

**From:** Iscah

**Sent:** Thursday, 5 March 2020 1:54 PM

**To:** 'skilled.migration@treasury.nsw.gov.au' <skilled.migration@treasury.nsw.gov.au>

**Cc:** 'Skills Assessment' <Assessment@acs.org.au>; 'migrate@vetassess.com.au' <migrate@vetassess.com.au>

**Subject:** Urgent issue for Work experience change in policy by Department of Immigration (DHA)

Dear Sir/Madam

We currently have a very unfair situation for many skilled applicants wanting to apply under the points test, and in particular for NSW 190 state nominations

In the past , two skills assessing bodies used to subtract work experience that had been used for to meet their skills assessments policy in a situation where the qualification was closely related to a nominated occupation. In particular :

- Vetassess subtract 12 months work and explain that this cannot be used to claim skilled work in the DHA (Department of Home Affairs) points test.
- ACS subtract 2 years work and explain that this cannot be used to claim skilled work in the DHA (Department of Home Affairs) points test.

DHA have now changed their policy on this as per below

Department of Immigration PAM policy manual 16/11/2019

When assessing periods of skilled employment for the purpose of awarding points, the following must be taken into account:

- the opinion of the relevant skills assessing authority on the period of skilled employment including the date on which they deemed the applicant skilled; and
- the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) including any pre-requisite qualifications/work experience relevant to the claimed skilled employment; and
- any other relevant information (such as employment records and references).

If the skills assessing authority's opinion would result in the applicant being awarded less points than the applicant claimed in their EOI, then decision makers should consider the information in ANZSCO and apply the more beneficial outcome in determining when the applicant was working at a skilled level.

As a result DHA will count any relevant work experience that was undertaken AFTER obtaining of the correct closely related qualification. And so they now count the 12 months work required for the Vetassess assessment and the 2 years required for the ACS assessment as skilled. Even if the skills assessment still contains this old wording.

However the NSW government (State treasury department) for the state sponsored 190 visa have chosen to not follow this new DHA policy change unless the skills assessing body issue a new skills assessment saying that this work can now be counted. As per below

Thanks for your email. As mentioned in the previous email, we're aware Home Affairs has recently made changes to their policy; however, NSW has not adopted the same policy. It remains NSW's policy that employment can only be claimed after the date an applicant was deemed skilled on their assessment.

This leaves the poor applicant in an unenviable position.

We request that

- 1) Vetassess take account of the current DHA policy and publish on skills assessments or on their website that the 12 months work they require for someone with a closely related qualification can now be counted by DHA for work experience
- 2) ACS take account of the current DHA policy and publish on skills assessments or on their website that the 2 years work they require for someone with a closely related qualification can now be counted by DHA for work experience
- 3) The NSW government take account of the current DHA policy and allow work experience that takes place after a person obtains their closely related qualification and not take off 12 months for Vetassess or 2 years for ACS assessments in these calculations
- 4) If Vetassess, ACS and the NSW government are not able to do this we ask you to suggest how applicants can claim the amount of points they are accurately eligible for under current DHA policy so as to be fairly assessed for their 190 State sponsorship applications ?

At the moment from the applicants point of view this seems really unfair as they are caught up between 2 governments and 2 assessing bodies and unable to do anything about it.

Kind Regards

Steven O'Neil (Iscah Manager - MARN 9687267)

Phone: 08 9353 3344 [Webpage](#) [Newsletter](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

(We luv helping people, contact us to manage your visa application, share our details with a friend if they will find us useful)

-----  
[Visa Management of EXISTING applications](#)

[Just Received a 189/190/491 Invite ?](#)

[Visa Management of a NEW application](#)

[NEW - Monthly Visa Report for YOUR Occupation](#)