

# IMMIGRATION NEWS

(Volume 71)

*A Look At NSW State Sponsorship*



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Dear Students

Welcome to the new subscribers of IMMIGRATION NEWS. This service is brought to you by Australian Immigration Law Services.

Please feel free to e-mail this newsletter to any of your friends.

For the last ten years the state sponsored skilled migration program has seen thousands of happy visa applicants obtain their Australian residency visas so we are going to re-visit the requirements of each state.

## **State Sponsorship – A Look At NSW**

Students often think that state sponsorship means you have to go out in the outback regional areas spending most of your time brushing flies from your face. If you are used to the big smoke metropolis cities, it may not be so appealing.

However many regional areas are becoming boom towns (particularly the coastal areas) as Sydneysiders pack up and move to escape ridiculous real estate prices. This mass exodus is creating a shortage for skilled workers in the regional areas and the local town cultures are quickly changing with the city slicker imports demanding soy cappuccino's and specialised business services.

There are two types of state sponsorship available, one for permanent residency using the 176 and 886 visa's and one for temporary residency using the 475 and 487 visa's (onshore and offshore classes). Students who have studied in Australia and met the 2 year Study Requirement will be most interested in the 487 and 886 visa classes.

Accordingly there are two lists of occupations, one for permanent residency (886) and the other for temporary residency (487). Both of these lists can be found at [www.business.nsw.gov.au](http://www.business.nsw.gov.au)

## **NSW Permanent Residency Sponsorship**

Most of the occupations for the PR visa require 3 years work experience, but not all of them. All of them however require an IELTS of at least 7.0 on three sections and one section can be less than 7.

Three examples from the PR list;

- 1) The occupation of Actuary does not require any work experience. Therefore students who have completed a general MBA or Accounting MBA for two years are likely to be able to gain sponsorship for gaining a skill assessment as an Actuary is not difficult and you could make a logical argument that your MBA is closely related to being an Actuary.
- 2) The occupation of Life Scientist also does not require any previous work experience so if you have completed a recent Masters or Bachelor degree in Science (or similar) you should be able to gain approval.
- 3) The occupation of Engineering Technologist (nec) does not require work experience. It may be possible for Engineers to ask Engineers Australia for this classification instead of professional engineer. If you can obtain this classification then sponsorship is within your grasp. Students will need to have completed an engineering course in Australia to meet the closely related criteria when lodging the 886 visa.

These three examples may give you some ideas. Permanent residency may be within your reach if meeting the 120 points necessary for the independent visa classes is too difficult.

### **NSW Temporary Residency Sponsorship**

The good news for the TR sponsorship approval is that NSW will accept an overall IELTS score of 5.5 (General or Academic) for managers and professionals (ASCO 1-3). This is not available to the PR sponsorship applicants. Trade occupations (ASCO 4) need to have the minimum of 5.0 on each of the IELTS levels.

The Overall 5.5 level is called the “Concessional English Requirement” by DIAC. It is acceptable for the 487 visa and gives a significant relief for students who are struggling to reach the usual minimum “Competent English” requirement of 6.0 on each. Not all states accept the Concessional English level so we congratulate the NSW government for demonstrating the foresight that many students who are struggling in their IELTS tests can still make a valid contribution to the skilled migration program.

When applicants are accepted under this Concessional program they need to pay the fee for the NSW Adult Migrant English Service (AMES) language course of \$2500.

The complicated part of NSW sponsorship approval for the temporary residence applicants is that the state is divided into 8 distinct sub regions and each of these areas have their own list of occupations they wish to sponsor. This also means that applicants have to apply directly to the individual regions and some of them charge for each application. This is very different to the PR sponsorship application process and complicated compared to some of the other states.

The list of regions and their occupations they can sponsor can also be found via the web site address above.

## **Conclusion?**

The NSW State sponsorship is very complicated for the TR visa but considerably easier for the PR visa. We feel that the NSW government should look to streamline the TR application process inline with the other states requirements. However on the other hand they are offering the Concessional English requirement so they get brownie points for this.

Next?

A look at Western Australia sponsorship as it becoming the Accountant's haven for those who cannot reach 7.0 on each IELTS section. We will try and have this published by next weekend.

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Kind regards

Karl Konrad  
Managing Director  
Australian Immigration Law Services  
Publishers of IMMIGRATION NEWS  
MARN: 9904238

Australian Immigration Law Services  
Level 1, 30 Carrington Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
t: 61 2 9279 1991 | f: 61 2 9279 1994  
e: [sydney@australiavisa.com](mailto:sydney@australiavisa.com) | w: [www.australiavisa.com](http://www.australiavisa.com)

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