



Skilled Migration Points Test Under SkillSelect

The following information is a guide only and is subject to a legislative change process.
More information will be available closer to **1 July 2012**.

Australian Government has proposed changes to the skilled migration visa regime, which are scheduled to commence from **1 July 2012**.

Key changes include:

- introduction of new points test based skilled migration visas
- introduction of *SkillSelect*
- amendments to the skilled migration points test.

Introduction of new points test based Skilled Migration Visas

The six existing points test based skilled migration visa subclasses, (475, 487, 175, 176, 885 and 886) for people applying without an employer sponsor, will be consolidated into three subclasses:

- Points tested visas
 - subclass 189 (skilled independent – permanent)
 - subclass 190 (skilled nominated – permanent)
 - subclass 489 (skilled regional – provisional).
- The non points tested skilled migration visas will remain:
 - subclass 476 (skilled recognised graduate – temporary)
 - subclass 485 (skilled graduate – temporary)
 - subclass 887 (skilled regional – permanent).

From 1 July 2012, intending migrants, both in and outside Australia may submit an expression of interest (EOI) for a 189, 190 or 489 visa. From 1 July 2012, points tested skilled migration visas granted outside Australia (subclasses 175, 176 and 475) will be closed for all new applications. From 1 January 2013, points tested skilled migration visas granted in Australia (subclasses 885, 886 and 487) will be closed for all new applications.

See: www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/pdf/points-tested-visas.pdf

Introduction of SkillSelect

SkillSelect will be introduced on 1 July 2012 and will involve significant changes to the skilled visa application process. Intending migrants will first need to submit an (EOI) and then will need to be invited before they can apply for a points tested skilled migration visa. Anyone seeking a points tested skilled migration visa from 1 July 2012 should carefully examine these changes.

See: www.immi.gov.au/skills/skillselect

Skilled Migration Points Test Requirements under SkillSelect

Like the visa subclasses they replace, the three new skilled migration visa subclasses (189, 190 and 489) will continue to require that an applicant pass a points test to be eligible for the grant of a visa. Factors assessed under the new points test will be similar to the current

points test. The main difference will be that scores against points test factors will be fixed at time of invitation rather than time of visa application or decision.

The pass mark is the minimum number of points required to be eligible to be granted a points tested skilled migration visa and is currently set at 65 points. The pass mark is designed to be changed. Any changes to the pass mark are announced on the department's website.

1 July 2012 Points Test – Points Allocation

Factor	Description	Points
Age, at time of invitation	18-24 (inclusive)	25 points
	25-32 (inclusive)	30 points
	33-39 (inclusive)	25 points
	40-44 (inclusive)	15 points
	45-49 (inclusive)	0 points
English language competency level, at time of invitation	Competent English - IELTS 6 / OET B	0 points
	Proficient English - IELTS 7 / OET B	10 points
	Superior English - IELTS 8 / OET A	20 points
Overseas skilled employment in nominated skilled occupation or a closely related skilled occupation, at time of invitation	At least three but less than five years (of past 10 years)	5 points
	At least five but less than eight years (of past 10 years)	10 points
	At least eight and up to 10 years (of past 10 years)	15 points
Australian skilled employment in nominated skilled occupation or a closely related skilled occupation, at time of invitation Note: The maximum points awarded for any combination of overseas and Australian skilled employment is 20 points	At least one but less than three years (of past 10 years)	5 points
	At least three but less than five years (of past 10 years)	10 points
	At least five but less than eight years (of past 10 years)	15 points
	At least eight and up to 10 years (of past ten years)	20 points
Educational qualifications, at time of invitation	Doctorate from an Australian educational institution or other Doctorate of a recognised standard	20 points
	At least a Bachelor degree, including a Bachelor degree with Honours or Masters, from an Australian educational institution or other degree of a recognised standard	15 points
	Diploma completed in Australia, trade qualification completed in Australia, or qualification or award of recognised standard	10 points
Australian study qualifications, at time of invitation	One or more degrees, diplomas or trade qualifications awarded by an Australian educational institution and meet Australian Study Requirement	5 points
Other factors, at time of invitation	Credentialed community language qualifications	5 points
	Study in regional Australia or in a low population growth metropolitan area (excluding distance education)	5 points
	Partner skill qualifications	5 points
	Professional Year completion, for a period of at least 12 months in the four year period immediately before the day on which the invitation was issued	5 points
Nomination/Sponsorship, at time of invitation	Nomination by State or Territory government (visa subclass 190 only)	5 points
	Nomination by State or Territory government or sponsorship by an eligible family member, for residing and working in a specified/designated area (visa subclass 489 only)	10 points