



SKILLED MIGRATION | COUNTRY GUIDE

Australia Skilled Migration

Australia's skilled migration offers permanent and provisional routes — points-tested (189, 190, 491), employer-sponsored (186, 494, 482), the National Innovation visa (858) and regional PR (191). Subclass 187 is closed.

PROGRAMMES

9

CAPITAL

Canberra

CURRENCY

AUD

LANGUAGE

English

Australia at a glance

CAPITAL Canberra	POPULATION 26,600,000
LANGUAGE English	CURRENCY AUD
TIME ZONE UTC+8 to UTC+11	CLIMATE Tropical to Temperate
PROGRAMMES WE ADVISE ON 9	LAST UPDATED 1 October 2026

Overview

Australia has two quite different ways in, and which one suits you has changed a lot since 2024.

The points-tested General Skilled Migration route — Subclass 189, 190 and 491 — has a published minimum of 65 points, but that figure is now close to meaningless. In the 4 June 2026 invitation round only 15 construction trades were invited at 65; most professional occupations were invited between 80 and 100 points. No invitations at all have been issued in the first three months of the 2026-27 programme year.

The employer-sponsored route sidesteps that queue. Subclass 482 (Skills in Demand), Subclass 186 (Employer Nomination Scheme) and Subclass 494 (regional) have no points test at all — if an approved employer nominates you, your score is irrelevant. The Specialist Skills stream of the 482 is decided in 37 days for half of all applications, making it the fastest route Australia offers.

Subclass 858, formerly the Global Talent visa, was renamed the National Innovation visa on 6 December 2024. Subclass 187 closed to new applications in 2019 and was replaced by Subclass 494.

Key points

- 65 points is the entry threshold for 189, 190 and 491 — not a competitive score. Plan for 80 or more.
- Employer-sponsored routes (482, 186, 494) have no points test
- Subclass 482 Specialist Skills is decided in 37 days for half of applications
- Regional provisional visas (491, 494) convert to permanent residency via Subclass 191 after 3 years
- Partner and dependent children can be included on every route

Programmes in Australia



Subclass 186 – Employer Sponsored PR Visa

Employer-sponsored permanent residency for skilled professionals with Australian job offers.

21–25 months (Home Affairs standard)



Subclass 858 – National Innovation Visa (formerly Global Talent)

Permanent residency for people with an internationally recognised record of exceptional and outstanding achievement. No points test, no age limit — but a nominator and a government invitation are mandatory.

6 months (XIPHIAS average)



Subclass 191 – Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional)

The permanent visa that subclass 491 and 494 holders convert to after three years in regional Australia. No sponsor, no nominator, and it costs from AUD 630.

Home Affairs publishes no fixed standard



Subclass 187 RSMS – Closed to New Applications

The Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme closed on 16 November 2019. Only existing 457 and 482 holders can still use its Temporary Residence Transition stream. Subclass 494 replaced it.



Subclass 494 – Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional Visa

A regional Australian employer sponsors you for a 5-year visa, with permanent residency through subclass 191 after 3 years. This is the visa that replaced the closed subclass 187.

8–12 months (Home Affairs standard)



Subclass 189 – Skilled Independent PR Visa

Permanent residency with no employer or state sponsor — invitation via SkillSelect.

12 months (XIPHIAS average)

**Subclass 190 – State Nominated PR Visa**

Permanent residency via state or territory nomination — the nomination adds 5 points to your score.

12 months (XIPHIAS average)

**Subclass 491 – Regional Skilled Work Visa**

Live, work, and gain PR in regional Australia through a points-tested, state or family-sponsored visa.

18 months (XIPHIAS average)

**Subclass 482 – Skills in Demand Visa**

Australia's main employer-sponsored work visa, up to 4 years with a permanent residency pathway. It replaced the TSS visa on 7 December 2024.

37 days – 9 months by stream (Home Affairs)

Which Australian route fits you

No employer? The points-tested visas

- **Subclass 189 — Skilled Independent** — no sponsor at all. 61 days for half of applications, 8 months for 90%. But cut-offs reached 80-100 in 2026.
- **Subclass 190 — Skilled Nominated** — a state nominates you, worth 5 points. Invited by the states, not in departmental rounds.
- **Subclass 491 — Skilled Work Regional** — 15 points for state nomination or family sponsorship. 5-year visa leading to PR.

Have an employer? These skip the points queue entirely

- **Subclass 482 — Skills in Demand** — replaced the TSS visa in December 2024. Only 1 year of experience needed. The Specialist Skills stream is decided in **37 days** for half of applications.
- **Subclass 186 — Employer Nomination Scheme** — permanent residency directly, but slow: 21 to 25 months.
- **Subclass 494 — Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional** — a regional employer nominates you; 5 years, then PR.

Exceptional record in your field?

- **Subclass 858 — National Innovation visa** — no points test, no occupation list, no age limit. A Form 1000 nominator with a national reputation in your field is mandatory, and so is a government invitation.

Already on a regional visa?

- **Subclass 191 — Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional)** — the permanent visa for 491 and 494 holders after 3 years. From AUD 630.

Closed

- **Subclass 187 — Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme** — closed to new applications on 16 November 2019. Subclass 494 replaced it.
- **Business Innovation and Investment Program (188 and 888)** — closed permanently on 31 July 2024.
- **Subclass 132 — Business Talent** — closed on 1 July 2021 and now on Home Affairs' repealed-visa list.
- **TSS 482** — applications closed 6 December 2024; the Skills in Demand visa replaced it under the same subclass number.

{/ restored from the 2019–2026 site /}

Business Investment Visa Australia

Australia closed the Business Innovation and Investment Program (subclass 188/888) to new applications in July 2024; the National Innovation visa (subclass 858) replaced it in December 2024. The programme description below is historical.

Australia: The island continent that sticks close to nature but provides world-class opportunities. Thousands of immigrants move to Australia each year to make their dreams for a better life come true. The country offers a high-quality lifestyle with superb healthcare services, educational institutes, culturally diverse communities, and top-notch career prospects.

In recent years, Australia has introduced several Immigration Visa pathways to attract immigrants who can serve the country's economy and communities. The Australian Business Investment Visa permits non-Australians to work and settle there WITH their families.

To qualify for the Australia Business investment visa, an immigrant must meet some requirements, including a minimum investment threshold. Investor visa program Australia needs Investors to maintain outstanding investment track record, sufficient funds, and be genuinely willing to move to Australia.

Investor Visa Program for Australia

Moving to Australia hasn't been easier! The Australia Investor Visa Program offers a pathway for International Investors to engage in the country's economic landscape while they secure a residency. Our Australia Business Visa Consultants will always be at your service, no matter what your query is. With the Investment Visa Australia, you get access to:

- **Australian Residency:** This visa is a direct pathway to obtain a residency in Australia, which allows you to live, work or study there.
- **Business opportunities:** When you get your Australia investor Visa, you can have your own business and contribute in the Australian economic growth. And being in Asia-Pacific region, Australia is basically a Global Business Hub.
- **Top class healthcare and education system:** Investors and their families can access public healthcare & educational Institutes.
- **Australia skilled population:** Investors looking to have their own business get have full rights to hire from the Australian population, who are known for their diversity and productivity. And they can even network and collaborate with local entrepreneurs and businesses.

What is Global Talent Visa Program in Australia?

The Global Talent Independent Program is a streamlined pathway to obtain Australian permanent residency for highly skilled executives, IT and tech professionals, businesspeople, entrepreneurs, and other professionals. It is a relatively fast path to obtaining Australian PR. The Australian government is seeking the best global talent in the following 10 future-focused sectors:

- Resources, energy, and mining technology
- Agricultural technology (ag-tech)
- Defense, space, and advanced manufacturing
- Financial services and technology (fintech)
- Health industries and medical technology (medtech)
- Circular economy
- Infrastructure and tourism
- Education
- Cyber security
- Quantum information, advanced digital technology, data science, and information and communications technology (ICT)

Australia Investor Visa Minimum Investment and Requirements

This visa has several streams, including the Investor stream, and the Significant Investor stream. The investor visa for Australia offers a direct pathway to permanent residence after three years, subject to meeting certain residence and investment or business turnover requirements.

The general requirements for the Investor Stream-

- Individuals must pass a points test.
- Reside in the country for at least two years.

The general requirements for the Significant Investor Stream are-

Australia Business Visa - Application Process and Requirements

The application process and requirements for an Australian business visa are:

- Eligibility Check: check if you meet the eligibility criteria for the business visa you wish to apply for.
- Nomination: If you are applying for the Business Innovation and Investment visa, you will need to submit an expression of interest (EOI).
- Documents: including proof of identity, evidence of your business or investment experience, financial documents, and proof of English language proficiency.
- Lodge your application: you can submit your application online and pay the visa application fee.
- Outcome: After submitting your application, you will need to wait for the Department of Home Affairs to process your application.
- Visa grant: If your application is approved, you can then enter Australia.

Top Reasons to Set Up a Business in Australia

Australia is one of the best countries to start up a business due to factors such as:

- Stable economy
- High standard of living
- Abundant Natural resources
- Innovation and technology

- Supportive government policies
- Strategic Location giving access to a large global market

XIPHIAS Immigration is registered with MARA for investor visas for Australia and can easily take up any case of an Australian Investor Immigration VISA. We ensure to deliver professional and result-oriented services with integrity and honesty. Reach out to us today for more information.

Australia Skilled 190, 189, 489 Visa Consultant Services in Dubai, UAE - XIPHIAS Immigration

Skill Select

Skilled workers and business people interested in migrating to Australia can be considered for a skilled visa by submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) through Skill Select.

An EOI is an indication that you would like to be considered for a skilled visa. An EOI is not a visa application.

Australia Skilled Visa Programs In Skill Select

If you are interested in the following visas, you will need to submit an EOI and receive an invitation before you can apply for an Australia skilled immigration visa:

- Subclass 189 Skilled Independent (Permanent)
- Subclass 190 Skilled Nominated (Permanent)
- Subclass 489 Skilled Regional Nominated or Sponsored (Provisional)

This stream is for Points-tested skilled workers who are not sponsored by an employer or family or nominated by a state or territory government.

It allows you to live and work in Australia as a permanent resident.

To submit a valid application for this visa you must submit the Expression Of Interest through Skill Select.

Eligibility to apply for 189 sub class are as follows

- You must have a relevant occupation
- You must have English Competency.
- You must be invited by Australian skill select to apply.

This is a permanent visa. It lets you to,

- Stay in Australia indefinitely.
- Work and study in Australia.
- Enroll in Medicare, Australia's scheme for health related care and expenses
- Sponsor eligible relatives for permanent residence.
- Travel to and from Australia for five years.
- Apply for Australian citizenship, if eligible.

This visa allows skilled workers who are nominated by an Australian state or territory government live and work in Australia as a permanent resident.

You will receive an invitation to apply for a visa if you are nominated by an Australian state or territory.

Eligibility to apply for 190 sub class are as follows

- You must have a relevant occupation

- You must be nominated by a state or territory government agency.
- You must have English Competency.
- You must be invited by Australian skill select to apply.

This is a permanent visa. It lets you to,

- Stay in Australia indefinitely.
- Work and study in Australia.
- Enroll in Medicare, Australia's scheme for health related care and expenses
- Sponsor eligible relatives for permanent residence.
- Travel to and from Australia for five years.
- Apply for Australian citizenship, if eligible.

Skilled Regional visa (Subclass 489) (Provisional)

Eligibility to apply for 489 sub class are as follows

- You must have a relevant occupation
- You must be nominated by a state or territory government agency.
- You must have English Competency
- You must be invited by Australian skill select to apply.

This visa lets you to

- Live, work and study in a specified region of Australia.
- Travel to and from Australia as many times as you want while the visa is valid.
- Apply for permanent residency, if eligible, through the Skilled-Regional Visa (subclass 887).

186 Visa Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS)

Features

This visa is a permanent residence visa for skilled workers. It allows you to work in Australia under one of three streams:

- The Temporary Residence Transition stream
- The Direct Entry stream
- The Agreement stream

You might be able to get this visa if you

- Have been nominated by an approved Australian employer
- Meet the skills, qualifications and English language requirements, unless you are exempt
- Apply under the stream for which you were nominated.

187 Visa Regional Sponsored Scheme (RSMS)

This visa is a permanent residence visa for skilled workers who want to work in regional Australia. It allows you to work in Australia under one of three streams:

- The Temporary Residence Transition stream
- The Direct Entry stream
- The Agreement stream

You might be able to get this visa if you

- Have been nominated by an approved Australian employer for a job in regional Australia (regional Australia does not include the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Newcastle, Sydney, Wollongong or Melbourne)
- Meet the skills, qualifications and English language requirements, unless you are exempt
- Apply under the stream for which you were nominated.

What we Offer

Skilled Immigration

Skilled Independent (Subclass 189) Visa

Requirements:

- You need to fulfill other requirements for visa applicant

Complete Skill Assessment and IELTS

Business Immigration

Looking to Invest in, Establish or Purchase a Business in Australia?

Business Immigration. The Business Visa Program encourages successful business people to establish or develop a business in Australia. The system allows business people to be initially granted a Temporary Visa for up to four years. When you have established the required level of business or maintained investment activities, you are then entitled to apply for Permanent Residence.

Each business migration category has different requirements for entry to Australia. A direct permanent residence category will still be available for high-calibre business migrants sponsored by State/Territory governments known as the Business Talent visa. Business Entry categories:

Investment Immigration

Study Immigration

Student Visa and Student Guardians Study in Australia and become a permanent resident! With a worldwide reputation as a first-class education provider, over 275,000 students from around the globe flock to Australian shores annually to pursue internationally recognized courses in a progressive, secure, and culturally diverse learning environment.

Students who complete a course of study in Australia may apply for Australian permanent residency under the Skilled Migration Program.

Expert assessment of applicant's background and credentials to suggest best immigration option available that meets the requirement of client

Accurate preparation and submission of our clients' files to the Canadian Embassy taking all proactive measures to avoid delays

Close monitoring of client's file in progress Prepare client for an interview, if required, in person, over the telephone or by providing written materials.

- Investment Migration
- Skilled Migration
- Spouse Migration
- Study Visa
- Family Immigration

- Business Immigration
- Temporary Immigration

Business Innovation and Investment Visa (subclass 188)

To apply for it, you have to firstly meet the following basic requirements:

- Meet the 65 passing mark
- Submit the EOI (Expression of Interest)

After fulfilling the captioned basic requirements, applicants can apply the visa through one of the following streams:

- Business Innovation Stream
- Investor Stream

for Business Innovation Stream applicants, you must have

- A genuine and realistic commitment to be involved as an owner of a new or or existing business in Australia
- An overall successful business career

for Investor stream applicants, you must have

There is no business turnover requirement.

We provide FREE online IELTS (English Language) Course. Our immigration consultants will reply your inquiry within 24 hours and provide you with FREE phone consultation service.

Skilled Independent (Subclass 189) Visa

Requirements

- You need to fulfill other requirements for visa applicant
- Complete Skill Assessment and IELTS
- Receive an invitation from SkillSelect to apply for the visa

Visa holder entitlements

- As a holder of this visa you can live and work in Australia permanently
- As a holder of this visa your dependants can receive education in Australia
- Receive subsidised healthcare through Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)
- Access certain social security payments (subject to waiting periods)
- Be eligible for Australian citizenship (subject to the residency eligibility criteria)
- Sponsor relatives for permanent residence
- Travel for five years to and from Australia

We provide FREE online IELTS (English Language) Course.

Skilled - Nominated (subclass 190) Visa.

Requirements:

- You need to fulfill other requirements for visa applicant
- Complete Skill Assessment and IELTS
- Nomination by a state government
- Receive an invitation from SkillSelect to apply for the visa

Visa holder entitlements

- As a holder of this visa you can live and work in Australia permanently
- As a holder of this visa your dependants can receive education in Australia
- Receive subsidised healthcare through Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)
- Access certain social security payments (subject to waiting periods) Be eligible for Australian citizenship (subject to the residency eligibility criteria)
- Sponsor relatives for permanent residence
- Travel for five years to and from Australia

We provide FREE online IELTS (English Language) Course.

Skilled - Nominated or Sponsored (Provisional Subclass 489) Visa

Requirements:

- You need to fulfill other requirements for visa applicant
- Complete Skill Assessment and IELTS
- 2.3 Nomination by a state or territory government; or sponsorship by an eligible relative in Australia
- Receive an invitation from SkillSelect to apply for the visa

Visa holder entitlements

- As a holder of this visa you are required to live and work in a Specified Regional Area in Australia
- As a holder of this visa your dependants can receive education in a Specified Regional Area in Australia
- This visa allows you and any family members included in your visa application to remain in Australia for up to four years
- You will obtain permanent residence after a certain period of time

We provide FREE online IELTS (English Language) Course

Skilled – Recognised Graduate (Temporary) Visa (Subclass 476)

For Professionals and other Skilled Migrants

This program is for people who are not sponsored by an employer but who have skills in particular occupations required in Australia. As a holder of this visa, you may apply for permanent residence at any time if you are able to meet the passmark on the General Skilled Migration points test.

Requirements

- Have the skills and qualification that meet the Australian standard for an occupation on the Skilled Occupation List
- Meet the English language skill

This visa does not have a points test

During this period you may choose to:

- Travel
- Work
- Undertake further professional studies
- Study to improve your English skills

Prospective Marriage Visa (Subclass 300)

Partners and fiancés of Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents or eligible New Zealand citizens may apply

to enter and/or remain permanently in Australia. This visa allows you to enter Australia and marry your intended fiancé within the visa's nine month validity period. Once married, holders of this visa can then apply to remain permanently in Australia.

Requirements

- You have an Intent to marry
- You have an eligible sponsor (Partner) as an Australian Citizen / Australian permanent resident / Eligible New Zealand Citizen
- You must have met (as adults) your intended spouse in person and know him or her personally
- You must have good health and character
- Visa holder entitlements
- With this visa, you:
 - Must enter Australia before you marry your fiancé
 - May leave and re-enter Australia as many times as you wish before your visa ceases (nine months after visa grant)
 - Can work in Australia
 - Can apply for a Partner visa in Australia after you marry your fiancé
 - Can study, but you will not have access to government funding
 - May use Australia's medical expenses and hospital care assistance scheme, Medicare, only if you are in Australia under this Visa
 - Have skills, qualifications, experience and an employment background which match those required for the position
 - Have demonstrated English language ability
 - Be eligible for any relevant licences or registration required for the nominated position
 - Have health insurance

Visa holder entitlements With this visa can employ overseas workers for a period of between one day and four years. With this visa those people employed from overseas can:

- Work in Australia for a period of between one day and four years
- Bring any eligible secondary applicants with them to Australia – secondary applicants can work and study
- After entering Australia, have no limit on the number of times they travel in and out of Australia

Student Visa and Student Guardians

Study in Australia and become a permanent resident! With a worldwide reputation as a first-class education provider, over 275,000 students from around the globe flock to Australian shores annually to pursue internationally recognized courses in a progressive, secure, and culturally diverse learning environment.

Students who complete a course of study in Australia may apply for Australian permanent residency under the Skilled Migration Program.

In all, there are 7 types of Australia student visa you can choose from depending on your circumstances. The study visa categories are listed as under:

- Schools Student Visa (Subclass 571) This visa applies if the student intends to study in a primary or secondary school, or is on a student exchange program.
- Vocation Education and Training Student Visa (Subclass 572). This visa applies where the student seeks to obtain a Diploma, Advanced Diploma or Certificate at a publicly funded Technical and Further Education College (TAFE) or through a private college.
- Higher Education Student Visa (Subclass 573) This applies to those seeking a tertiary qualification from a university, such as a Bachelor degree, Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate.
- Masters and Doctorate Student Visa (Subclass 574). For those seeking a postgraduate qualification, such as a

Masters or Doctorate degree, this visa applies.

- Non-Award Foundation Student Visa (Subclass 575). This visa relates to study of a foundation course, ie. one that has no formal educational prerequisites, and one which will not lead to the award of a formal degree or diploma.
- AusAID or Defence Sponsored Student Visa (Subclass 576). This visa applies to students who have the support of AusAID or Australian Defence. It is a highly specialised visa category.
- Independent English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) Student Visa (Subclass 570). This visa applies to those students intending to study only English. Students who are studying English as a prerequisite to other courses need to apply under the other visa subclass to which those courses relate.

Restrictions on Student Visa Once you arrive in Australia and commence your course of study, you will be required to comply with a number of visa conditions related to your attendance and academic performance.

Family Migration

Australia's family migration scheme is designed to allow people to migrate to Australia to join family members already living here as permanent residents or Australian citizens. A person who qualifies to migrate to Australia may include their family unit in their Visa. Normally the Australian relative must sign and lodge sponsorship papers with the Australian Government.

A person who falls within one of the degrees of relationship to an Australian citizen or permanent resident is not automatically eligible to migrate to Australia. Eligibility for preferential family visas are closely scrutinised and highly regulated. The classes of people eligible are narrowly defined.

For the 2006-2007 Family Migration program 6,619 family visas were refused (partners, fiancés, parents, relatives not including skilled and business). The obligations on sponsors can be heavy, too, as they can include the payment of substantial sums as bonds, which can be forfeited in certain circumstances - for example, if the visa holder relies on the Medicare or Social Security systems in Australia within the first two years of their arrival.

It is necessary to carefully examine each individual's circumstances in order to determine whether they are eligible to apply for a particular visa and their prospects of success in that application. Professional guidance is strongly recommended for this category.

Partner Category Visa Options

Partners or fiancés of Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents or eligible New Zealand citizens may apply to enter and/or remain permanently in Australia. Partner category migration may apply to:

- People intending to get married (fiancés)
- Married (de jure) partners
- De facto partners (including those in a same-sex relationship)

If you are in Australia Partner temporary visa (subclass 820) and permanent visa (subclass 801). For people to stay in Australia with their partner, who must be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen. If two years after you apply the relationship is ongoing, a permanent visa may be granted.

If you are outside Australia Partners of Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents or eligible New Zealand citizens may apply to enter and/or remain permanently in Australia. Partners include:

- People intending to get married (fiancés)
- Married (de jure) partners
- De facto partners (including those in a same-sex relationship)

Partner Temporary Visa (Subclass 309) and Permanent Visa (Subclass 100) For people from overseas to enter and stay in Australia with their partner, who must be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen. If two years after you apply the relationship is ongoing, a permanent visa may be granted.

Prospective Marriage Visa (Subclass 300) For people from overseas to enter Australia, before marrying their fiancé.

Their fiancé must be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen. Once married, holders of this visa can then apply to remain permanently in Australia.

Business Immigration

Looking to Invest in, Establish or Purchase a Business in Australia?

Business Immigration. The Business Visa Program encourages successful business people to establish or develop a business in Australia. The system allows business people to be initially granted a Temporary Visa for up to four years. When you have established the required level of business or maintained investment activities, you are then entitled to apply for Permanent Residence.

Each business migration category has different requirements for entry to Australia. A direct permanent residence category will still be available for high-calibre business migrants sponsored by State/Territory governments known as the Business Talent visa. Business Entry categories:

Business Owner - for owners or part-owners of a business Senior Executive - for senior executive employees of major businesses. For Business Owners and Senior Executives, certain obligations must be met and applicants will be monitored on arrival in Australia

Investor - for investors/business people willing to make a significant investment in Australia Note: Applicants coming under all of the above categories may also be sponsored by an Australian State/Territory, making the requirements for business entry a bit more lenient, because sponsorship from a State or Territory government allows applicants to be assessed against lower level criteria. State and Territory governments have specific criteria for deciding who they will sponsor and the relevant State/Territory business development agencies should be contacted for information in this regard.

Business Talent (permanent residency) - for very high-calibre business people who have sponsorship from an Australian State/Territory government.

Temporary Immigration

Australia Temporary Visa

Temporary Category

Temporary visas refers to all visas that have a limited time of validity. In general, the screening for entry on a temporary visa is much less thorough than the screening for a permanent visa: the health checks are less thorough, a Police Clearance certificate is not required and your ability to earn a living is not assessed. All permanent visas include the right to work and seek employment in Australia, but not all Australian temporary visas do.

Why Australia?

A country with beautiful beaches, landscapes and wide open spaces; a country also known as the biggest island country of the world; a country which is becoming the hub to shoot expensive massive Hollywood movies; an economic power house with stable governance. All these are just a few attributes of Australia. Australia boasts of some of the world's most beautiful natural wonders. The geography of Australia ranges from deserts, mountainous, tropical islands, rain forests, lakes and rivers.

Australia invites, every year, thousands of immigrants into the country to fill in their job vacancies or to contribute economically or invest in the real estate of the country. Opportunities in Australia is in abundance. A developed country with a stable Government, Australia continues to grow economically. It also provides the best possible infrastructure for start-ups and entrepreneurs. Australian schools and neighborhoods are considered world class for young children to grow and groom. Those individuals who are adventurous in nature, would get the best toast with newer adventure sports being invented time and again here.

There are multiple pathways to enter Australia. Each one have their own unique benefits. However a general few are mentioned down.

Benefits of moving to Australia

- Live in the country with lowest air pollution
- Experience Structured everyday living
- Access to world class amenities
- Access to world class education
- Immigrants are eligible for medicare and such other benefits as is provided for the citizens
- Access to few of the world's best locations which are both scenic and adventurous,
- Understand the original culture of Australia, their local foods and animals
- Exposure to more knowledge and growth
- After couple of years of stay in Australia, one is eligible to apply for Australian Citizenship.

XIPHIAS Immigration is registered with MARA and offers end to end complete life cycle of services to help you obtain your Permanent Resident Visa with Australia.

How the application works

- 1 **Check your eligibility and choose the appropriate visa subclass.**
- 2 **Complete Skills Assessment and English language testing (IELTS/PTE/TOEFL).**
- 3 **Submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) through SkillSelect.**
- 4 **Receive an invitation to apply or state/territory nomination.**
- 5 **Lodge the visa application with documents and fees.**
- 6 **Complete health and character requirements.**
- 7 **Receive the visa grant and begin your move to Australia.**

General requirements

- An occupation on the list that applies to your visa — MLTSSL, STSOL, ROL or the CSOL
- A positive skills assessment from the relevant assessing authority
- For the points-tested visas: at least 65 points, though 80 or more is realistic
- Competent English or better — higher English earns up to 20 extra points
- Under 45 at invitation for the points-tested routes, or at application for Subclass 186 and 494, unless exempt
- Valid health and character clearances

Questions clients ask

Can I apply without a job offer?

Yes. Subclass 189, 190 and 491 need no job offer. But with no general invitation rounds running and cut-offs at 80 to 100 points, an employer-sponsored route such as Subclass 482 or 494 is often the faster answer in practice.

Is 65 points enough?

It is the minimum to be invited, not a competitive score. In the 4 June 2026 round, 65 was invited only for 15 construction trades; professional occupations were invited between 80 and 100.

How long does skilled migration take?

It varies hugely by route. Subclass 482 Specialist Skills is decided in 37 days for half of applications. Subclass 189 takes 61 days for half and 8 months for 90%. Subclass 186 takes 21 to 25 months. There is no single answer.

Is the Subclass 187 visa still available?

No. It closed to new applications on 16 November 2019. Subclass 494 replaced it for regional employer sponsorship.

What happened to the Global Talent visa?

It was renamed and restructured as the National Innovation visa (Subclass 858) on 6 December 2024. There is no points test, but a Form 1000 nominator and a government invitation are both mandatory.

Can I include my family?

Yes. Your partner and dependent children can be included on all of these visas, with work and study rights.

Official sources: Home Affairs — SkillSelect invitation rounds; Home Affairs — skilled occupation lists; Home Affairs — regional work visas; Home Affairs — repealed visas; Home Affairs — BIIP closure and refunds.



NEXT STEP

Discuss your Australia options with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will compare the Australia routes that fit you, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

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CREDENTIALS

- Advising clients on global mobility since 2009; XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC in Dubai since 2017.
- Named Best Immigration Consultant by The Times of India in 2022.
- Canada files handled by a CICC-licensed Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultant, licence R516194.
- Australia files handled by a registered migration agent, MARA 1680615.

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