

Capital Investment for 5 Bonus Points

In this newsletter we will discuss the ability to gain 5 Bonus points from using the capital investment criteria of the points test. As with the other two avenues, language and work experience, you can only use one of them to gain 5 points only. You cannot use two of them to obtain 10 points as many students sometimes believe.

How much do I need?

The current level of investment required is a deposit of \$100,000.00. This amount can change if the government requires but it has remained at this level since the beginning in July 1999. There is no indication that this amount will increase in the future.

Where do I make this deposit?

This deposit can only be made to one of the designated securities listed by DIMIA. This list is reproduced below but it too can change in the future so be sure to double check it before you make the deposit.

New South Wales Treasury Corporation Registry

www.tcorp.nsw.gov.au

Northern Territory Treasury Corporation

www.territorybonds.nt.gov.au

Queensland Treasury Corporation

www.qtc.qld.gov.au

South Australian Government Financing Authority

www.safa.sa.gov.au

Western Australia Treasury Corporation

www.watc.wa.gov.au

When do I make this deposit?

You must only make this deposit when you have been requested to do so by DIMIA. You cannot make this deposit without this request.

Since it is a very large sum of money your DIMIA case officer first must be sure that you (and your family unit members) have passed the medical and police checks you have already submitted in your application.

Then your case officer will calculate your points score and be certain that if you are able to make this deposit for the 5 bonus points then you will reach the pass mark for your particular visa class. They will not make this request unless you are going to reach the pass mark and as a result the visa will be granted.

These steps must be completed by your case officer for there is little point asking you to make the deposit and then they discover that you have a problem in your medical examination result which would stop you obtaining permanent residency. It usually takes a few months after your application before DIMIA will make the deposit request. Normally you will have a couple of months (if necessary) to make the deposit after their request.

How do I make this deposit?

You are only able to make this deposit by using the DIMIA Form 1134, Declaration General Skilled Migration, Bonus Points for Capital Investment.

Part 1 of this form has an authorisation section where your DIMIA case officer must sign. If this section is not signed by your case officer then you may not be allowed to make the deposit.

Part 2 of this form has a number of questions which you must complete and then sign. You then send it to the treasury corporation before you make the money transfer. Contact them in advance to find out their bank account details and how best to make the money transfer. If you are transferring money to Australia from overseas, be sure you are aware of the law requirements in your own country. For example, from South Korea, one person can only transfer \$20,000 AUD per year. You will need to use five trustworthy people (usually relatives) in a case such as this to ensure the money arrives in Australia on time.

Once the deposit has been confirmed they will complete Part 3 of Form 1134 and send it directly to your case officer at DIMIA. You will not see this form again.

How long will it take to my PR after making the deposit?

After making this deposit it usually takes one to two months to obtain your permanent residency. If you haven't heard from your case officer by then either yourself or your agent should enquire as to the status of your file. Since it is such a large sum of money you are entitled to confirm that DIMIA realise that it has been deposited.

Can I make a deposit somewhere else or buy a property investment unit instead?

This is a common question asked by students who may have already purchased a property investment in Australia. The simple answer is, no.

It may be possible however that if your assets are tied up in an investment property(s) or elsewhere, you may be able to use this equity to borrow the cash required for necessary deposit. You should seek independent financial advice before taking any steps such as this.

When do get my deposit returned?

DIMIA only requires the deposit to be held for 12 months. After this time you are free to do whatever you like with your money. Of course you will be paid interest so be sure to compare all of the five bodies so you can obtain the best deal. Just because you live in NSW for example does not mean that you have to use the NSW TCORPORATION.

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