XIPHIAS Immigration

PROGRAMME BROCHURE



SKILLED MIGRATION | AUSTRALIA

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.

TIMELINE

37 days – 9 months by stream (Home Affairs)

JOB OFFER

Required

XIPHIAS Immigration DMCC
www.xiphiasimmigration.ae

Updated 1 October 2026

+971 52 727 5101 | dubai@xiphiasimmigration.com

At a glance

COUNTRY **Australia**	ROUTE **Skilled Migration - Employer**
TIMELINE **37 days – 9 months by stream (Home Affairs)**	LANGUAGE **The English standard required for your stream**
JOB OFFER **Required**	LAST UPDATED **1 October 2026**

Overview

The **Skills in Demand visa (subclass 482)** is Australia's main employer-sponsored work visa. An approved Australian employer sponsors you for a position they cannot fill locally, you stay for up to **four years**, and you transition to permanent residency from there.

It replaced the Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) visa on 7 December 2024. TSS applications closed on 6 December 2024 and the TSS streams are now on Home Affairs' repealed-visa list. The subclass number stayed the same, which is why it is still sometimes called "TSS 482".

The three streams

Stream	Who it fits	Speed (50% / 90% of applications)
Specialist Skills	Any ANZSCO 2022 occupation except Major Groups 3, 7 and 8, with a salary above the Specialist Skills Income Threshold	**37 days / 78 days**
Core Skills	Occupation on the Core Skills Occupation List, salary above the Core Skills Income Threshold	4 months / 9 months
Labour Agreement	Employers with a labour agreement in place with the government	5 months / 9 months

The **Specialist Skills stream is the fastest skilled visa Australia offers** — faster than any permanent route, and faster than the points-tested visas by an order of magnitude.

What changed for the better

The experience requirement dropped to **one year**, a full year less than under the TSS visa. That single change opened the visa to a much larger group of mid-career applicants.

What to watch

Three applications have to succeed, not one: your employer's **sponsorship**, the **nomination** of your specific role, and your **visa**. Sponsorship is quick — half are decided in 11 days — but nomination is the bottleneck, at 64 days for half of cases and up to 9 months for 90%.

And the salary thresholds matter. Both the **Core Skills Income Threshold** and the **Specialist Skills Income Threshold** were indexed on **1 July 2026**, so the amounts in the December 2024 announcement no longer apply. Confirm the current amounts before you negotiate a salary — the stream you qualify for depends on it.

Visa application charge

The Home Affairs visa application charge for the primary applicant is **AUD 4,015** (as displayed on 29 September 2026). Additional charges apply for each family member included in the application.

{/ restored from the 2019–2026 site /}

Temporary Short Skill Visa Program (Sub Class 482)

The Temporary Skill Shortage visa (subclass 482) became the Skills in Demand visa on 7 December 2024, with Specialist Skills, Core Skills and Labour Agreement streams. The outline below describes the earlier streams under their old names.

Even after so much of exercising to fill in job vacancies through migration, there could be certain jobs which would still need temporary working professionals to fill in certain gaps.

Based on such requirements, Temporary Short skill Visa Program or SubClass 482 was designed.

Although a temporary Visa program, it is to be noted that under certain circumstances, this visa can be converted to permanent residency permit.

Qualification/eligibility under this stream

- Your Australian employer need to provide a nomination/sponsorship asking your presence in Australia
- Such employer invariably must be either a qualified sponsor/approved Australian Employer
- You need to take your English proficiency test to prove your language skills through authorized agency
- You need to provide medical certificate
- A conduct certificate needs to be attached with the application from your local police body

4 pathways have been defined under this stream

Short Term Stream

- You can travel to and fro into Australia during the period of the validity of this VISA Program
- You need to earn nomination from your employer to apply for this program.
- This Visa can be converted into PR Visa Program
- It is important that your job profile is part of Australia’s current list of Short term job openings
- You need to provide education and skill assessment documents while submitting your application.
- You cannot switch jobs with this program.
- You will have to take up your English fluency assessment test with one of the authorized agency

Medium Term Stream

- Medium term stream addresses job vacancies which demand a longer stay of the employees
- You can apply for PR Visa
- You can study in Australia with this program.
- You are authorized to travel as would be required to and fro Australia with this Visa till its validity.
- A nomination needs to be provided by your Australian employer
- It is important that your job profile is part of the medium and long term skilled occupations list.
- Provide skills and education assessment certificate
- You will be employed only under the employer who nominated you.

- You need to take English language Proficiency test with any of the authorized agencies
- Medical Certificate and certificate proving your clean background needs to be provided

Labor Agreement stream

- Employees of all those employers who are part of the Labout agreement can avail this stream.
- You can study in Australia with this stream
- You can travel to and fro from Australia as would be needed, unhindered until the validity of the visa
- Your nomination should be based on the job specifications bound by the terms laid as per the Labour agreement
- You need to provide education assessment certificates
- You need to take up English language proficiency test through any of the authorized agency
- You will be working for the same employer who nominated you and will not be able to shift jobs under this program.

Subsequent Entrant Stream

This is an add-on scheme for the dependents and immediate family of the SubClass 482 visa holders.

XIPHIAS Immigration, DMCC is a MARA registered firm. We help our clients by taking up their cause of migrating to Australia and walk with them as would be needed up until they receive their VISA.

Key benefits

- Only 1 year of relevant work experience required — a full year less than the TSS visa it replaced.
- Stay up to 4 years, or 5 years for Hong Kong passport holders.
- Clear pathway to permanent residency, usually through subclass 186.
- No points test and no age cut-off at the visa stage for the Specialist Skills stream.
- The Specialist Skills stream is decided in 37 days for half of all applications — the fastest skilled route Australia offers.
- Partner and dependent children included, with full work and study rights.

When this route may not fit

- No approved employer sponsorship and nomination.
- Salary below the income threshold for the stream you are applying under.
- Core Skills stream: occupation not on the CSOL.
- Specialist Skills stream: occupation falls within ANZSCO Major Groups 3, 7 or 8.

Skills, language and points

ACCEPTED TESTS	MINIMUM LEVEL
IELTS, PTE, OET, TOEFL iBT	**The English standard required for your stream**

Job offer: An approved Australian employer must sponsor you for a position they cannot fill locally.

Costs and government fees

Programme costs

Item	Amount	Notes
Visa application charge (primary applicant)	AUD 4,015	Home Affairs VAC as displayed on 29 September 2026. Additional applicant charges apply.

Government fees

Fee	Amount	Notes
Subclass 482 — primary applicant visa application charge	AUD 4,015	

How the process works

1. **Employer becomes a sponsor**
   Your employer applies for Standard Business Sponsorship if they do not already hold it. Half of these are decided in 11 days.
2. **Employer nominates the position**
   The employer lodges a nomination for your specific role and salary.
3. **Choose your stream**
   Core Skills if your occupation is on the CSOL; Specialist Skills if your salary clears the higher threshold and your occupation is outside ANZSCO Major Groups 3, 7 and 8.
4. **Lodge the visa application**
   Apply for the subclass 482 and pay the visa application charge.
5. **Health, character and decision**
   Complete medicals and police checks.
6. **Work in Australia, then apply for PR**
   Work for your sponsor, then transition to permanent residency, usually via subclass 186.

Questions clients ask

Is the TSS 482 visa still available?

No. The Temporary Skill Shortage visa stopped accepting applications on 6 December 2024 and is on Home Affairs' repealed-visa list. The Skills in Demand visa replaced it, keeping the same subclass number 482.

How much work experience do I need?

One year of relevant experience — a full year less than the TSS visa required.

Which stream is fastest?

Specialist Skills, by a wide margin. Home Affairs decides 50% of those applications in 37 days and 90% within 78 days. Core Skills takes 4 to 9 months.

What salary do I need?

It depends on the stream: the Core Skills Income Threshold or the higher Specialist Skills Income Threshold. Both were indexed on 1 July 2026, so check the current figure with Home Affairs rather than relying on an older number.

How long can I stay?

Up to 4 years, or 5 years if you hold a Hong Kong passport.

Does it lead to permanent residency?

Yes. Most holders transition through subclass 186, usually via the Temporary Residence Transition stream.

Which occupations are excluded from the Specialist Skills stream?

Occupations in ANZSCO 2022 Major Groups 3, 7 and 8. Everything else qualifies if the salary clears the Specialist Skills Income Threshold.

Important notes

- The Core Skills Income Threshold and the Specialist Skills Income Threshold were both indexed on 1 July 2026. Confirm the current amounts with Home Affairs or XIPHIAS before negotiating a salary.
- Three separate applications have to succeed: employer sponsorship, the nomination, and your visa. Sponsorship is decided in 11 days for half of cases, but nomination takes 64 days for half and up to 9 months for 90%.
- This is a temporary visa. Permanent residency usually comes later through subclass 186, which itself takes 21 to 25 months.
- The TSS visa this replaced stopped accepting applications on 6 December 2024. A 'TSS 482' application is no longer possible.

Compliance

- The Skills in Demand visa replaced the Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) visa. TSS applications closed on 6 December 2024 and the TSS streams are on Home Affairs' repealed-visa list.
- Three streams: Core Skills, Specialist Skills, and Labour Agreement.
- Core Skills uses the Core Skills Occupation List (CSOL, ANZSCO 2022), last re-issued effective 7 November 2025.
- Home Affairs processing times: Core Skills — 4 months for 50% of applications, 9 months for 90%. Specialist Skills — 37 days and 78 days. Labour Agreement — 5 months and 9 months. Employer-side: nomination 64 days and 9 months; sponsorship 11 days and 57 days.
- Applications are processed in the order set by Ministerial Direction No. 121.
- The Global Talent Employer Sponsored scheme feeds into this visa — employers with a GTES agreement sponsor workers under the subclass 482.



XIPHIAS Immigration

NEXT STEP

Plan your Australia application with our Dubai team

Tell us about your profile, family and timeline. We will confirm whether **Subclass 482 – Skills in Demand Visa** fits, set out the full cost in writing and manage the application with you from start to finish.

CALL OR WHATSAPP	+971 52 727 5101
EMAIL	dubai@xiphiasimmigration.com
WEBSITE	www.xiphiasimmigration.ae
OFFICE	Jumeirah Lakes Towers, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

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.

This brochure is produced from the programme information published at www.xiphiasimmigration.ae/skilled/australia/skills-in-demand-482 as at 1 October 2026. Rules, fees and processing times are set by the relevant government and can change, and approval is always the authority's decision. Please confirm the current position with us before you apply. XIPHIAS provides immigration consulting and documentation support. It is not a law firm, and nothing in this brochure is legal advice.