



State nomination migration program process and requirements

Candidates **may** be nominated by the Western Australian Government under two streams:

- General; or
- Graduate.

Process for all candidates

- Submit an Expression of Interest on the Department of Home Affairs' *SkillSelect* database (homeaffairs.gov.au) and indicate the candidate is seeking either nomination from 'Western Australia' or 'any state or territory'.
- Meet the Department of Home Affairs' eligibility requirements for the Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190) or Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491¹).
- The points test pass mark is the Department of Home Affairs' minimum number of points required to receive an invitation for a visa. The pass mark is currently 65 points.
- The applicant must not be subject to section 48 bar at the time of application and nomination.

Not all Expressions of Interest that meet the points test pass mark will receive an invitation to apply for State nomination.

- The State nomination migration program may be amended at any time, including to align with directions provided by the Department of Home Affairs. The State reserves the right to amend occupation lists, policy and nomination criteria, and withdraw applications and any offer of nomination at any time.
- Where a candidate's Expression of Interest indicates that the candidate meets the State's minimum requirements (see below), the candidate may be invited to apply for State nomination.
- Invitations to apply for the State nomination **General** stream will be issued to those with the highest ranking Expression of Interest by points score, subject to:
 - » occupation ceilings;
 - » meeting the State nomination General stream minimum requirements; and
 - » meeting the Department of Home Affairs' points test pass mark.
- Invitations to apply for the State nomination **Graduate** stream will be issued to those with the highest ranking Expression of Interest by (in order of priority) as per **Table 1**, subject to:
 - » occupation ceilings;
 - » nomination ceilings for university/higher education graduates and VET graduates;
 - » meeting the State nomination Graduate stream minimum requirements; and
 - » meeting the Department of Home Affairs' points test pass mark.
- If an invitation is issued, the applicant has 28 days in which to apply for State nomination and successfully complete the online research tool during the application process.
- The information provided in the Expression of Interest will be examined and the State nomination application will be assessed against the State nomination requirements for the relevant stream.
An invitation to apply for State nomination does not guarantee nomination.

- If State nomination is approved, Migration Services will nominate the Expression of Interest in *SkillSelect*, which will enable the applicant to receive an invitation from the Department of Home Affairs to lodge a visa application.

Table 1: Western Australian ranking hierarchy for university/higher education and VET Graduates

Higher education graduates	VET graduates
» completed a PhD ² or Masters qualification in Western Australia;	» completed a VET qualification at Advanced Diploma level in Western Australia;
» completed a Honours degree or other higher degree ³ in Western Australia;	» completed a VET qualification at Diploma level in Western Australia;
» completed a Bachelor degree in Western Australia;	» completed a VET qualification at Certificate IV level in Western Australia;
» highest Expression of Interest points score; and	» completed a VET qualification at Certificate III level in Western Australia;
» oldest Expression of Interest submission date.	» highest Expression of Interest points score; and
	» oldest Expression of Interest submission date.

Western Australian State nomination minimum requirements – General stream

To be considered for an invitation to apply for the State nomination General stream, candidates must:

- be currently residing in Australia;
- have an occupation listed as available and eligible for the intended visa subclass on the *Western Australian Skilled Migration Occupation List (WASMOL)*⁴;
- be able to claim and give evidence of work experience in the Expression of Interest – this requirement can be met through:
 - » at least one year of Australian work experience in the nominated (or closely related⁵) occupation over the last 10 years; or
 - » at least three years of overseas work experience in the nominated (or closely related⁵) occupation over the last 10 years;
- meet the following minimum English language requirements:
 - » an English language level of ‘proficient’⁶ must be obtained by candidates nominating an ANZSCO⁷ Major Occupation Group 1 (Managers) or Group 2 (Professionals) occupation; or
 - » for all other eligible occupations an English language level of ‘competent’⁶ must be obtained;
 - » English language ability must be demonstrated by achieving the minimum English test scores in all four components in a single test as set out under English language test minimum required scores in **Tables 3a and 3b** below;
 - » candidates who hold a passport from the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, the United States, Canada and New Zealand are considered to have met the minimum English language requirements and are exempt from undertaking an English proficiency test; and
- have a contract of employment⁹ for full time employment¹⁰ for at least 12 months in the nominated or closely related occupation.

If an invitation is issued, the applicant has 28 days in which to lodge an application for State nomination. Applications will be assessed against the above minimum requirements and the additional requirements listed in **Table 2**.

Western Australian State nomination minimum requirements – Graduate stream

To be considered for an invitation to apply for the State nomination Graduate stream candidates must:

- be currently residing in Australia;
- have an occupation listed as available and eligible for the intended visa subclass on the *Graduate Occupation List (GOL)*⁴;
- have gained a Certificate III or higher qualification in Western Australia, including a requirement to have completed at least two years of full time study⁸ in Western Australia at a Western Australian university, higher education provider, TAFE, registered training provider or English language provider;
- demonstrate:
 - » at least six months of paid Australian work experience in the nominated (or closely related) occupation over the past five years. Applicants must enter work experience evidence in their *SkillSelect* Expression of Interest; OR
 - » a contract of employment⁹ for full time employment¹⁰ in Western Australia for at least six months in the nominated (or closely related) occupation;
- meet the following minimum English language requirements:
 - » an English language level of ‘proficient’ must be obtained by candidates nominating an ANZSCO Major Occupation Group 1 (Managers) or Group 2 (Professionals) occupation; or
 - » for all other eligible occupations an English language level of ‘competent’ must be obtained.
 - » English language ability must be demonstrated by achieving the minimum English test scores in all four components in a single test as set out under English language test minimum required scores in **Tables 3a and 3b** below.
 - » Candidates who hold a passport from the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, the United States, Canada and New Zealand are considered to have met the minimum English language requirements and are exempt from undertaking an English proficiency test.

If an invitation is issued, the applicant has 28 days in which to lodge an application for State nomination. Applications will be assessed against the above minimum requirements and the additional requirements in **Table 2**.

Western Australian State nomination – additional requirements

Candidates applying for State nomination under the General and Graduate streams must meet additional requirements set out below.

Table 2: Western Australian State nomination additional requirements

Additional requirements for applicants living outside Western Australia (in another Australian State or Territory)	
Subclass 190 visa	Provide evidence showing sufficient funds to cover settlement costs and living costs for at least three months.
Subclass 491 visa	Provide evidence showing sufficient funds to cover settlement costs and living costs for at least three months.

Occupations designated 'regional Western Australia only'

Candidates nominating for occupations that are designated 'regional Western Australia only' in the General or Graduate stream must provide evidence of a job offer/contract of employment in a location defined by the Commonwealth as *Regional Centres and Other Regional Areas* which includes the following areas by postcodes: 6041 to 6044, 6084, 6207, 6213, 6215 to 6537, 6560 to 6770.

English language test minimum required scores

Candidates nominating an ANZSCO Major Occupation Group 1 (Managers) or Group 2 (Professionals) must meet the minimum English language scores in Table 3a in a single test.

Table 3a: English language required test scores – ANZSCO major occupation groups 1 and 2

Bands	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
Test	Minimum score			
International English Language Testing System	7	7	7	7
Occupational English test	B	B	B	B
Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-based test	24	24	27	23
Pearson Test of English Academic	65	65	65	65
Cambridge C1 Advanced	185	185	185	185

Candidates nominating other ANZSCO Major Occupation Groups must meet the minimum English language scores in Table 3b in a single test.

Table 3b: English language required test scores – other ANZSCO major occupation groups

Bands	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
Test	Minimum score			
International English Language Testing System	6	6	6	6
Occupational English test	B	B	B	B
Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-based test	12	13	21	18
Pearson Test of English Academic	50	50	50	50
Cambridge C1 Advanced	169	169	169	169

Explanatory notes

Terminology	Description
Higher degree	Bachelor Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma.
Closely related occupation	Occupations sharing the first four digits of the ANZSCO codes.
ANZSCO	Australian New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations.
Full time employment	Work on average at least 35 hours per week of paid work.
Full time study	Determined by the educational institution.
Two years study	One or more qualifications gained at an accredited institution in Western Australia.
Accredited institutions in WA	<p>Higher education providers with a campus presence in Western Australia, registered with both Tertiary Education Quality Standards Authority (TESQA) and Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS), offering face to face delivery.</p> <p>Vocational Education and Training providers, with a campus presence in Western Australia, registered with both Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and CRICOS, offering face to face delivery.</p> <p>Providers of English language programs, with a campus presence in Western Australia, registered with CRICOS, offering face to face delivery.</p>

End notes

- 1 For the State Nominated Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491), Perth and surrounding areas are considered regional. State nominated subclass 491 visa holders must live and work in a regional Australia. Regional postcodes can be found under 'About State nomination' at migration.wa.gov.au.
- 2 Doctor of Philosophy.
- 3 Higher degree refers to Bachelor Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma.
- 4 Available at migration.wa.gov.au.
- 5 Closely related occupations are those sharing the first four digits of the ANZSCO occupation code.
- 6 English language proficiency levels as determined by the Department of Home Affairs. See homeaffairs.gov.au
- 7 ANZSCO = Australia New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations.
- 8 Full time study is determined by the candidate's educational institution. It is the responsibility of the candidate to provide evidence of full time study. For international students affected by travel restrictions, exclusion periods, and education delivery changes due to COVID-19 outbreak, where online study and assessment is permitted for the Australian qualification the student may count this towards the two year study requirement whether in Australia or offshore, provided the student was enrolled or will enrol as an 'onshore' international student with a WA education or training institution for study while COVID-19 related restrictions are in place.
- 9 Current employment or contract of employment is evidenced by providing a signed employment contract with the employer. A contract of employment must include at least the following:
 - full names of both the employer and the employee;
 - contract start date and end date (if permanent, only start date is required);
 - job description of the work to be performed by the employee;
 - the terms and conditions of employment (include the position's salary, hours of work, leave entitlements, superannuation, among other things) that are no less favourable than those that would apply to an Australian citizen or permanent resident doing equivalent work;
 - location of employment;
 - a statement that the work specified in the employment contract must be performed by the employee and not contracted out to a third party;
 - must be signed and dated by the employer and employee and provided as one document; and
 - must be drafted by the employer and not by the employee.

It is possible to provide two contracts of employment that combine to full time employment.
- 10 Full time employment is identified as 'on average at least 35 hours of work per week'.

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