

Iscah Migration Newsletter

Edition Number 258 | 16th December 2019

Hey Everyone

Welcome to our last newsletter for this year !

Was going to say the end of a decade, but technically it is not the end of the decade for another 12 months, hmmm.

We gather all the visa news and our articles over the last month and put them into one concise document so that you can catch up with what has happened

If you want backcopies you can find them at www.iscah.com

Also if you want to subscribe or unsubscribe (It is free) just email us to newsletter@iscah.com (not the auto email you received the newsletter from)

Ok on to December's news ...



Contents

- 1) Interesting news articles this month
- 2) Proposed changes to the Occupation lists in 2020
- 3) Queensland State update
- 4) New Regional PTE testing centres
- 5) Child Care Group Managers
- 6) Latest DHA Visa Processing times
- 7) ACT State Nomination news
- 8) NSW State Nomination news
- 9) State invite results from some states from FOI
- 10) WA State Nomination news
- 11) Global Talent Visa
- 12) South Australia State Nomination news
- 13) Official DHA report on the 2018/19 Migration Program
- 14) Family Sponsored 491 in the December 2019 round
- 15) Iscah Unofficial Skill Select results 11th December 2019
- 16) Iscah Estimates on when you will get your 189 invitation
- 17) Iscah monthly Visa Report
- 18) DHA Official results for 11th November 2019

1) Interesting news articles this month

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/new-migration-visas-unfair-and-exploitative-,13356>

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/1-billion-visa-tender-decision-delayed-amid-political-conflicts-of-interest-20191204-p53gwq.html>

<https://independentaustralia.net/politics/politics-display/duttons-partner-visa-scandal-set-to-continue,13390>

<https://johnmenadue.com/abul-rizvi-dysfunction-in-home-affairs-officially-confirmed-2>

<https://migration.qld.gov.au/skilled-visa-options/im-operating-a-small-business-in-regional-queensland>

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/immigration-minister-david-coleman-takes-indefinite-personal-leave-hands-over-duties>

2) Proposed changes to the Occupation lists in 2020

On 13 December 2019, the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business published a Traffic Light Bulletin outlining proposed changes to the skilled migration occupation lists and called for public submissions.

Please note the Traffic Light Bulletin is a draft for consultation purposes only. It does not represent a decision of Government.

If an occupation does not appear on the Traffic Light Bulletin then no change is proposed to the current status of that occupation. The current skilled migration occupation lists can be found on the Department of Home Affairs website.

In developing the Traffic Light Bulletin the Department has applied an updated methodology for undertaking its analysis. The updated methodology is now available.

The next update to Australia's skilled migration occupation lists is scheduled to be announced in March 2020.

https://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Proposed2020occupationchanges.pdf

(Source: Department of Employment)

3) Queensland State update

Invitations given in 2018/19

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/foi/files/2019/fa-190900599-document-released.PDF> We are not able to advise why you may not have received an invite or estimate when you will. This is for information only.

The Queensland State Nomination Skilled Program from 26 November 2019 (from 1.30pm AEST) is NOW CLOSED for: Skilled Nominated (Permanent) visa (subclass 190)

The Queensland State Nomination Program is REMAINS OPEN for: 491

There is new Small Business 491 pathway available here

<https://migration.qld.gov.au/skilled-visa-options/im-operating-a-small-business-in-regional-queensland/>

4) New Regional PTE testing centres

Five New Pearson Test Centres in Regional Australia

Supporting more skilled migrants & international students moving to the regions

Launch of GTNT and Site Institute PTE Academic Test Centre in Darwin

(L to R) Amelia Siepel (BDM - GTNT), Joe Hernandez (APAC Regional Manager - PTE Academic), Minister Selena Uiibo (NT Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Education and Workforce Training), Kathryn Stenson (CEO - GTNT), Jamie Wills (General Manager Commercial and Corporate Affairs - Site Institute)

PTE Academic is supporting the Federal Government and universities in the attraction and retention of skilled migrants and international students to regional areas through the establishment of English language test centres in key locations.

From August through to October, Pearson opened five new test centres located in Geelong, Hobart, Darwin, Cairns and Canberra, increasing the total number of testing locations in Australia to 31. Further regional expansion is planned and includes Newcastle and Townsville.

The most recent opening in Darwin means hundreds of students and skilled migrants living in the Northern Territory will no longer have to travel interstate to take the required English language proficiency test.

The Test Centre located at the GTNT Facility on Woods Street, was officially opened by Northern Territory Minister for Workforce Training, the Hon Selena Uiibo and its opening is made possible by Site Institute with the support of the Northern Territory Government.

Minister Uiibo said: "The Territory Labor Government is pleased to support the Pearson English Language Test Centre as part of our comprehensive plan to boost the NT population.

"More people means more jobs for Territorians, and this new facility eliminates the need for people to travel interstate for testing and keeps them right here in the Territory."

PTE Academic APAC Regional Manager Joe Hernandez said: "The arrival of PTE Academic will assist in the retention of skilled professionals and international graduates in the Northern Territory, who will be required to sit an English proficiency test for visa and registration purposes.

"As an Artificial Intelligence driven assessment, PTE Academic has changed the way people take language tests.

"Pearson test centres provide testing on a daily basis so there is no waiting period for people to take a test and on average results are available in 1.2 days, making it the fastest test available."

(Source: PearsonPTE)

5) Child Care Group Managers

Good news for child care group managers, they can now obtain a provisional skills assessment for a 485 visa through the new assessing body ACECQA

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/provisional-skills-assessment>

6) Latest DHA Visa Processing times

DHA Processing times for lodged applications updated

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

Latest Parent visa processing times

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/family-visa-processing-priorities/parent-visas-queue-release-dates>

7) ACT State Nomination news

Canberra/ACT 491/190 criteria from 1st January 2020

<http://www.canberrayourfuture.com.au/workspace/uploads/documents/491-190-nomination-guidelines-1-jan-2020.pdf>

Canberra Matrix explanation of when each occupation list is in effect

<http://www.canberrayourfuture.com.au/portal/migrating/article/act-occupation-list>

8) NSW State Nomination news

Here is some updated information on 2019 State 190 invites.

Please note we are not able to predict when you may get a 190 invite in NSW. We are also unable to explain why some people received an invite in front of you.

This is provided as info only. <https://www.iscah.com/nsw-190-invitations-2019>

The NSW state government have taken over the processing of 491 sponsorships from their regional authorities and announced their new criteria here

<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/live-and-work-in-nsw/visas-and-immigration/Skilled-Work-Regional-visa-subclass-491>

9) State invite results from some states from FOI

Invite results in the 190 visa program from Victoria, Tasmania, NT and Queensland

https://www.iscah.com/wp_files/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/State190invites.pdf

10) WA State Nomination news

WA State migration new criteria announced

<https://migration.wa.gov.au/services/skilled-migration-western-australia/about-state-nomination>

11) Global Talent Visa

Global Talent Independent Program

On 4 November 2019, the Hon David Coleman MP officially launched the Global Talent Independent program, which offers a streamlined, priority visa pathway for highly skilled individuals to work and live permanently in Australia. The program is designed to strengthen Australia's ability to compete for the world's best and brightest skilled migrants and grow Australian businesses of the future.

The eligibility requirements for the program include that the candidate:

- is highly skilled and internationally recognised in one of seven target sectors (listed below); and
- has the ability to earn the Fair Work High Income Threshold (currently \$148,700).

In assessing whether a candidate is likely to have the ability to meet this salary threshold, the Department will consider: current salary or future job offers; as well as candidates who have recently graduated or are soon to graduate with PhD or Masters qualifications in the target sectors.

The following target sectors have been selected to foster growth in future-focused industries:

- AgTech
- FinTech
- MedTech
- Cyber Security • Space and Advanced Manufacturing
- Energy and Mining Technology
- Quantum Information, Advanced Digital, Data Science and ICT

Individuals who wish to be considered under the Global Talent Independent program can register their interest through the Contact Form here: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/global-talent-contact-form>. Migration Agents can also refer potential candidates using this link.

Individuals who meet the requirements will be provided with a unique Global Talent identifier, which provides priority processing for a Distinguished Talent visa application. Candidates accepted into the program will receive streamlined, priority processing with complete visa applications currently taking less than a month to finalise. All visa applicants need to meet the Distinguished Talent visa regulatory criteria, including health and character requirements, before a visa can be granted.

Further information on the Global Talent Independent program and visa requirements can be found at:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/working-in-australia/visas-for-innovation/global-talent-independent-program>

12) South Australia State Nomination news

South Australia New State Sponsorship Policy

<https://migration.sa.gov.au/skilled-migrants/general-skilled-migration-gsm-state-nomination-policy-changes>

13) Official DHA report on the 2018/19 Migration Program

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/report-migration-program-2018-19.pdf>

14) Family Sponsored 491 in the December 2019 round

On 11th December DHA invited MANY 491 EOIs in PRO RATA occupations.

They had previously stated on 19/11/2019

"Thank you for your enquiry There has been no change to this policy for the 491 visa. 'If all places are taken up by subclass 189 visas then there will be no invitations issued for subclass 491 visas in these (PRO RATA) occupations"

We have confirmed with them today and they have not changed this policy

"As previously advised there is no change in policy. SkillSelect automatically invites individuals based on the parameters set for each round, this may see pro-rata occupations included in the s/c 491 invitation rounds."

So what happened ? Well it was sort of a fluke of statistics. Clearly it was a low 189 total invitation round. Here is an example of how then some Pro rata occupations can accidentally get an invite for a 491 family sponsored visa like last night ..

- Let's say that 50 places had been allocated to the 2613 group for the 189 round.
- After 35 had been invited DHA had then used up ALL their 500 places allocated for the 189s in this round
- That leaves 15 places for the 2613 that can fall into the 491 Family sponsored category for this December round

That seems to be what has happened last night. This can only happen when there is a very low number of total 189 invites (say 500 or less) and does not happen when the 189 is more at more than that

So it was good luck to those pro rata people who got a 491 invite and shows it is always worth having a ticket in the draw. Even though DHA have confirmed today that Pro Rata occupations will not normally get an invite for this category

(Source: Iscah commentary)

15) Iscah Unofficial Skill Select results 11th December 2019

Looks like around 250-500 invites for the 189 visas.

This had an unexpected benefit for 491 Family sponsored Pro Rata occupations here

As predicted the invite score for most occupations would rise by around 10 points and the invite effect date would go backwards as many of these higher scoring EOIs have kept their OLD effect date. This will be mostly single applicants for the first few rounds. Also many of the occupations will be stuck with a last invite date of around 16/11/2019 for a while as that was the day many EOIs were manually updated with extra points

You will see from the results table that we have also been able to show what are the oldest EOIs waiting at the lower scores of 75, 80, 85 and 90 points. Those dates that are older than December 2017 will of course have also expired but we have shown these just as a reference point.

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.

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)

Iscah estimated invitation dates after Skill select round of:	EOI points score							PAST best DOHA date Without Wasted Invites
11th December 2019	75 points	80 points	85 points @ Iscah 2019	90 points	95 points	100 points		
2211 Accountants	6/10/2015	24/10/2016	18/10/2017	24/08/2018	9/03/2019	15/11/2019*		
2212 Auditors @ Iscah 2019	27/07/2015	26/12/2016	26/09/2017	19/07/2018	17/05/2019*	10/12/2019*		
2334 Electronics Engineer	18/09/2017	13/12/2017	7/12/2018	4/06/2019	27/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
2335 Ind, Mech, Prod Engineers (no invites seen)	27/04/2017	2/07/2018	24/02/2019	10/05/2019	no invites seen			
2339 Other Engineer Profs	3/01/2017	30/10/2017	6/11/2018	3/04/2019	16/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
2611 ICT Business Analysts	11/08/2016	13/09/2017	9/10/2018	12/04/2019	16/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
2613 Software Applications Programmer @ Iscah 2019	18/04/2017	23/01/2018	13/02/2019	13/05/2019	16/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
2631 Computer Network Prof	4/03/2017	6/09/2018	8/03/2019	20/05/2019	17/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
ALL the other NON-pro rata occupations	28/09/2017	8/12/2018	8/03/2019	4/06/2019	27/11/2019*	10/12/2019*		
Assumptions - Approximately 250 invitations: (Split 60% Pro Rata and 40% Non Pro Rata)								
Iscah estimates of CHANGED DATES from the latest round have an asterisk next to them* and are in dark green								

The lowest 491 (family sponsored) points total and EOI effect date we have seen is 95 points (as at 04/12/2019) 12.47pm

(Source: Iscah)

16) Iscah Estimates on when you will get your 189 invitation

As predicted last month all the scores have settled 5/10 points higher. Some would have got down to 90 points if DHA had invited close to 1000 EOIs. But they went with a low number again. November was just 250 and December close to that too.

Our Assumptions are on the table below

Remember that these predictions are based on statistics from DHA and current policy settings. If DHA change from 100 to 1500 to 250 invites like they have in recent months it has an effect on invitation estimates too. Hence why we take an average (800 over each of the next 6 month)

Assumptions		Copyright Iscah 2019					
DHA have a budget target of 38,452 grants less 4000 for NZ citizens. DHA have a backlog of 12000 points test applicants. To keep at that level, need 6,326 more invites before July 20		EOI Lodged	3 months ago (11/09/19)	4 months ago (11/06/19)	5 months ago (11/03/19)	6 months ago (11/01/19)	12 months ago (11/12/18)
Factor in 25% wastage is 8434 invites. Each EOI averages 2.6 people							
but most invites will be single people so 1.4 average per EOI = 6024 potential invites							
800 per month allows a backlog reduction. Split an 65% Pro rata and 35% NON pro rata							
Iscah Estimated waiting period for an EOI invite - 189 visa							
as at 31 December 2019							
2211 Accountants	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	not before Dec 2020	11/09/2020	11/06/2020	11/01/2020	invited	
	90 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	85 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2212 Auditors	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	90 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	85 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2314 Electronics Engineer	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/12/2020	11/07/2020	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2315 Ind, Mech, Production Engineers	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/12/2020	11/06/2020	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2318 Other Engineering Professionals	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/04/2020	11/02/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/09/2020	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2611 ICT Business Analysts	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2611 Software Applications Programmer	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/04/2020	11/02/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/09/2020	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
2611 Computer Network Professionals	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/09/2020	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
All other NON pro rata occupations *	100 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	95 points	11/01/2020	invited	invited	invited	invited	
	90 points	11/02/2020	11/01/2020	11/01/2020	invited	invited	
	85 points	not before Dec 2020	not before Dec 2020	11/11/2020	11/04/2020	invited	
	80 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	
	75 points	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	EOI expires before invite	

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

17) Iscah monthly Visa Report

If you are serious about your visa options ...
The December 2019 visa report is now out for your occupation



Subscribe here for your occupation - www.iscah.com/members

18) DHA Official results for 11th November 2019

For those confused why the invite date has gone backwards for some occupations , this may help ...

"The published last invite date goes backwards when some people do not accept their EOI invitation. We call this a wasted invitation and usually happens if a person already has an invite from a different EOI. This wasted invite goes back into the EOI pool after 60 days (at its old EOI effect date) and so when it is invited for a second time it actually can send the published EOI date for that occupation backwards."

Current round

Invitations issued on 11 November 2019

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

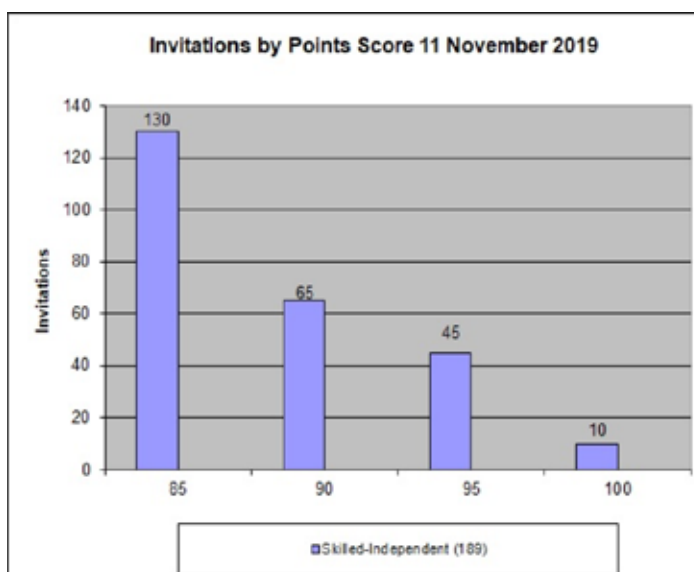
Visa subclass	Number
Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189)	250
Skilled Regional (provisional) visa (subclass 489)	0

No invitations are being issued for Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 489), due to the introduction of the Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) (subclass 491) visa on 16 November 2019.

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

11 November 2019 results

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



Invitation process and cut off points

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	Min Points Score	Date of effect
Skilled - Independent (subclass 189)	85	31/10/2019 11:29am
Skilled - Regional Provisional (subclass 489)		

Point scores and the dates of effect cut off for the pro rata occupations in the 11 November 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.

ID	Description	Points score	Date of effect
2211	Accountants	90	10/04/2019 5:53pm
2212	Auditors, Company Secretaries and Corporate Treasurers	85	19/06/2018 3:18pm
2334	Electronics Engineer	85	21/10/2019 12:14am
2335	Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers	95	10/11/2019 6:56pm
2339	Other Engineering Professionals	85	29/10/2019 7:53am
2611	ICT Business and System Analysts	85	23/10/2019 12:15am
2613	Software and Applications Programmers	85	31/10/2019 9:45am
2631	Computer Network Professionals	85	28/10/2019 9:19pm

(Source: Iscah)

Ok folks

Thank for listening to my visa ramblings for the last 12 months. Have a merry xmas and safe new year with your friends and family
Keep well and see you all on Monday 20th January 2019




Steven O'Neill (Iscah Manager - MARN 9687267)

 iscah.migration

 iscahmigration

 iscah.com

 Phone: 08 9353 3344

 Fax: 61-8-9353 3350

 E-mail: newsletter@iscah.com

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



Registered Migration Agent 9687267