

# Iscah Migration Newsletter

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Edition Number 256 | 21st October 2019

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G'day everyone

Welcome to the zillionth edition of our monthly newsletter on all the visa changes and news we have come across in the last 4 weeks.

This free newsletter is sent out to those on our subscribers list (email us at [newsletter@iscah.com](mailto:newsletter@iscah.com)) as well as those linking to it from our website and facebook pages

Has been another big month and we are getting closer to the new 491 criteria that starts on 16/11/2019

If you want backcopies, wish to unsubscribe or have suggestions just email us to [newsletter@iscah.com](mailto:newsletter@iscah.com) thanks

On to October's news...



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## 1) Links to interesting media article this month

<https://www.sbs.com.au/language/english/suspended-in-never-ending-limbo-temporary-migrants-in-australia-s-regions-decry-visa-uncertainty>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/australia-looks-to-canada-on-population-and-attracting-migrants-to-regional-areas>

<https://www.itnews.com.au/news/home-affairs-1bn-visa-platform-outsourcing-riddled-with-it-risks-531488>

<https://minister.homeaffairs.gov.au/davidcoleman/Pages/working-holiday-makers-supporting-regional-areas.aspx>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/language/english/new-research-recommends-international-students-be-allowed-to-extend-post-study-work-visa>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/the-gold-coast-wants-to-be-classified-as-regional-to-bring-in-more-migrants>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/language/english/audio/study-in-australia-visa-requirement-changes-for-international-students>

## 2) Great news for Perth students for 491/190 State sponsorships

It was all worth it. A BIG thankyou to all the students in Perth who took time to fill out our past surveys about what would attract you to study in Perth. The results of these surveys and reports were all provided to the WA Premier Mark McGowan and his state government departments this year.

The WA state government will from December 2019 make their state sponsor criteria now easier for 491/190 visas for WA GRADUATES

There will be a requirement to obtain a 6 months work contract or have worked 6 months in your occupation for masters and bachelor degree AND Diploma/Cert 3 students

That is a BIG win for bachelor degree graduates and diploma/Cert 3 graduates who will just need a job offer and no longer 12 months work already. This will be from December 2019

Changes to the Graduate Stream of the State Nomination Migration Program

17/10/2019

The State Nomination Migration Program (SNMP) Graduate stream will soon be more accessible for international students who study in Western Australia. On 16 October 2019 Premier Mark McGowan announced that the Graduate Stream of the SNMP will be extended to include vocational education and training (VET) graduates who complete a qualification in Western Australia at Certificate III level or above, excluding trade occupations (unless approved for delivery to international students). The first invitation round to include VET graduates will be issued in December 2019. Other changes to the SNMP Graduate stream are:

studies in Higher Education, VET and/or English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) will all count towards the requirement to study for two years in Western Australia.

work experience and job offer requirements will also be reduced. Graduates will need to either demonstrate six months of work experience or a six month employment contract, but not both. Currently, international students need to have 12 months of work experience plus a job offer for 12 months.

A new Graduate Occupation List and updated eligibility criteria for the Graduate stream will be published on the Migration portal prior to the December invitation round. For information on the current Graduate Stream of the State Nomination Migration Scheme requirements visit the State nomination requirements page.

(Source: WA State government)

### 3) Perth seeking to become a regional area again

It was never a smart or beneficial decision for the WA premier to take Perth off the list of regions that DHA considered as regional back in 2016. Past state governments of both political sides had worked so hard to attain that status and to surrender it for short term political gain has hurt our state. We could have just as easily reduced the occupations sponsored under the 187/RSMS program. And kept the regional status. Now the premier is scrambling to get that status back amongst a disastrous drop in international student numbers. We are over 3000 less than what we would have been without that decision and the virtual closing of the WA state sponsorship program for 3 years.

Anyhow we are where we are and now the WA premier is requesting that DHA give us back our regional status. If that is successful it may do several things

Provide 5 additional points for competing 2 years of study in Perth

Allow 485 visa holders to gain an extra year on that visa

Allow citizens and residents in Perth to sponsor relatives for the new 491 regional visa

And allow 491 visa holders sponsored through a state government to live in and qualify for PR through residence in Perth

This is the statement on the WA State government website on that topic this week ...

Regional Australia definition

The Premier has announced he has written to the Federal Government to request that Perth is included in the definition of regional Australia.

The Western Australian Government is working with the Federal Government to progress this issue. Further information will be published on the migration portal

<https://migration.wa.gov.au/services/regional-sponsored-migration-scheme> when it becomes available.

(Source: Iscah and WA state government)

## 4) ACS changes to Skills Assessment criteria

The ACS have published a new version of their criteria. From our viewing it does not look significantly different. The changes noted by the ACS are as follows

Australian Computer Society|Skills Assessment Guidelines for Applicants | V6.0 | September 2019 Page 20  
Date Document Version Revision History (reason for change) September 2019 6.0 Update ethical standards (section 1.4). Update document requirements and criteria (section 2.1). Update qualification (section 5) and Employment (section 7) requirements. Introduction of payment evidence requirements and Region Specific requirements. Update Statutory Declarations and Affidavits (section 7.4)

And the new criteria document is here

<http://www.acs.org.au/msa/summary-of-criteria.html>

(Source : [www.acs.org.au](http://www.acs.org.au))

## 5) DHA information about updating Partner points from 16/11/2019

DHA has clarified information on the updating of points for submitted EOIs when the 16 November 2019 changes come into effect.

The Department has clarified that:

SkillSelect will automatically update points for all Expressions of Interest (EOI) in submitted status. EOIs in draft status will not be updated, as no points have been attributed at this stage in the system. There will be no change to the 'date of effect' for any EOI when this change is applied.

Points will only be updated once an EOI is submitted

Specific systems functionality is still being developed and any information required by agents will be provided once the process has been finalised, however, no applicant or intending migrant will be disadvantaged by the changes to 6D points for Points Tested visas.

We asked DHA - Can you please advise how EOIs can be updated to reflect that a partner has competent English and so can claim 5 points under these changes. And what will be the EOI effect date ?

They replied ..

"...specific technical details are still being determine and will be passed to agents when they are available. No further information on technical matters is available at this time.

I am sure you can understand that substantial work is being undertaken to finalise these system requirements and as soon as we have information it will be provided to all stakeholders..."

(Source: DHA and MIA)

## 6) DHA clarify no change in ranking policy from 16/11/2019

When DHA announced the New 16/11/2019 points test back in April 2019 the Explanatory Statement included these paragraphs

This will ensure that primary applicants without a partner (singles) will be ranked equally to other primary applicants who have the same human capital attributes. If all other points claims are equal, invitations for points tested visas will be ranked by the Migration Points Test as described below:

First – primary applicants with a skilled spouse or de facto partner

Equal First – primary applicants without a spouse or de facto partner

Second – Primary applicants with a spouse or de facto partner who can demonstrate competent English but does not have the skills for skilled partner points (age and skills)

Third – Primary applicants with a partner who is ineligible for either competent English or Skilled partner points. These applicants will be ranked below all other cohorts, if all other points claims are equal.

This suggested that if points were equal (let's say 85 points) that EOIs claiming 10 partner points (single people and those with a skilled partner and competent english) would gain an invite BEFORE others on the same total even if they had a lesser effect date. As they would be ranked higher in the above ordering listed in the explanatory statement

DHA have confirmed to us that there will be NO new "rankings" system in the new points test (So the system remains as it currently is) . So when an EOI is allocated it's points total and EOI date (including any new partner points etc) on 16/11/2019 ... EOIs will be selected on merit from that point. It will be based as before, simply on points total and EOI effect date

DHAs reply included the following quotes

" There is no change to how EOIs are ranked in SkillSelect, nor will there be a change from 16 November 2019. "

"...Yes, you are misintepreting the Explanatory Statement, there was no intention in this statement to imply there would be priority groupings."

For example

### PERSON A

85 points, EOI effect date 20/08/2019, Occupation 261311 (includes 10 partner points as single)

### PERSON B

85 points, EOI effect date 15/03/2019, Occupation 261311 (includes 0 partner points as married with an unskilled partner with poor English)

PERSON B will get an invite first ...

(Source: Iscah and DHA)

## 7) DHA 491/494 Skills newsletter

DHA have announced new information about the 491/494 visas included the salary of \$53,900 required for the 494/191 visa.

See their latest newsletter here -

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/what-we-do/skilled-migration-program/skilled-visa-newsletters/september-2019>

They have since clarified this can only be earned by one person, you cannot combine income from 2 partners

## 8) India, Nepal and Pakistan rated "high risk" for universities

The \$36 billion international education market has been hit by a Home Affairs department decision making it more difficult for students from India, Nepal and Pakistan to get visas for Australia.

The shift against India, Nepal and Pakistan comes as universities struggle to diversify away from the giant China market. Tamara Voninski

The department has raised the "risk status" of the three countries from medium to high because of fraud, visa cancellations and visa holders becoming "unlawful non-citizens".

The change was not publicly announced but has been signalled to migration agents since September 26.

The shift against India, Nepal and Pakistan comes as universities struggle to diversify away from the giant China market, which accounts for more than 30 per cent of students at some of the sandstone institutions.

Universities have been marketing aggressively outside of China since concerns were raised about China Communist Party domination of strategic and research activities. In the year ended July, Australia's intake of students from India alone went up 30 per cent to 84,753.

The International Education Association of Australia said the Home Affairs decision was "far from welcome".

"Unfortunately the Department of Home Affairs has rained on the parade, so the massive year on year growth from India may now be at risk," said chief executive Phil Honeywood.

"It feeds evidence that Australia's third-biggest industry has challenges ahead because of Australia's relationship with China.

"There are problems brewing because geopolitical problems with our biggest market, China, are combined with visa decisions related to our second- and third-biggest student markets, India and Nepal.

"The more you tighten the screws on paperwork, the more likely a migration agent will recommend a student look to another country."

The department weights countries on the record of past enrolments including fraud (40 per cent weighting), visa cancellations (25 per cent) and overstaying visas (15 per cent).

Universities can enrol students from high-risk countries but applicants have to meet higher standards, including proof they have money to finance their degree and passing an English proficiency test.

Not all bad news

Migration agent Ranbir Singh, director of Global Migration in Melbourne, said this would make it tougher for students who previously only needed a passport and a statement saying they were a genuine student.

"Approvals can take a lot longer. On things like financial proof the department can even send an investigation team."

He said the new risk levels could deflect some students from Australia to Canada or the UK, which have lower thresholds.

It was not all bad news, Mr Singh said. Without tighter conditions Australia risked attracting students who were not up to standard.

"Some vice-chancellors have said they are not happy with the level of English of some students.

"But a student applying to a good uni, who has good English and good finance behind them, shouldn't have a problem."

Troy Williams, chief executive of the Independent Tertiary Education Council of Australia, said the Home Affairs department was trying to weed out people who really wanted immigration from students who wanted education.

"Changes like this are not taken lightly because of the risk to major export markets, but they are ultimately made to protect the reputation of Australia," said Mr Williams.

(Source: Australian Financial Review newspaper)

## 9) Migrants stuck waiting 410 days for Citizenship

Hundreds of thousands of migrants from China, India and the United Kingdom face waiting more than a year to receive their Australian citizenship as the queue blows out and the economy risks losing a critical part of its skilled workforce.

Despite a 100,000 drop in the number of applications to become an Australian citizen over the past year, the average number of days from lodgement to approval sits at 410 days, up from 167 in 2012-13 but down from 493 last year.

The figures, provided by the Department of Home Affairs in response to questions from Labor MP Julian Hill, show there are close to 30,000 Indians, 27,000 British citizens and over 17,500 Chinese nationals waiting to become Australian citizens. In total, there are over 221,415 people waiting to have their citizenship applications processed.

Last year, migrants told The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age they had been left despairing at the situation, putting their plans to study, vote, use medicare, sponsor family members and apply for government jobs on hold.

Labor's home affairs spokeswoman Kristina Keneally said the delays were "cruel and callous."

"[Prime Minister] Scott Morrison says 'if you have a go, you get a go' but these citizenship processing blowouts are proof he doesn't care about people waiting for their citizenship applications to be processed," she said.

This year's migration level is already well below the current cap and Prime Minister Scott Morrison has suggested the coalition wants to keep it that way.

The Home Affairs backlog comes despite the number of applications from the humanitarian migration stream, which are more complex to process, decreasing by 9 per cent over the past four years.

"The increase has been in less-complex applications from the skilled migration stream, which increased by 41 per cent over the four years," a report by the Auditor-General found in February.

Increasing the number of skilled migrants is a key part of the Morrison government's population policy. The government is attempting to fill skills gaps in the Australian economy to stimulate economic growth from its lowest rate since the global financial crisis.

Population Minister Alan Tudge has also established a Population Centre of Excellence within Treasury to move away from a focus on revenue being driven by the quantity of migrants towards social and economic outcomes for attracting skilled workers, particularly to regional areas.

Immigration Minister David Coleman said last year the Morrison government was investing in the processing of citizenship applications and boosting resources within Home Affairs to meet growing demand.

(Source: [www.WAtoday.com.au](http://www.WAtoday.com.au))

## 10) Despondency and Outrage at Federal Government wage demands for Regional 491 Visa

The Federal Government have announced that the annual wage required under the new regional 491 visa will be an historically high \$53,900. This visa will be used to attract skilled migrants to fill regional skills shortages around the nation. Visa holders will need to earn this amount for 3 consecutive financial years else they will likely have to leave Australia

This in sharp contrast to the current regional visa (489) that only requires fulltime hours to be worked (35 per week) and has NO minimum wage requirement.

The strong reaction has been this is unattainable for most migrants in regional areas of Australia and will lead to migrants abandoning smaller regional towns who are most suffering from acute skills shortages to instead seek work in larger regional cities. Also visa holders working in occupations are likely to be forced to work in jobs other than what they were sponsored in and work many hours of overtime above the standard 38 hours a week to get anywhere near this historically high salary figure of \$53,900.

We surveyed over 1000 potential applicants of this new 491 Regional visa to hear their reaction. The survey was completed by Medical , Engineering, Computing, Management, Childcare, Trades and many occupations in between. Skilled people whom regional areas are screaming out for .

The results were alarming

Only 30% thought this salary was achievable in a Regional Area

The regional salary that was considered more reasonable was between \$30,000 and \$40,000 per annum for 3 years in a row

An alarming 81% believe they will have to work in an occupation OTHER than their sponsored occupation in order to achieve this salary figure

And a massive 92% believe they will have to work significant overtime in order to earn this regional \$53,900 salary figure

We asked for comments about this historically high \$53,900 salary figure and received over 750 replies.

Here is a selection of them :

The figure is outrageous, who would pay 53k in regional Australia for a graduate.

It is impossible to reach 54k for three consecutive years even if you live in Melbourne so imagine for regional area. I think government wants this people temporarily and after three years they want to send 90% of the applicants back to their homes after they fail to do this condition.

This salary requirement is ridiculous. When you get an accounting job in the city, it is not easy to earn \$53,900. How can you earn that amount in regional areas? They don't have enough jobs. You are probably going to work in different fields other than accounting or even hard to get a job there.

Firstly the job in my field is not readily available and even if you get it, it will not be paying me \$53900 a year. It would pay me around \$40000pa if i work 38 hours a week and with family you need to have a life outside work which is very tough. \$53900 is unfair and that too in regional area.

They need to think about it first that there are hardly any jobs in regional areas.

53900 is not possible in regional area with 38 hours , please remove this condition, before condition on 489 was good to do only 35 hours per week without any minimum income , Plzz do like that because it is really hard to find jobs in regional Australia

\$53k for regional does not make sense. What if you are unemployed for a few months will you make this threshold - i doubt.

Please be reasonable before coming to a conclusion like this. Find employment, let alone skilled employment, is 10 times more difficult in regional areas.

I am an Australian citizen and living in regional QLD Gladstone from 10 years as my sister in law is applying for 491 EOI next month and her IT nominated job cant get here and even trying to get another job is not easy and to get 53900 salary level is difficult to obtain she has to work 2 or 3 part time or casual job in any field then applicant would be achieved the desire salary criteria My Humble request to department please make easier process for 491 desiring candidate to move in Regional Australia

It's difficult to get high paid jobs given that we are on temporary visas especially in regional areas...good jobs are for those with pr or citizenship.. we will have to kill ourselves working 2 jobs just to meet the requirements

We implore the Federal Government to relook at this unfair salary figure of \$53,900. It is going force skilled workers to work in occupations other than what they were sponsored in, does not make any allowance of periods of unemployment, and require many hours of overtime to get anywhere near this wage in regional Australia. Worse there is going to be widespread exploitation of regional workers desperate to get to this totally unrealistic wage level  
(copy sent to the Minister)

(Source: Iscah)

# 11) Unofficial Skill Select 189 results from 11th October 2019

DHA had a 189 skill select round last night and it looks like the numbers were an improvement to around 1000-1500 invitations

Hopefully this is as a result of a looming shortfall in the Skilled migration Program which we wrote about here – Shortfall in Migration Program

We have assumed again that DHA have Pro Rata'd the same occupations, and allocated 60% to those and 40% to the non pro rata occupations

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](mailto:query@iscah.com) with some details so that we can see if this table can be updated over the next 24-48 hours.

SO COME BACK AND CHECK for updates

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

iscach estimated invitation dates after Skillselect round of :	EOI points score			All EOIs to this effect date we believe have been invited			PAST best DHA date Without Wasted Invites
	65 points	70 points	75 points	80 points	85 points @ iscach2019	90 points	
<b>11th October 2019</b>							
2211 Accountants	6/10/2015	24/10/2016	18/10/2017	24/08/2018	14/12/2018	04/09/2019*	9/03/2019(85)
2212 Auditors	27/07/2015	26/12/2016	26/09/2017	19/07/2018	11/04/2019*	10/10/2019*	
2334 Electronics Engineer	18/09/2017	13/12/2017	7/12/2018	04/06/2019*	10/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	
2335 Ind. Mech. Prod Engineers @ iscach 2019	27/04/2017	2/07/2018	24/02/2019	10/05/2019	04/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	
2339 Other Engineer Profs (no invites seen this round)	3/01/2017	30/10/2017	6/11/2018	3/04/2019*	10/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	
2611 ICT Business Analysts	11/08/2016	13/09/2017	9/10/2018	12/04/2019	10/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	
2613 Software Applications Programmer @ iscach 2019	18/04/2017	23/01/2018	13/02/2019	13/05/2019	10/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	06/04/2018(70)
2631 Computer Network Prof	4/03/2017	6/09/2018	8/03/2019	3/05/2019	08/08/2019*	10/10/2019*	
All the other NON-pro rata occupations	28/05/2017	8/12/2018	8/03/2019	01/06/2019*	10/10/2019*	10/10/2019*	
Assumptions - Approximately 1000-1500 invitations (Split 60% Pro Rata and 40% Non Pro Rata)							
* iscach estimates of CHANGED DATES from the latest round have an asterix next to them * and are in dark GREEN							

[www.iscach.com/unofficial-skill-select-results-189-visa-11th-october-invitation-round/](http://www.iscach.com/unofficial-skill-select-results-189-visa-11th-october-invitation-round/)

(Source: Iscach)

## 12) Work claimed by Uber Drivers etc

We have had a number of inquiries around claiming 12 months of work for the 887 visa (which is the PR step for 489 visa holder) where the work is as an Uber driver.

We have received the following policy advice from DHA

"...To meet the work requirement of a Skilled Regional 887 visa, the applicant must demonstrate they have worked 35 hours per week, with this work being full time. Where necessary, a visa 887 applicant may "add together" the hours worked in two part-time or casual positions to meet the full-time work requirement. For Uber, taxi and food delivery drivers, the department would consider their employment as contractor and self-employed. Evidence provided as part of a visa application would need to show turnover and costs to reflect the client having worked full time for 35 hours per week. This evidence can include, but is not limited to, ATO Tax Notification, fuel and vehicle costs, bank statements, profit/loss statement..."

(Source: DHA)

## 13) New 189 Estimated invite time November 2019

Ok folks

Thanks for your patience as we put together a table of estimated times for the new 16/11/2019 points test. First of all we have assumed 800 invites for November 11th (about an average over the last couple of months and also what we think DHA will average for the rest of the program year). Note it could be anything from 100-2000 in November, we are just taking an average to give an indication of what the figures may look like for the next round. As that will allow us to then present our NEW estimates table for after 16/11/2019 with more sense.

So we think DHA may get close to the following for the 11th November 2019 skill select round

Accountant @ 90 points (EOI effect date 14/10/2019)  
Auditor @ 85 points (EOI effect date 19/04/2019)  
Electronics Engineer @ 80 points (EOI effect date 07/06/2019)  
Ind/Mech/Prod Engineer @ 80 points (EOI effect date 29/05/2019)  
Other Engineering professional @ 80 points (EOI effect date 20/04/2019)  
ICT Business Analyst @ 80 points (EOI effect date 18/04/2019)  
Software App Programmer @ 85 points (EOI effect date 10/11/2019)  
Comp Net Professional @ 85 points (EOI effect date 29/10/2019)  
NON Pro Rata @ 80 points (EOI effect date 07/06/2019)

We have incorporated the new 16/11/2019 points test changes for partner and stem points. Have assumed around 800 invites each month (AVERAGE) and split them as 65% Pro Rata and 35% for non pro rata occupations. Also that 30% of EOIs are for single people, 10% have a skilled partner and another 10% have a partner with competent English. We have staggered this partner effect to recognise that those people on higher scores now, will more likely to have used 5 partner points already

Remember that single people will get 10 points extra on 16/11/2019 and keep the SAME EOI effect date they currently have.

We have also assumed (this is not confirmed) that EOIs that include a partner who are able to claim 5 points extra for their partner's English or skills will keep the same EOI date as they currently have. We have NOT confirmed this with DHA but it is the fairest assumption at this stage.

As you will see from the table many EOI invite dates have gone backwards at each score (to accommodate the new people at each score level who have jumped up) and generally each occupation requires 5 points etc. It is REALLY important you don't compare it to the old points system and old invite dates as the movement of old EOIs to higher scores and some wasted invites mean that the date will look like it has gone backwards. For example Accountants at 100 points on 11/8/2019 were already invited. But from 16/11/2019 there will be single people on 90 points with an August 2019 EOI who get 10 points extra to get to 100 points and so now can get invited at 100 points.

**Assumptions**

DHA have a budget target of 18,625 grants less 2000 for NZ citizens. DHA have a backlog of 18000 cases. To reduce this to 10000 (so processing remains at 7 months average) we believe DHA will only want 9000 new applicants. Factor in 30% wastage is 12600 applicants. Each EOI averages 2.0 people, but most invites will be single people so 1.4 average per EOI. So around 800 per month until June 2020. Split as 65% Pro rata and 35% NON pro rata

Iscah Estimated waiting period for an EOI invite - 189 visa as at 11 November 2019

		EOI Lodged					Copyright Iscah 2019
		today (11 November 2019)	3 months ago (11/08/19)	6 months ago (11/05/19)	9 months ago (11/02/19)	12 months ago (11/11/18)	
2211 Accountants	100 points	11/12/2019	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	not before Nov 2020	11/08/2020	11/03/2020	invited	invited	
	90 points	EOI expires before invite					
	85 points	EOI expires before invite					
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
© Iscah							
2212 Auditors	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/05/2020	11/03/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	
	90 points	not before Nov 2020	11/11/2020				
	85 points	EOI expires before invite					
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
©							
2334 Electronics Engineer	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Nov 2020	not before Nov 2020	not before Nov 2020	11/06/2020	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
©							
2335 Ind, Mech, Production Engineers	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/02/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Nov 2020	not before Nov 2020	11/08/2020	invited	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
© Iscah							
2339 Other Engineering Professionals	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/03/2020	11/01/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Nov 2020	11/07/2020				
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
© Iscah							
2611 ICT Business Analysts	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/03/2020	11/02/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	
	85 points	EOI expires before invite					
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
©							
2613 Software Applications Programmer	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/02/2020	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Nov 2020	not before Nov 2020	11/10/2020	invited	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
©							
2631 Computer Network Professionals	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/02/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Nov 2020	not before Nov 2020	11/07/2020	invited	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite					
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					
©							
ALL other NON pro rata occupations *	100 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/12/2019	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/12/2019	11/12/2019	invited	invited	
	85 points	11/10/2020	11/08/2020	11/04/2020	invited	invited	
	80 points	not before Nov 2020	invited				
	75 points	EOI expires before invite					
	65 points	EOI expires before invite					

Note the assumptions that we listed at the top of the spreadsheet. These predictions will change if DoHA change their current selection policies

## 14) Comments on the new post 16/11/2019 estimates table

I appreciate that some people are disappointed by the high scores we predict are needed after 16/11/2019, But we try and be realistic in our predictions so that you can plan your pathways

Take 2613 for example -----Because around 30% of applicants are single and will get 10 points extra we have to work out how many will jump from 75 to 85 , from 80 to 90, from 85 to 90. Also then factor in how many people will get 5 extra points for partners

Take a new person gaining 85 points under the NEW points test if they lodge their first EOI under the new point test, say on 17/11/2019

All the following EOIs are in front of them and need to get an invite before they get a chance ...

- Around 360 (out of 1200) EOIs at 80 points who are single back to 13/5/2019 and so will jump to 90 points

- Around 1200 EOIs at 75/80 points who will jump to 85 points and have an EOI date back to 13/2/2019-

And around 70 new EOIs added EACH month at 90/95 points (used to be 80/85 points) (So 840 over a year)

Given that our prediction is a 2613 lodged on 17/11/2019 will not get an invite in the next 12 months

Hopefully this explains the rational

(Source: Iscah)

## 15) Adding a partner to a 189 application after 16/11/2019

DHA have confirmed that if you are invited to lodge a 189 application under the new points test (so invited after 16/11/2019) and you are SINGLE .. then later want to add a partner to the application, you will not be able to claim 10 points for being single if the case officer has not yet assessed your points

This official points assessment is not made usually under law until just before a visa is granted, and so effectively you cannot add a partner to a 189 in these circumstances during processing without risking losing those 10 points. If that means you would not have got an invite under that lower score then you will be refused your 189 visa

NOTE THIS IS ALSO IF YOU GET MARRIED and do NOT add your partner to the 189/190/491 application. You will still lose your 10 points for being single if DHA have not yet assessed your points (which only happens just before visa grant)

(Source: DHA)

## 16) Canberra Matrix invite results 14th October 2019

Invitation date: 14 October 2019

Number of Invitations Issued: 402

Matrix score range:

All Matrix submitted with 115 to 65 points

60 point matrix submitted on or after 14 April 2019 and on or before 30 April 2019

ACT 491 nomination: The 491 eligibility criteria and guidelines will be published on this website when it is available.

(Source: ACT State government)

## 17) Possible Skill Select results for 11/12/2019

Here is a rough look at what the first invite round (December 2019) may look like after the 16/11/2019 changes

Accountant 95 points (21/03/2019)

Auditor 95 points (22/05/2019)

Electronics Engineer 90 points (26/09/2019)

Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers 90 points (14/08/2019)

Other Engineering Professionals 90 points (21/06/2019)

ICT Business Analysts 90 points (12/06/2019)

Software Applications Programmer 90 points (11/08/2019)

Computer Network Professionals 90 points (01/08/2019)

NON Pro Rata 90 points (17/10/2019)

(Source: Iscah)

## 18) New 491/491 regional visa disallowance motion

We just received this message from the MIA (Migration Institute of Australia)  
Disallowance motion - New Skilled Regional Visas Regulations -

A disallowance motion was tabled by Senator Fierravanti - Wells, Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances, on 16 September 2019 to disallow the New Skilled Regional Visa Regulations.

The motion must be decided or withdrawn within 15 sitting days of tabling or the Regulations will automatically be disallowed. The period of 15 sitting days does not expire until after the 16 November 2019 commencement date of these visas.

The disallowance motion was tabled due to a number of concerns with the mechanisms of the Regulations. While it is expected that these issues will be addressed and the disallowance motion will be withdrawn, members should be aware of the motion.

This Committee assesses delegated legislation against a set of scrutiny principles that focus on compliance with statutory requirements, the protection of individual rights and liberties, and principles of parliamentary oversight.

Iscah Note : It is very likely that this will NOT stop the 491/494 regulations starting.

We do not know ANYTHING more than this so please don't email or ask questions about this issue this is ALL there is on this issue. It is still HIGHLY likely the 491/494 will commence on 16/11/2019. Thanks

(Source: MIA)

## 19) Backlog of Partner visas

Some interesting questions and statistics about the long partner visa backlogs

[https://www.iscah.com/wp\\_files/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/A0383-7.pdf](https://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/A0383-7.pdf)

## 20) Latest DHA processing times for LODGED visa applications

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times>

## 21) Orana NSW 489 Information

Some trivia which may help you for when that region opens up for the (similar) 491 visa in November 2019  
A few statistics of our 489 program for this financial year to date

- 61% of our nominees were already living and working in the Orana region.
- 19% of our accountant applications for the three months were ultimately nominated.
- 31% of our nurse applicants for the three months were ultimately nominated. Of these, 78% were currently working in the Orana region in their field.
- Of the EOI applicants invited to submit a full application, less than 3% did not provide suitable documents to support nomination.

Also Orana advise there are lots of chef and cook vacancies in that region with companies willing to go through employer nominated visas to attract applicants

(Source: Orana NSW regional government)

## 22) Last official 189 round published – September 2019

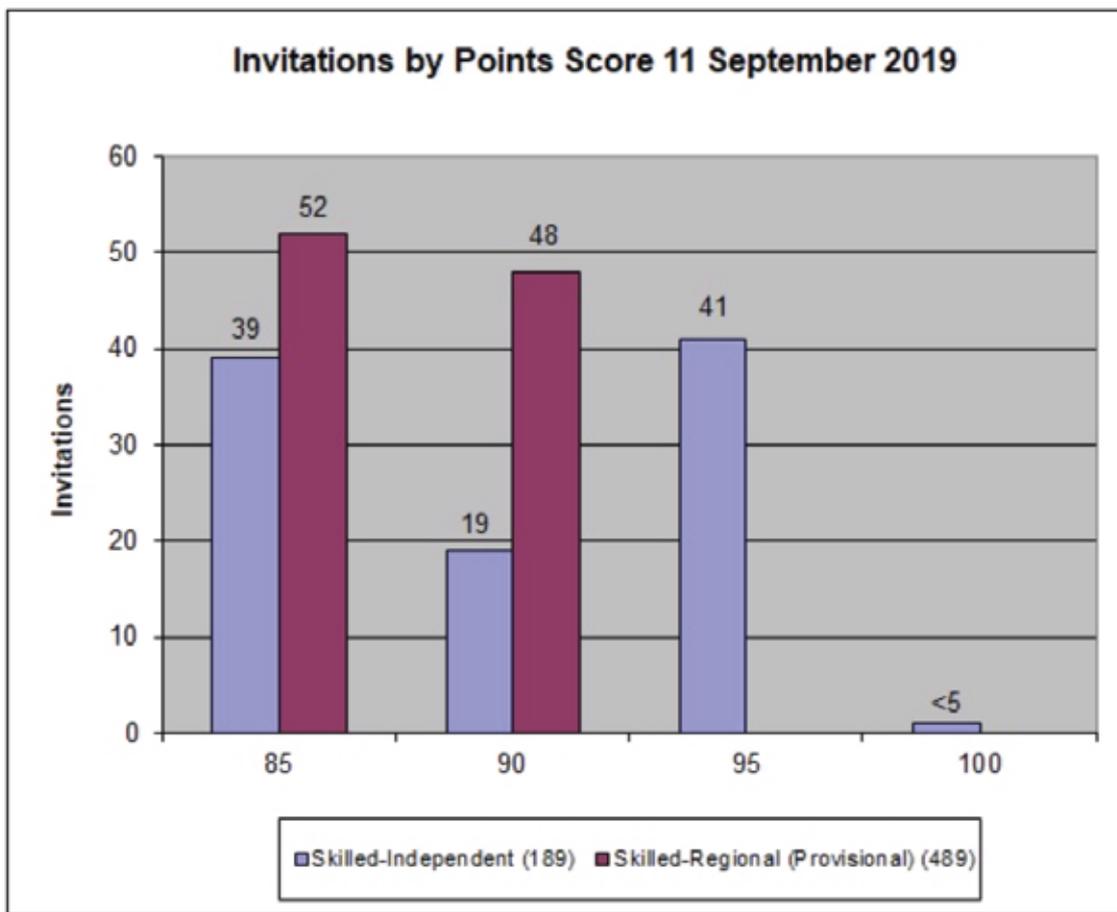
### Invitations issued on 11 September 2019

The table below shows the number of invitations issued in the SkillSelect invitation round on 11 September 2019.

Visa subclass	Number
Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189)	100
Skilled Regional (provisional) visa (subclass 489)	100

During 2019-20 program year the following numbers of invitations have been issued:  
11 September 2019 results

The following graph shows the points for clients who were invited to apply in the 11 September 2019 round.



### 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 date of effect) determines their order of invitation. Expressions of Interest with earlier dates of effect are invited before later dates.

Visa subclass	Minimum points score	Latest date of effect
Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189)	85	03/08/2019 10:05pm
Skilled Regional (provisional) visa (subclass 489)	85	15/08/2019 12:30am

Point scores and the dates of effect cut off for the pro rata occupations in the 11 September 2019 invitation round.

Due to high levels of demand, and in keeping with previous years, the below occupation groups will be subject to pro rata arrangements to ensure availability of invitations across the program year.

SkillSelect first allocates available places to Skilled – Independent visas (subclass 189) and then the remaining to Skilled – Regional (Provisional) visas (subclass 489). If all places are taken up by subclass 189 visas then there will be no invitations issued for subclass 489 visas in these occupations.

Subclass	Occupation ID	Description	Minimum points score	Latest date of effect
189	2211	Accountants	95	5/09/2019 9:57pm
189	2212	Auditors, Company Secretaries and Corporate Treasurers	85	3/08/2018 11:37am
489	2334	Electronics Engineer	85	28/05/2019 12:12am
189	2335	Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers	95	10/09/2019 10:53pm
189	2339	Other Engineering Professionals	95	27/08/2019 9:51am
489	2339	Other Engineering Professionals	85	3/06/2018 12:06am
189	2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	85	8/07/2019 3:29am
489	2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	90	23/08/2019 12:04pm
189	2613	Software and Applications Programmers	85	3/08/2019 3:22pm
489	2613	Software and Applications Programmers	85	5/07/2019 3:36pm
189	2631	Computer Network Professionals	85	10/07/2019 5:53am
489	2631	Computer Network Professionals	85	13/08/2019 2:44pm

That's it for another month  
Keep well and see you all  
on Monday 18th November 2019



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