

Shock Changes ahead for Accounting Graduates



27th April 2010

Dear Students

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Academic English Shock for Accounting Graduates

Both the ICAA and CPA released their shock announcement that from the 1st July 2010 all international students applying for the skill assessment for migration purposes will require an **Academic** IELTS test result of at least 7.0 on each on all for components of a single test.

This will be a devastating blow for the majority of international students studying their graduate and post graduate courses in accounting.

These new rules will take affect on all applications for skill assessment received from the 1st of July 2010.

[://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/A124004341](http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/A124004341)

[://www.cpaaustralia.com.au/cps/rde/xchg/cpa-site/hs.xsl/become-how-migration.html](http://www.cpaaustralia.com.au/cps/rde/xchg/cpa-site/hs.xsl/become-how-migration.html)

We called National Institute of Accountants (NIA) today and discovered they are also following suit with the others to raise the English requirement to the same level.

In my discussion with the manager of the migration assessment program at the NIA she guardedly admitted that it has been DIAC which has applied the pressure for all three assessment bodies to increase the IELTS requirements. She also revealed that all three assessment bodies colluded together to bring in the new IELTS requirements at the same time.

Hmmmm. Here we have three business enterprises meeting together to agree on setting their skill requirements at the same level. I can see from the fees they charge they are all suspiciously identical. I would have to also wonder that if one of them wanted to increase their fees for this skill assessment

process, they would also get together to agree on this too so they could all increase their fees together? I wonder if the competition watchdog would have something to say about such a business behaviour.

We have to openly challenge all of these three assessment bodies if they are actually concerned about the welfare of international students when they give two months notice for applicants to produce an IELTS of 7.0 on each at the Academic level. What if these students do not enough time on their visas to book an IELTS in time? What if all of the study in Australia now means nothing if 7.0 is just impossible for them to reach? Has it occurred to them that the temporary Graduate 485 visa requires a positive migration assessment as well? When I spoke to the NIA it didn't occur to them that this will affect the 485 visa as well!

I had a browse through both CPA and ICCA's web sites and could not find any requirement for IELTS for membership of these organisations or to become a full CPA or ICAA. I even went through the complete online application form on the CPA to become a CPA member but could not find any reference to providing evidence of my English ability. Perhaps then this will be altered too after the 1st of July.

For the record I called ICAA for their media comment on these changes but they did not bother to return my calls.

Lodge Your Applications before 1st July!

Our office did confirm with CPA today that if you lodge your application before July then you will be assessed under the current rules without needing IELTS. This application can remain open for six months as a "pending application" and further documents can be supplied later.

We asked ICAA if they would allow this approach but they said they would not allow it. However I'm sure they may change their minds if everyone lodges to CPA and they will miss out on their share of the action.

For those students lucky enough to have already received your assessment you do not need to worry about these new future changes.

5 disturbing stories in The Age covers the suffering of international students

I feel any Australian who reads these stories will be moved by the plight of these international students and whilst the focus is on the Indian communities in Melbourne they reflect the emotions of most international students in Australia.

Congratulations to Michael Bachelard wrote these articles and to The Age editorial staff that see the suffering of international students as a blight upon this great country and is something which needs to be exposed for what it is.

Easy migration, fake certificate lures laid for students

The Age 25th April 2010

[://www.theage.com.au/national/easy-migration-fake-certificate-lures-laid-for-students-20100424-trlz.html](http://www.theage.com.au/national/easy-migration-fake-certificate-lures-laid-for-students-20100424-trlz.html)

Underpaid and exploited: 'many try to cheat us'

The Age, 25th April 2010

[://www.theage.com.au/victoria/underpaid-and-exploited-many-try-to-cheat-us-20100424-tkm1.html](http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/underpaid-and-exploited-many-try-to-cheat-us-20100424-tkm1.html)

When the dream turns into a nightmare (story 2)

The Age 27th April 2010

[://www.theage.com.au/victoria/when-the-dream-turns-into-a-nightmare-20100424-tkly.html](http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/when-the-dream-turns-into-a-nightmare-20100424-tkly.html)

When the dream turns into a nightmare (story1)

The Age 25th April 2010

[://www.theage.com.au/victoria/when-the-dream-turns-into-a-nightmare-20100424-tkly.html](http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/when-the-dream-turns-into-a-nightmare-20100424-tkly.html)

Tough time for young Indians who dare to dream

[://www.theage.com.au/national/tough-times-for-young-indians-who-dare-to-dream-20100417-sljid.html](http://www.theage.com.au/national/tough-times-for-young-indians-who-dare-to-dream-20100417-sljid.html)

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Kind regards

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