

MONTHLY IMMIGRATION BULLETIN

The latest immigration news, views and announcements

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Federal Budget 2022-23



The Labour Government has unveiled its first Federal Budget making announcements about a significant increase in parent and skilled visas, relaxed work restrictions for international students, funding to resolve visa processing times, and more opportunities for high-skilled migrants while aiming to provide more pathways to permanent residency. With a strong focus on skilled migration to ease current workforce shortages, the Albanese Government plans to provide clear pathways to permanent residency as per the new federal budget for 2022-23.

Announcements highlights are included below.

- With an increase of 35,000 seats, the permanent migration program will expand from 160,000 to 195,000 places
- More parent visas will be available, which is an increase from 4,500 in 2021-22 to 8,500 this year
- International students will have their work restrictions relaxed until 30 June 2023, allowing them to work additional hours in any sector
- Visas for partners and children will be granted based on demand with no ceiling
- Additional funding to expedite visa processing, resolve the visa backlog, and promote opportunities for high-skilled migrants

Breakdown of Skilled visas available for 2022/23

<i>Employer sponsored</i>	<i>35,000</i>
<i>Skilled Independent</i>	<i>32,100</i>
<i>Regional</i>	<i>34,000</i>
<i>State and Territory Nominated</i>	<i>31,000</i>
<i>Business Innovation and Investment</i>	<i>5000</i>
<i>Global Talent</i>	<i>5000</i>
<i>Distinguished Talent</i>	<i>300</i>

TEMPORARY VISA APPLICANTS NO LONGER REQUIRED TO UNDERGO MEDICAL EXAMS

The Department have announced that temporary visa applicants in Australia will not be required to undertake medical examinations and chest x-rays, based on their nationality, previous residence and proposed length of stay, in order to meet the health requirement.

The above changes will not be applicable if you fall into following categories;

- HAVE APPLIED FOR A MEDICAL TREATMENT, TEMPORARY PROTECTION OR A PROVISIONAL VISA
- EXPECT TO INCUR MEDICAL COSTS OR REQUIRE MEDICAL TREATMENT
- ARE INTENDING TO WORK AS (OR STUDY TO BE) A DOCTOR, DENTIST, NURSE OR PARAMEDIC
- WILL ENTER A HOSPITAL, AGED OR DISABILITY CARE FACILITY (IF HIGHER TUBERCULOSIS RISK)
- ARE PREGNANT AND INTENDING TO HAVE THE BABY IN AUSTRALIA
- WILL WORK OR TRAIN AT AN AUSTRALIAN CHILDCARE CENTRE
- ARE AGED OVER 75 YEARS (IF APPLYING FOR A VISITOR VISA)
- HAVE HAD PREVIOUS HOUSEHOLD CONTACT WITH TUBERCULOSIS
- ARE REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE DEPARTMENT

The Department have advised that if you have already made a health examination appointment with Bupa Medical Visa Services and have not yet attended it, your appointment may be cancelled and refunded.

Bupa will contact you via SMS to advise you of this. Do not contact Bupa to cancel your appointment yourself. If you are not advised that your appointment has been cancelled, you should attend if possible.

If you are outside Australia when applying for a temporary visa, you will still need to meet the health criterion by undertaking a medical examination before being granted that visa.

STUDENT VISA HOLDERS - WORKING HOURS

Unrestricted work rights for student visa holders will **end on 30 June 2023**. After that date student visa holders must revert to 40 hours per fortnight while their courses are in session.

Until 30 June 2023, all ongoing students as well as new student arrivals and secondary applicants are able to work more than 40 hours a fortnight in any sector of the economy and work before their course of study commences.



STATE AND TERRITORY UPDATES

New South Wales



The NSW Government has created a new direct pathway for Regional NSW skilled migrants that want to be nominated by the NSW Government for the sc 491 Skilled Work Regional visa. The pathway is not yet live and is pending finalised changes to their online systems.

This pathway will allow applicants who are currently living and working in their nominated (or closely related) occupation in a designated regional area of NSW, and have continuously done so for the past twelve (12) months to access a 491 NSW Government nomination with 65 points.

Applicants will not be required to meet higher points thresholds for individual occupations as per the other two pathways that are available under the NSW Government. Applicants will also not require additional work experience beyond the stated 12 months of employment in their skilled occupation.

Tasmania



Tasmania now has a [**Migration Tasmania Skilled Nomination Eligibility Checker**](#) available.

ANZSCO 141311 Hotel or Motel Manager has been added to the TOSOL. Eligible candidates must have a skills assessment for that occupation and work experience in a closely related role for 6 months for SC 190 or 3 months for SC 491 eligibility. They may also qualify for additional priority attributes in other pathways.

Further information on the Tasmanian program is available on that [website](#) including the number of places already allocated.

Northern Territory



The NT has a new [**online_Designated Area Migration Agreement \(DAMA\) portal**](#) that will streamline the application and assessment process and support Territory businesses experiencing critical skill shortages.

There have been also some changes to **Northern Territory Offshore Migration Occupation List** including to evidence of Australian licensing/registration and communication skills that meet the licensing or registration requirements.

South Australia



Due to high demand and the limited interim allocation of 70 nomination places that South Australia has received from the Commonwealth Government Department of Home Affairs, Skilled & Business Migration is taking the following measures:

- **Business Innovation stream (188A):** Intention to Apply (ITA) process [**remains open**](#)
- **Investor stream (188B):** Temporarily closed to new applicants
- **Significant Investor stream (188C):** Temporarily closed to new applicants

Entrepreneur stream (188E): Remains open with very limited places, you must first contact a [**Service Provider**](#)

The Government of South Australia continues to work with the Commonwealth Government to secure a further allocation of places for the program.

SKILLS ASSESSMENT PILOTS

The Australian Government has introduced three pilots to maximise the contribution of Australia's onshore migrant workforce and help fill shortages of skilled labour in priority occupations.

The Skills Assessment Pilots will benefit around 9,500 onshore migrants who will be able to access free, fast-tracked skills assessments, free employability assessments and subsidised training to improve their employment arrangements. This will help Australian businesses and industries address workforce pressures and support workforce participation for migrants. Two of the pilots are currently open.

- Pilot 1 – Faster Migrant Skills Assessments (concluded in June this year).
- Pilot 2 – Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants is **open and accepting applications**.
- Pilot 3 – Employability Assessments **commenced 26 September 2022**.

Further information on the two available pilots is available on the [Department of Employment and Workplace Relations](#) and the [Trades Recognition Australia](#) websites.



CLAIMING POINTS FOR PROFESSIONAL YEAR QUALIFICATION



The Department has confirmed that in order to be awarded 5 points for completing a professional year, you must have started and completed the course within the 48 months prior to being invited. The Department has taken the view that the term "completed" is more than just the end of the program and is referring to all parts or elements of the course therefore, the full 12 months of the program needs to occur in the 48 months prior to invitation.

CANADA TO ALLOW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO WORK OFF - CAMPUS OVER 20 HOURS PER WEEK

From November 15, 2022, to December 31, 2023, international students in Canada with off-campus work authorization their study permit will allow them to work more than 20 hours per week off-campus while classes are in session.

This temporary measure will also apply to foreign nationals who have already applied for a study permit as of today. They will also be able to benefit from this policy if Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada approves their application.

Currently, international students who apply to study in an eligible Canadian educational program may be authorized to work off-campus for up to 20 hours per week during their studies. During scheduled breaks, such as the summer and winter holidays, this limit is lifted. This policy allows international students to support themselves financially while also ensuring that they focus on finishing their studies rather than working in Canada. However, with nearly one million job openings, the Canadian government has temporarily relaxed this rule.



CANADA INVITES 3,750 CANDIDATES IN THE MOST RECENT EXPRESS ENTRY DRAW.

Canada's most recent all-program Express Entry draw was held on the 28th of September 2022. This was the seventh all-program draw since their inception.

IRCC invited 3,750 candidates who had a minimum Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score of 504. Because this was an all-program draw, invitations were issued to eligible candidates from the Canadian Experience Class (CEC), the Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSWP), and the Federal Skilled Trades Program (FSTP), all of which are Express Entry programs.

This draw is the third in a row in which there was an increase of 500 invitations issued over the previous draw. The September 14 draw invited 3,250 candidates and the August 31 draw invited 2,750. It is also the lowest minimum CRS since all-program draws resumed. CRS scores have been decreasing in increments from 557 on July 6. Over the first five draws, scores decreased by eight or nine points for each draw. The September 14 draw saw a decrease of only six points and this week's draw was the same.



CANADA INVITES 4,250 CANDIDATES IN LATEST ALL-PROGRAM EXPRESS ENTRY DRAW

The most recent all-program Express Entry draw in Canada was held on October 12, 2022. The eighth all-program draw since they resumed on July 6 was held.

IRCC invited 4,250 candidates who had a minimum Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score of 500. Candidates were eligible for invitations from the Canadian Experience Class (CEC), the Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSWP), and the Federal Skilled Trades Program (FSTP), which are all Express Entry programs.

Express Entry all-program draws have been paused for more than 18 months, beginning in December 2020. Only candidates from the CEC or the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) were invited to apply during the pause (ITAs). The draws were halted due to an application backlog caused by COVID-19-related travel restrictions. IRCC also paused CEC draws in September 2021.



AUSTRALIA TO OFFER SIX MONTHS PAID PARENTAL LEAVE BY 2026

An ADDITIONAL SIX WEEKS will be added to the paid parental leave scheme, allowing Australians to receive payments for a full six months.

Parents are currently eligible for 18 weeks of paid leave and two weeks of secondary carer leave.



EVENTS

EDUEXPO 2022,

Sanji Caldera Associates has participated EduExpo 2022, Education & Career Guidance Expo held on October, 14th, 15th & 16th October at SLECC. Thanks for everyone who supported and visited us in Colombo, Sri Lanka.



EVENTS AND WEBINARS



BUSINESS VISA TO AUSTRALIA WEBINAR

DISCUSSION AND Q&A SESSION ON NEW STATE OPENINGS FOR BUSINESS MIGRATION AND REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENCY AND CITIZENSHIP IN AUSTRALIA

ZOOM LIVE STREAM

JOIN NOW

FRIDAY 07TH OCTOBER **TIME 7:00PM (MELBOURNE TIME)**

SANJI A CALDERA
THE SPEAKER (CPA,FCMA,MMIA)

Sanji Caldera Associates
Migration Consultants
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OUR PRINCIPAL MIGRATION CONSULTANT, SANJI CALDERA HAS DISCUSSED ABOUT BUSINESS MIGRATION OPPORTUNITIES IN AUSTRALIA THROUGH LIVE ZOOM ON 07TH OCTOBER AND IT HAS BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS WITH MANY PARTICIPANTS.

Watch NOW

YOU CAN NOW WATCH OUR PREVIOUS VIDEOS AND WEBINARS FROM BELOW LINKS,

- ⇒ General Skilled Migration Australia - Current Outlook
- ⇒ Business Visa to Australia (English Session)
- ⇒ Business Visa to Australia (Sinhala Session)
- ⇒ Business Migration pathways to Australia
- ⇒ Introducing the Sanji Caldera Education foundation
- ⇒ Get your PR in Australia with employer sponsored visa? How would an employer-sponsored visa help you achieve your Australian permanent residency?
- ⇒ Are you skilled and lacking in work experience? How can 407 training visa help you?
- ⇒ Discover much more about 482 subclass
- ⇒ How do you apply for permanent residency in Australia?
- ⇒ New Budget announcement 2021



The information contained within this newsletter is to provide advice of a general nature only and is not to be taken as individual advice for your personal circumstances. Information provided is subject to change at any time, and before proceeding with an application you should seek professional personalized advice about your circumstances.

We cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Because Australian immigration law and regulations change regularly, it is best to contact us before making any decisions. Alternatively, up to date information can be checked on the website of the Department of Home Affairs (DHA).

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