

A woman with long, dark, wavy hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing a dark grey blazer over a white button-down shirt. She is holding a large, dark grey folder or portfolio with both hands. The background is a blurred office or public space.

◆ SKILLED  
MIGRATION VISA

# SKILLED MIGRATION VISAS FOR AUSTRALIA

Australia's economy is strong and the country is actively encouraging immigration of workers from a wide variety of skill groups. The shortage of skilled labour means wages are high and that, coupled with the lower cost of living, means you could be living your dream sooner than you think.

Skilled workers emigrating to Australia are assessed on a points-based system with points awarded for qualifications, work experience, English fluency, and age. Pass marks exist for each category and before you apply, you must ensure that your points total meets the target for your desired visa.

The current points system for skilled visas is based on the Skilled Occupation List (SOL), which lists all eligible occupations for migration and the points requirement for each occupation.

## ◆ SKILLED INDEPENDENT VISA

Applications under this category of visa are by invitation only, are subject to a points test and allow you to migrate independently to Australia without relying on sponsorship from a state or employer. In order to be eligible for a skilled independent visa, applicants must:

- 1 Have at least 60 points
- 2 Be less than 50 years of age at the time of invitation to apply
- 3 Meet the health, character and English language requirements

The nominated occupation will need to be determined through a skills assessment from the relevant skills assessing body, as well as through obtaining a Points Test Advice letter.

If an applicant meets the above requirements, an Expression of Interest (EOI) can be lodged with DIBP; once the EOI has been selected and the applicant is invited to apply, an application for migration can be lodged with DIBP.

This is a permanent visa that is valid for five years from the date of visa grant.



## ◆ SKILLED SPONSORED VISA

Applications under this category are by invitation only and require you:

- 1 To have a minimum of 60 points according to DIBP's current points test
- 2 To be under the age of 50 at the time you are invited to apply
- 3 Meet the minimum requirements for English language and work experience
- 4 You must also have sponsorship from a state or territory in Australia

The nominated occupation will need to be determined through a skills assessment from the relevant skills assessing body, as well as through obtaining a Points Test Advice letter.

If you meet the above requirements, an Expression of Interest (EOI) can be lodged with the DIBP; once the EOI has been selected and the applicant is invited to apply, an application for migration can be lodged with DIBP.

The state sponsorship route can offer an applicant more flexibility as it is possible to nominate an occupation on DIBP's Consolidated Sponsored Occupation List (CSOL) if you are sponsored by a state or territory in accordance with their State Migration Plan (SMP), and you are also awarded an additional five points for having sponsorship from a state. However, it is a condition of the state sponsorship that you reside in the sponsoring state for the first two years of your residence in Australia.

This is a permanent visa that is valid for five years from the date of visa grant.

## ◆ SKILLED NOMINATED OR SPONSORED VISA (PROVISIONAL)

This is a provisional four-year visa that offers a pathway to permanent residence to applicants who do not meet the requirements for a permanent migration visa; applications are by invitation only. Applicants have the opportunity to apply for permanent residence once they have lived for two years and worked for at least 12 months in a Specified Regional Area in Australia on this visa.

- 1 to have a minimum of 60 points according to DIBP's current points test
- 2 to be under the age of 50 at the time you are invited to apply
- 3 meet the minimum requirements for English language and work experience
- 4 you must also have sponsorship from a state or territory in Australia

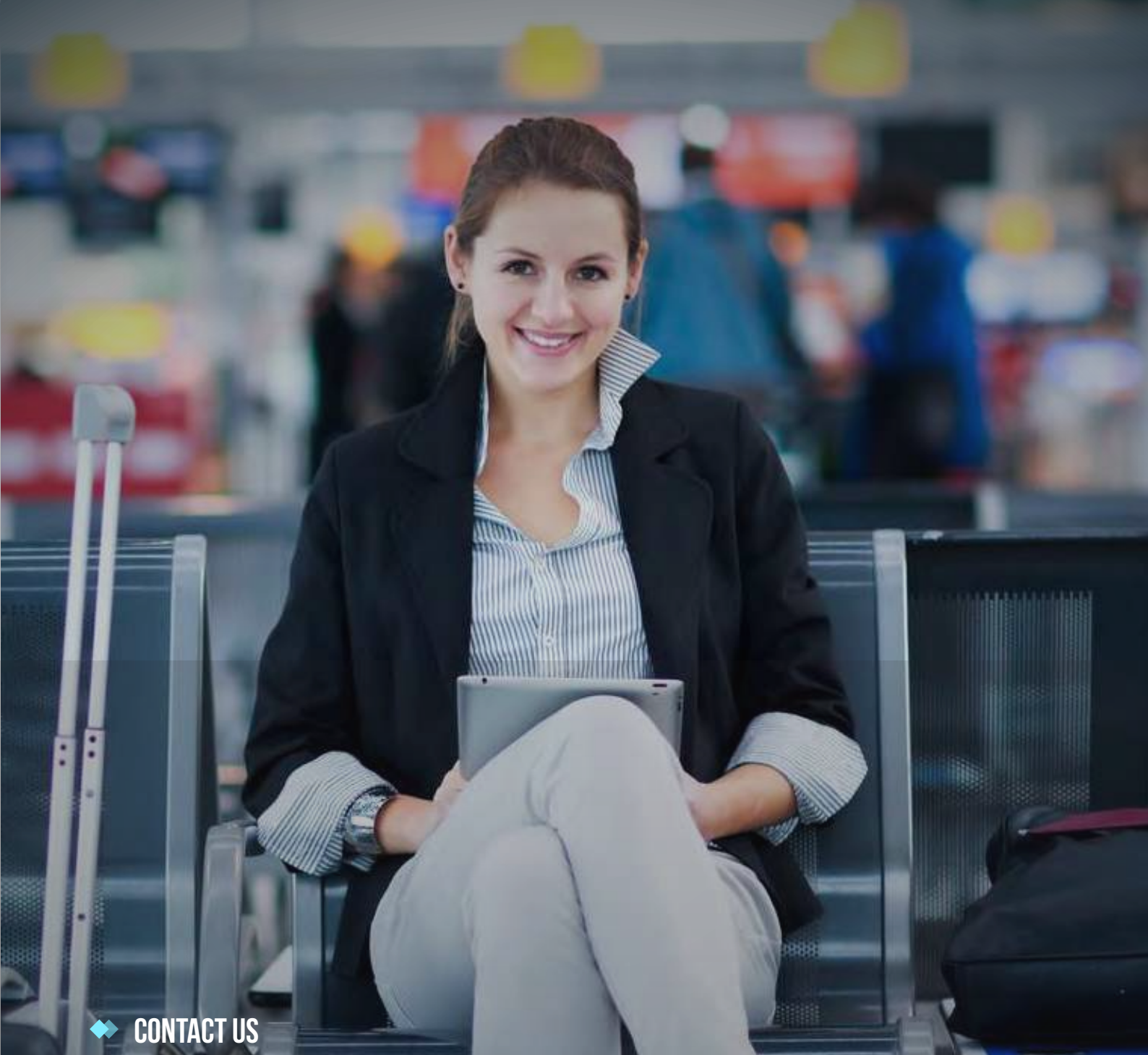
The nominated occupation will need to be determined through a skills assessment from the relevant skills assessing body, as well as through obtaining a Points Test Advice letter. It is also necessary to obtain sponsorship from either a state or territory government or an eligible relative living in Australia.

An advantage to applying in this category is that applicants are awarded 10 points for having sponsorship from a state or eligible relative. If an applicant meets the above requirements, an Expression of Interest (EOI) can be lodged with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIBP); once the EOI has been selected and the applicant is invited to apply, an application for migration can be lodged with DIBP.

## ◆ WHAT NEXT?

If you want to apply for an Australia Visa or want to find out more information about emigrating to Australia, please email: [migration@reachout-global.com](mailto:migration@reachout-global.com).





◆◆ CONTACT US

MAURITIUS OFFICE

Reachout Limited  
59, YTS House  
Volcy Pougnet Street  
Port Louis.  
Tel: +(230) 52922437 /  
52922439  
info@reachout-global.com

INDIA OFFICE

Reachout Overseas Private Ltd  
No 16, 1st Floor, Vijetha Plaza  
1st Block, Koramangala  
Bangalore 560 034  
Tel : +(91) 988 8672 5294  
info@reachout-global.com

MADAGASCAR OFFICE

Reachout Madagascar  
1er étage,  
Lot IVA 4 Ampandrana,  
Antananarivo, Madagascar  
Tel : +(261) 34 11 218 21 /  
32 40 311 94  
info@reachout-global.com

GHANA OFFICE

Reachout Consulting Limited  
P.O BOX CO 2160 Tema, Lashibi  
Comm 17, Agushi Street.  
Tel : +(233) 207 347556  
info@reachout-global.com



[www.reachout-global.com](http://www.reachout-global.com)



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