are always available at our website www.iscah.com

Also really importantly if you have not already done so you should like our Iscah facebook page here www.facebook.com/iscah.migration as updates are continually provided on there of anything significant. Why wait for a month when you can get the changes straight away ?

On to this month's news ...



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1) Immigration's response to recent criticism of the 457 visa program

Recent rhetoric by Labor and the unions about Australia's skilled migration programme seeks to lay blame on the government for Labor's past failings and misleadingly suggests that the Coalition Government does not afford priority to Australian workers, the Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash said today. Contrary to the concerted campaign against Australia's skilled migration programme, here are the facts which clearly expose the fiction peddled by Labor and the unions:

- Sponsored workers on 457 visas account for less than one per cent of Australia's labour force. At this low level it is both unrealistic and naive to suggest that the 457 skilled migration program is flooding the national labour market.
- Workers on 457 visas are not a low cost option to avoid the costs of employing Australian residents. Sponsors of these workers encounter additional expenses that they do not incur when employing local workers, demonstrating a clear financial disincentive to employing an overseas worker over an Australian employee.
- Australian workers cannot be undercut by workers on 457 visas - market rates and conditions that would be paid to an Australian in the same job in the same workplace must also be provided to the foreign worker. If the market salary rate for the position that is to be sponsored does not exceed the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT), then the person will not be able to access the subclass 457 visa programme. TSMIT is currently set at \$53 900.
- Allegations by the CFMEU published in today's Australian newspaper are incorrect. The recent increase in the non-approval rate of 457 visa applications is a result of the implementation of the genuineness test and greater scrutiny of applications by the department.
- The number of primary Subclass 457 visa holders in Australia as at 31 July 2014 was 107 570. This is a decrease since 30 September 2013 - twelve days after the Abbott government assumed office - when the number was at 110 280.

A business that is forced to close because it is unable to access the labour that it requires employs no-one. That is a lose - lose situation for both the employer and the employees. We must be able to have a sensible, measured and reasoned debate about skilled migration in Australia so as to avoid the demonisation of foreign workers and the vital workforce they provide to our economy.

An effectively managed skilled migration programme ensures foreign workers supplement rather than substitute Australian workers. Migration programmes such as the subclass 457 scheme help create Australian jobs - unions and members of the Labor Party should keep this in mind rather than presenting misleading arguments and deceptive data.

The Coalition Government will not engage in the divisive, ugly politics employed by the former Labor Government. What we will do is ensure that we focus on compliance and strengthened integrity measures within the skilled migration programme with the same energy and commitment that we have demonstrated in stopping illegal maritime arrivals.

(Source: The Assistant Minister for Immigration)

2) Some useful FAQs from DIBP about your visa process

I have lodged my visa application, but some of the answers I gave are wrong. What can I do?

If you need to tell us that you have supplied us with incorrect information, you can use Form 1023 Notification of incorrect answer(s) (100 kB PDF).

If you think I have provided a bogus document or false or misleading information, will I have the chance to talk about it?

Yes, if we think that your application includes a bogus document or false or misleading information, we will tell you and ask you to respond within a specified period (usually 28 days). If you have provided a bogus document or false or misleading information but you still think you should be granted a visa, you should tell us about any circumstances that might support your claim.

Can I get help with my application?

You can ask someone to help you with your application. They can also help you with other immigration advice.

If you get someone to help you, you must complete the following form:

- Form 956: Advice by a migration agent/exempt person of providing immigration assistance (134kB PDF).

In Australia, a person who helps you with your application must be a registered migration agent, unless they are an exempt person. It is a criminal offence for an unregistered person, or someone who is not exempt, to give immigration assistance and advice.

You do not need to use a migration agent. It is your choice to use one if you want to.

You are responsible for any information provided in your application, whether you complete the application or someone completes it on for you.

Will my medical condition be a significant cost?

The costs of your medical condition will depend on what it is and how long you plan to stay in Australia. If you apply for a temporary visa, the costs of your medical condition will be based on the time you will be staying in Australia. If you apply for a permanent visa, the costs for your medical condition will be estimated over five years (or over three years if you are 75 years of age or older).

Exception: If you have a permanent or ongoing medical condition and the course of the disease is reasonably predictable, the costs will be assessed over the time of your remaining life expectancy. This means that if you have a serious health condition you might meet the health requirement for a temporary visa, but you might not meet the health requirement if you then apply for a permanent visa.

Your individual, non-medical circumstances (such as private health insurance or personal wealth) will not be used to work out the cost to the Australian community.

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Will my personal information stay private?

We respect your privacy. We collect your personal information only for the purposes of making decisions under the Migration Act 1958 and the Migration Regulations 1994.

Laws stop us from giving your personal information to others unless you agree to it or we are required to by law. Some laws also mean we might give your details to other Australian Government agencies such as the Australian Taxation Office or Fair Work Australia. For more information see Form 993i: Safeguarding your personal information (74kB PDF).

What are the important things I need to remember about my visa?

- You need to be granted and hold an Australian visa to enter or stay in Australia, unless you are an Australian citizen.
- Keep a copy of your visa grant notification letter. This letter contains your visa grant number and other important information about your visa.
- You do not need a visa label in your passport to travel to, enter or stay in Australia.
- Confirm other countries' travel and visa requirements with any relevant foreign government authorities before you travel.
- You can use Visa Entitlement Verification Online (VEVO) for free to check your visa status and entitlements.
- Employers, schools, banks and other organisations may be able to check your entitlements online with your consent using VEVO. We may also share your visa information with some Australian Government agencies.

Finally when you are moving to Australia here is a very useful Department of Immigration publication advising you on a whole range of important topics about your new life here

http://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/02_2014/eng_access.pdf

(Source: DIBP)

3) New WA State Migration Plan released

The new WA State migration plan is now out here

<http://www.migration.wa.gov.au/skilledmigration/Pages/Occupationsindemand.aspx>

There have been a number of ADDITIONS to the WA plan (see below). If you want any advice on how this may affect ...your visa options please email us at migration@iscah.com or Facebook message us for a free assessment.

Additions to the WA State migration plan for 2014/2105

111111 Chief executive or managing director
121322 Sheep farmer
134212 Nursing clinical director
221111 Accountant (general)
222113 Insurance broker
222311 Financial investment advisor
222312 Financial investment manager
223112 Recruitment consultant
233112 Materials engineer
233411 Electronics engineer
233511 Industrial engineer
233911 Aeronautical engineer
234211 Chemist
241311 Middle school teacher
241512 Teacher of the hearing impaired
241513 Teacher of the sight impaired
251211 Medical diagnostic radiographer
251213 Nuclear medicine technologist
251411 Optometrist
251412 Orthoptist
251511 Hospital pharmacist
251512 Industrial pharmacist
252611 Podiatrist
252711 Audiologist
253322 Renal medicine specialist
253515 Otorhinolaryngologist
253918 Radiation oncologist
253999 Medical practitioners nec
254418 Registered nurse (medical)
254425 Registered nurse (Paediatrics)
263311 Telecommunications engineer
263312 Telecommunications network engineer

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271111 Barrister
271311 Solicitor
311211 Anaesthetic technician
311214 Operating theatre technician
312411 Electronic engineering draftsman
312412 Electronic engineering technician
342412 Telecommunications cable joiner
342413 Telecommunications linesworker
399212 Gas or petroleum operator
399213 Power generation plant operator
411111 Ambulance officer
441212 Fire fighter
511112 Program or project administrator

(Source: WA state government and Iscah summary)

4) Businesses no longer have to operate 6 months under ENS/RSMS

We advised 2 weeks ago that DIBP no longer require a business to have been operating for at least 6 months before sponsoring for the 186 (ENS) or 187 (RSMS) categories. This is still the case, 6 months is no longer needed, but it has been slow rolling this information out to DIBP decision makers (their policy manual has not yet been updated) and the state RCB certifying bodies (who are required to... endorse the RSMS direct entry nominations).

For example in Western Australia the state government were not aware of this change and so were not going to approve a company nominating under RSMS unless they had operated at least 6 months. We have confirmed with DIBP that they will shortly advise the RCBs of this change and so if you are having problems with your local RCB in this regards, ask them to contact the DIBP policy section to confirm the change themselves. There is no point contacting just their local DIBP office as those DIBP officers are advising from their policy manual (PAMs)- for which the change has not yet been included anyhow.

(Source: Iscah comment)

5) DIBPs latest policy on companies nominating the occupation of RETAIL MANAGER for RSMS/ENS permanent visas

Retail Managers

The occupation of Retail Manager (General) (ANZSCO 142111) may be nominated for a diverse range of retail outlets. When a nomination under this occupation is submitted to the department, delegates will need to be satisfied that the position described in the nomination demonstrates the tasks and required skill level are commensurate with the occupation of Retail Manager (General), which, according to ANZSCO, primarily involves organising and controlling the operations of a retail trading establishment. Delegates should be satisfied that tasks will primarily include, but will likely not be limited to:

- determining stock levels, product mix and service standards
- setting prices and formulating / implementing purchasing and marketing policies
- promoting and advertising for the establishment
- maintaining stock and financial records
- controlling selection, training and supervision of staff
- undertaking budgeting for the establishment.

Other tasks that workers under this occupation may perform, but which should not be the primary tasks of the position, may include, but are not limited to:

- selling goods and services to customers and advising them on product use
- taking inventory of goods for sale and ordering new stock
- ensuring that goods and services are correctly priced and displayed.

Delegates should place emphasis on the decision-making capacity for the position nominated under the occupation of Retail Manager (General). Positions that do not allow for high-level business decisions are not considered appropriate under this occupation. Delegates should also consider that some of the non-primary duties may be more relevant to sales assistants and salespersons (ANZSCO 621 grouping) such as Sales Assistants (General), Retail Supervisors and Service Station Attendants.

The nominated position within the occupation of Retail Manager (General) should be in a position of primary responsibility within the establishment. The employee in the nominated position should report directly to the business' executive rather than to another manager in the establishment. The requirements of these types of positions mean there should be only one individual in this position at any particular location. A position nominated as Retail Manager (General) that is one of several in an establishment would not meet relevant requirements.

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For example, if a nominated position's description is a section manager who oversees the bakery section of a store and the worker in this position reports to a store manager, this position would not meet relevant requirements under the occupation of Retail Manager (General). As a further example, if a nominated position's description is a shift manager who oversees staff during particular shifts and the worker in the position reports to an overall store manager, this position would not meet relevant requirements under the occupation of Retail Manager (General).

(Source: DIBP)

6) Which company structures can self sponsor for Company sponsored 186/187/457 visas

This is DIBP's policy on someone buying a company then that company sponsoring the person for a company sponsored visa. In particular which company structures can and cannot do that :

Self-sponsorship and nomination of 'related or connected' individuals

Sole trader

An individual undertaking a business activity (as a sole trader) cannot nominate themselves. This is on the basis that the employment must be based on a contractual relationship between an employer and employee. In the case of a sole trader nominating themselves, such a contractual relationship cannot exist because the employer and the employee would be the same person (individual).

If an individual incorporates a company with themselves as the sole shareholder/director, a separate legal entity (a proprietary limited liability company) is created. The company could then nominate the shareholder/director, because the employer (nominator) and employee (nominee) are separate legal entities. In these circumstances, the individual would, in theory, be able to execute an employment contract:

- as the employee in their personal capacity on the one hand and
- as the employer in their capacity as the director of the company on the other.

Partnership

The rules around a partnership being able to nominate a partner for an employer sponsored visa are based on partnership law and common law principles. The fundamental principle is that the partnership is not separate from its partners.

Each State/Territory has enacted its own partnership legislation:

Partnerships operating in SA, NT, ACT and TAS cannot nominate a partner for an employer sponsored visa because, in these jurisdictions, contracts made between partners are considered to be void under common law.

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Legislation in NSW, VIC, WA and QLD permits contracts between partners. In the context of an employer nomination, partnerships in these states may be able to nominate a partner. Partnerships could involve simple arrangements between individuals or more complex arrangements such as those involving different types of entities including trusts.

For the Direct Entry stream, regulation 5.19(4)(a)(ii) requires the nomination to be in respect of the need for a paid employee. Given that a partner may have an ownership interest in the partnership, it may be difficult for a partnership wishing to nominate a partner to demonstrate an employer/employee relationship. In such circumstances, the onus would be on the nominator to establish that an employer – employee relationship exists – see Evidence of employer/employee relationship.

Company

A company is a legal entity separate from its owners (shareholders) and officers (directors). A company is therefore able to nominate a director or shareholder for an employer sponsored visa.

Trust

If a trustee for a trust nominates a person connected to the trust, such as themselves or a beneficiary under the trust, the rules as to whether this is permissible are complex. Various factors, including the content of the trust deed and the structure of the trustee (such as individual, partnership or company), may need to be considered.

Joint venture

Given that joint ventures relate to large scale projects, the co-venturers tend to be large, well established businesses.

Given the “project” nature of the enterprise, a joint venture may exist only for the duration of the project. This could have implications for the ability of the joint venture to guarantee employment for a nominee for 2 years as required.

Joint ventures may also have difficulty meeting the training criterion at regulation 5.19(4)(h)(i)(B) under the Direct Entry stream.

Unincorporated association

An unincorporated association is not a legal entity separate from its members and exists only through its collective membership. These types of entities may have difficulty meeting several regulation 5.19 requirements, including guaranteeing employment and satisfying the training requirement.

Incorporated association

An incorporated association is a legal entity separate from its members. Such entities can nominate members under employer sponsored visa programs.

Cooperative

A cooperative is an entity legally separate from its members and directors. Such entities can nominate directors or members under employer sponsored visa programs.

(Source: DIBP)

7) Information about 457 Review etc from Assistant Minister

Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, the Hon Senator Michaelia Cash, opened the highly-successful MIA WA State Conference last Friday in Perth. The Minister addressed the conference and provided an update on current issues affecting the migration profession. The following information was included in her speech:

- The TSMIT will not be indexed this year;
- The 457 review, entitled Robust New Foundations, has made 27 recommendations which will make the 457 program a more streamlined, transparent and responsive system;
- Red tape will be cut from the 457 program to allow businesses to build and grow;
- There are currently 190 approved labour agreements in effect which is a 12% increase on last year. There are a further 40 labour agreements in process;
- Minister Cash thanked the MIA for the comprehensive and useful submission they provided to the 457 review panel;
- The Minister also thanked the MIA for the Institute's substantial and wide-ranging submission to the OMARA Review.

(Source: MIA)

8) Electronic Visitor visas extended to more countries

As of 1 August 2014, electronic lodgement of the Subclass 600 (Visitor) visa has been extended to 66 additional countries and territories.

The 66 additional countries and territories are: Angola, Anguilla, Armenia, Benin, Bermuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, the Cayman Islands, the Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Falkland Islands, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Gibraltar, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Montserrat, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, the Philippines, the Pitcairn Islands, Rwanda, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, the Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the Republic of South Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Turkmenistan, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Uganda, Uzbekistan, the Virgin Islands, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

The updates will be reflected here, <http://www.immi.gov.au/Services/Pages/visitor-e600-visa-online-applications.aspx>, on 1 August.

(Source: DIBP)

9) Recent closing of some family visas not all over yet

Many Acts of Parliament delegate to the executive government the power to make detailed rules and regulations (legislative instruments). Instruments made in this way are subject to the power of either House to veto or disallow them.

In most cases, within 15 sitting days after tabling a senator may give notice of a motion to disallow the legislative instrument. If the motion is agreed to, the instrument is disallowed and ceases to have effect. If a notice of motion to disallow a legislative instrument has not been resolved or withdrawn within 15 sitting days after having been given, the instrument is deemed to have been disallowed and automatically ceases to have effect.

A motion to disallow the Migration Amendment (Repeal of Certain Visa Classes) Regulation 2014 was defeated in the House of Representatives on 15 July 2014.

In opposing the disallowance motion, Minister Morrison has said that the decision to remove eight visa subclasses, including non-contributory parent and carer visas, from the migration program was made because the waiting lists were so long (eg, Non-contributory Parent visas 13 years and Carers 4 years). The Minister said that once the pipeline of applications had been dealt with consideration would be given to recommencing the carer program.

Notice has been given that a disallowance motion for this will be moved in the Senate.

The scrapping of these Family visa subclasses (Non-contributory Parent, Carer, Remaining Relative and Aged Dependent Relative) has caused great concern which was persuasively expressed by MIA Member Professor Mary Crock in a letter to the Sydney Morning Herald 'Coalition's new visa laws make family reunion a preserve of the rich'.

Immigration Minister Scott Morrison's speech in Parliament on the issue :

I note the opposition's motion and I note that they have sought to bring much politics to this debate, but they have failed to grasp the reality of the very program they left to the government that succeeded them after the last election. As was flagged in the budget, there was a very clear statement about the policy the government introduced, on 13 May, under which new applications under eight family-stream visa subclasses have ceased. That was the announcement in the budget, and the government then took action to implement the announcement that was in the budget. That is the way these matters are handled every single year when a migration program is announced and is given effect to subsequent to the budget.

What has occurred is that applications have ceased as a result of this regulation, but places under these programs continue to be provided, which is something the opposition refuses to acknowledge. All applications made prior to the change continue to be queued and processed in accordance with existing legislation and policy. The government recognises that these changes will be disappointing to many people, but we are committed to a migration program that meets the needs of modern Australia and that can respond to the applications that are provided. These changes will ensure family migration is focused on the entry of close family member—of parents, of partners, of children.

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The repealed visa program simply had become unsustainable, just like the budget. Those opposite seem to take no responsibility for the mess they have left behind, with applications significantly outstripping available places, creating extremely long queues. There are currently over 36,000 applications on hand in the non-contributory parent visa category, and that equates to a waiting list period of 13 years. In the other family category there are 7,600 applications on hand, which equates to around a four-year wait for carers and a 16-year wait in the case of aged dependent relatives and remaining relatives.

The ceased visa classes were ultimately unsustainable and, indeed, given the queues that had developed, it would be inappropriate to accept further applications and give people the false expectation that visas could be granted soon. What those opposite are suggesting is that we should continue to take applications for which people on the parent and aged parent non-contributory visas will pay \$4,435 and \$5,585, and they will get no result. They will pay that money with an expectation that their visa will be able to be processed and granted, and they will be waiting 13 years. I think that is dishonest—to go and tell people that they have a pathway when the pathway has a waiting time that will see their application either lapse or be unable to be fulfilled. If we are going to create programs and if we are going to run programs then the people who apply for them and who pay thousands of dollars to lodge their application should be able to have an expectation that their visa will be assessed and processed and, if they meet the requirements of the scheme, that they will gain a place. That is simply no longer possible under the way that these schemes have blown out over recent years. It is my sincere hope that I will be in a position to reinstate applications in these places, but once we have been able to get the backlog under control.

The 835 places that have been reduced in the parent and other family program have been increased, I stress, in the partner program, where there are an additional 300 places for partners who are also waiting for visas—partners of those who are seeking those visas; 35 extra children visas; and 500 for the contributory parent scheme. Under the previous government the contributory parent scheme was slashed and the non-contributory parent scheme was increased. This government has restored the arrangement that was in place previously, under the former government. And 1,500 non-contributory parent visas will be provided this year. There will be 500 visas provided for carers and remaining relatives and aged dependent relatives. Those visas will be provided this year. So to suggest that the number of these places is reduced to zero shows a complete lack of understanding by those opposite about how the program works.

We need to work through the backlog of cases to ensure that, for those who have already paid their money, who are already counting on a pathway and have a reasonable expectation that will be considered, we can move through that. But, if you keep adding to the list, then working through the caseload of those cases that are already in the queue becomes more difficult. The implication of what the opposition is putting forward is to make those who have already made those applications, who are already waiting, wait even longer. That would be the consequence.

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Once we have been able to work through the backlog in the caseload, I would give priority first to ensuring we can get an increase in the number of carer places that are going into this program and to ensure that that is done. But we currently have a four-year wait on those carer visas. I want to see that cut significantly. I want to be able to ensure that we can recommence the carer program with suitable places to make sure that, when people make an application for a carer visa—and I stress that that visa application costs them \$3,515—and pay that money to have a carer come under the program, then they have a reasonable expectation that will be handled expeditiously and that there will be a result to their application.

Parents will still be able to migrate to Australia under the contributory parent visa program, and we support the contributory parent scheme. Those who have worked their entire life in this country and have entitlements to benefits as a result of their living and working and paying taxes their whole life in this country can enjoy those benefits. Under the non-contributory parent scheme, people access those benefits more or less immediately. It is our view that, if we are going to have a balance in these programs, then we have put the balance towards the contributory parent scheme, which enables those who are coming to be reunited with family to be able to make a contribution to the support and entitlements they would receive when coming to Australia.

Those opposite disagree with that position, and they are entitled to do that. When they were in government they reversed this. They cut the numbers of places for contributory parents, which has a much-reduced waiting list time of 12 months to two years, and they decided to decrease those places and increase the places for the non-contributory parents, which places a cost on the taxpayer.

The overall saving to the budget from what has been done in this year's migration program is \$31 million, a saving that was necessary to address the budget mess that was left to us by the previous government. What these initiatives do is address the budget mess and also the immigration mess not just on our borders with people smuggling but in the administration of these programs, which has seen these caseloads and queues grow longer and longer and longer.

It is important that we run a program that is fair, that we run a program that is affordable and that we run a program that is efficient, and it is important that people can have a reasonable expectation that they will be able to make an application and actually get an answer. What those opposite are doing is holding out a false hope, a false promise. They are going out into all of the electorates and saying: 'You can make your application, but don't even think about actually getting an answer to it. Hand over your \$5,000. We'll take your money. But don't expect to see a parent visa any time soon within the next 13 years.' That is the inconvenient truth that those opposite will not confront. They are going to ask for people's money and then not give them an answer for 13 years. I just think that is dishonest, and I was not prepared to allow that process to continue. I think we need to get on top of the backlog.

We will continue to provide the places year in, year out for all the categories of visas for which applications have now ceased. We will continue to provide those places and we will continue to work through the long queue, which is up to 16 years in some of these visa class cases. We will continue to ensure that we can get the program back on track. But, if the opposition wants to simply whip up fear and play politics and play what is effectively a race card on this issue, then I think that is very disappointing.

We saw it last year when they were in government on the issue of 457 visas. They attacked the 457 program and they refused to acknowledge the incredible contribution made by 457 skilled migrants, particularly by those who go on to become permanent residents. The greatest number, in terms of the growth of that program, are in the Indian population, who the member for Greenway pretends to suggest she has some empathy for. She was not supporting them when it came to 457s last year. She was happy for the previous government to slag and bag the 457 program and skilled migrants then and now she pretends to be in favour of migrants. She is a fraud.

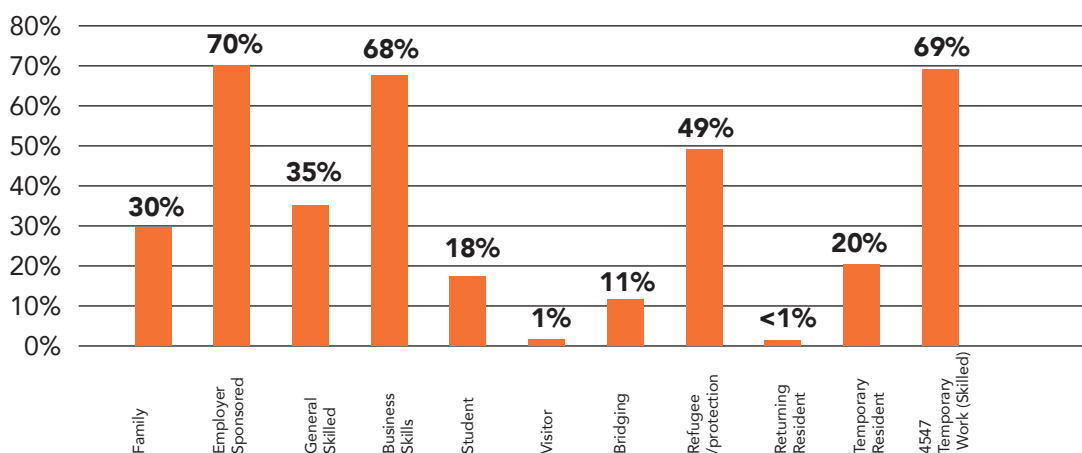
10) Use of Registered Migration Agents for different visa categories

DIBP do not require a visa applicant to use a Registered Migration Agent (RMA) for their applications, and many people manage their application quite well without the use of an RMA.

Here is some general info though on the use of an RMA for different categories.

Visa class	Migration agent used	Total applications	Percentage lodged by a migration agent
Family	4823	16227	30%
Employer Sponsored	8324	11879	70%
General Skilled	5902	16924	35%
Business Skills	1928	2818	68%
Student	12722	72601	18%
Visitor	2374	269853	1%
Bridging	1562	14270	11%
Refugee/protection	1164	2363	49%
Returning Resident	118	27657	<1%
Temporary Resident	5057	25180	20%
4547 Temporary Work (Skilled)	15472	22350	69%
TOTAL (in ICSE)	59446	482122	12%

Percentage of applications lodged by registered migration agents



11) Skill Select Invitation Round 28th July 2014

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.

28 July 2014

Invitation process and cut-off date by point score

Visa subclass	Points score	Visa date of effect
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	60	16/07/2014 3:00pm
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)	60	14/08/2014 1:01am

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 twice monthly invitation round over the 2014-15 programme year. These arrangements are subject to change throughout the programme year. Please also note that 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.

Iscah note

We think this is a DIBP error and should read 14/08/2013)

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The points score and the visa date of effect cut-off for the above occupations in the 28 July 2014 invitation round is as follows:

Note: 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 28 July 2014 invitation round

Occupation ID	Description	Points score	Visa date of effect
2211	Accountants	60	8/07/2014 12:01am
2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	60	2/09/2013 5:50pm
2613	Software and Applications Programmers	60	8/05/2014 10:56pm

Okay all done again folks, enjoy your week and see you all hopefully on Monday 15th September 2014.



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