

General Skilled Migration applications are assessed on a points total.

Points can be awarded for the following:-

- Age
- Designated language
- English language ability
- Skill
- Specific employment
- Australian employment
- Occupation in demand/job offer
- Australian qualifications
- Studying & living in regional Australia
- Designated area sponsorship
- State/territory government nomination
- Partner skills

Points requirement

In order to proceed with your Skilled Migration application, the number of points you score must reach a “pass mark”. This pass mark is set at the discretion of the Australian government and can change from time to time. Details of the current pass mark can be found at www.immi.gov.au/skilled/

Should you not gain enough points to meet the required pass mark, but have enough to meet the “pool mark”, your application will be held in reserve for 2 years after your initial assessment. Should the pass mark be lowered during that 2 year period and your score is higher than or equal to the new pass mark, your application will be processed further.

Self-assessment

In order to gauge an idea of how successful your point scoring could be, please complete the self-assessment form below. Please be aware that this will provide no guarantee of a successful application. Each application for Skilled Migration will be assessed on evidence/information provided and will be dependant on the pass mark at the time of application.

Form for self-assessment

	Points
Age	
Designated language	
English language ability	
Skill	
Specific employment	
Australian employment	
Occupation in demand/job offer	
Australian qualifications	
Studying & living in regional Australia	
Designated area sponsorship	
State/territory government nomination	
Partner skills	
Total skills points	

Points awarded for age

Please base this section on your age at the time of application.

Age at time of application	Points
18 - 29	30
30 – 34	25
35 – 39	20
40 – 44	15

Before lodging your application, you should ensure that you have your birth certification or some other form of evidence as proof of age. You will need to include this with your application.

Points awarded for designated language

In order to gain points under the designated language section, the language must be listed below. You will need to have professional level written or oral language skills. You will be required to provide evidence of this with a qualification from a university who instructed in one of the languages listed below. This qualification must be to the same level as an Australian degree. Alternatively, evidence can be provided by an

accreditation at the professional level with the NAATI (National Accreditation Authority for Translators & Interpreters).

Tests in various languages can be provided by NAATI, for further information please see www.naati.com.au

Designated languages:-

Afrikaan*	German	Portuguese
Albanian	Greek	Punjabi
Arabic/Lebanese	Hebrew*	Romanian
Armenian*	Hindi	Russian
Bangla (Bengali)	Hungarian	Serbian
Bosnian	Indonesian	Sinhalese
Bulgarian	Italian	Slovak
Burmese	Japanese	Slovene*
Chinese-Cantonese	Khmer	Spanish
Chinese-Mandarin	Korean	Swedish*
Croatian	Lao	Tamil
Czech	Latvian*	Thai
Danish*	Lithuanian*	Turkish
Dutch	Macedonian	Ukrainian
Estonian*	Malay	Urdu
Fijian	Maltese	Vietnamese
Filipino (Tagalog)	Norwegian*	Yiddish*
Finnish	Persian	
French	Polish	

*NAATI testing unavailable

	Points
If you hold a qualification as detailed above	5
If you have been accredited by NAATI	5

When lodging your application, you must provide evidence of this to gain these points. Please include a copy of the degree, academic transcript and letter from the university confirming the language your course was conducted in or NAATI accreditation proof.

Points awarded for English language ability

Ability	IELTS (International English Language Testing System) standard	Points
Proficient – you should have an operational command of the English	Score at least 7 on each of the 4 IELTS sections (reading, speaking,	

language and be able to understand and use complex language well and understand in depth reasoning	listening & writing) OR the equivalent in another specified test	25
Competent – you should have a generally effective command of the English language and be able to understand and use fairly complex language in familiar situations	Score at least 6 on each of the 4 IELTS sections (reading, speaking, listening & writing) OR the equivalent in another specified test OR hold a specified passport*	15
Concessional competent – you should have basic competence in the English language. You do not have to demonstrate consistency across all 4 areas (reading, speaking, listening & writing). <i>You can only gain points at this level if applying for the Skilled-Regional Sponsored Visa. You will need to have paid a fee to participate in English language tuition.</i>	Score an average of 5.5 in IELTS	15
Vocational – you should have a reasonable command of the English language with an overall understanding in most situations and be able to communicate effectively within your field of work. <i>You can only gain points at this level if you have nominated a skilled trade occupation.</i>	Score at least 5 on each of the 4 IELTS sections (reading, speaking, listening & writing) OR the equivalent in another specified test OR hold a specified passport*	15

*Specified passports are issued by:-

- UK
- Republic of Ireland
- USA
- New Zealand
- Canada

When submitting your application for Skilled Migration, you will need to provide evidence of your English language ability. IELTS has both a general training test and an academic test, usually you will only be required to take the general training test unless requested to do otherwise by the assessing authority. You can provide your IELTS test results as evidence by supplying your TRF number (Test Report Form) which you will find on your IELTS certificate. At the time of application, test results must not be more than 2 years old.

Points awarded for skill

Your nominated occupation must be listed on the current Skilled Occupation List at the time of application. It should also fit your qualifications and skills.

Skill	Points
<i>For most occupations where you have had specific training for that occupation.</i> In most cases you must hold a qualification (eg trade certificate or degree) and have the experience required to meet the relevant Australian standards, which is specifically related to the occupation you have nominated. You should also be able to meet any registration requirements in Australia. In certain cases, experience with no formal qualifications may be accepted.	60
<i>For more general professional occupations.</i> You must hold a qualification which is equivalent to an Australian bachelor degree or higher qualification (it may not have to be specifically related to the occupation you have nominated).	50
<i>For other general skilled occupations.</i> You must hold a qualification which is equivalent to an Australian diploma or advanced diploma (it may not have to be specifically related to the occupation you have nominated).	40

Before lodging your application, your skills must be assessed by the relevant assessing authority suitable for the occupation you have nominated.

Valid applications cannot be lodged without including a skills assessment which has been issued by the Australian assessing authority for the occupation you have nominated.

You will also need to include certified copies of all the documents you supplied to the assessing authority with your application.

Points awarded for specific employment

	Points
If the occupation you have nominated is worth 60 points and you have worked in that occupation or a closely related occupation at a skilled level for at least 3 or 4 years immediately prior to application	10
If the occupation you have nominated is worth 40, 50 or 60 points and you have worked in skilled employment (an occupation which is on the skilled occupation list) for at least 3 or 4 years immediately prior to application.	5

Please note, if you are using employment which has been undertaken in Australia to complete your application, you must have held a valid visa whilst undertaking that work.

Before lodging your application, you must obtain evidence such as employment references and detailed statements which cover the required period. This may also be required to support the recent work experience requirement of the application. Employment references should:-

- Be produced on official letterhead of the company supplying the reference.

- The letterhead must clearly state the full address of the company including telephone/fax numbers, website and email addresses. A contact telephone number for the person writing the reference should also be included.
- The name and position of the person authorized to sign the reference must be stated below their signature.
- The letter must state the exact period of employment and the type of employment, ie full-time/part-time, temporary/permanent. It should also state the salary earned and the main 5 duties undertaken. Any titles used must be accordingly to the nature of the duties.
- You should also include with your application, a payslip from your current employment.

The above required documents must be included with your application in order to receive the points as stated above.

Points awarded for Australian employment

If you have 12 months skilled work experience in Australia, you may be awarded further points. This work experience must have taken place within the 4 years immediately prior to submitting your application. You must have also held a valid visa for completing that work.

	Points
You have been employed in the occupation you have nominated or a closely related occupation in Australia for a total of 12 months within the 4 years immediately prior to application.	10
You have completed a professional 12 months in your skilled occupation or closely related skilled occupation for a total of 12 months within the 4 years immediately prior to application.	10

Points will only be awarded for completion of professional 12 months for courses specified by the Minister. Please refer to the department's website for the current course list www.immi.gov.au/skilled/

Points awarded for occupation in demand and job offer

If the occupation you have nominated is listed on the MODL (Migration Occupations in Demand List) when you lodge your application or when your application is assessed, you may be awarded points.

Please check the department website for details of the MODL as it is regularly updated. See www.immi.gov.au/skilled/

	Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the occupation you have nominated is listed on the MODL either when you apply or when a decision is made on your application, • you have been employed in that skilled occupation or a closely related skilled occupation for at least 12 months within the 4 years immediately 	20

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prior to application and you have a full-time employment offer in that occupation or a closely related skilled occupation from a company that has employed a minimum of 10 full-time people in the 2 years immediately prior to application. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the skilled occupation you have nominated appears on the MODL when you apply or a decision is made on your application, you have been employed in that skilled occupation or a closely related skilled occupation for at least 12 months with the 4 years immediately prior to application. 	15

You must include documentary evidence of a job offer with your application in order to gain points.

This evidence must also include details of the number of full-time people the company has employed during the 2 years prior to application. This information will be checked by the department.

Points awarded for Australian qualification

Applicants have a greater chance of employment in Australia if they hold Australian qualifications.

You may be awarded points for one of the Australian qualifications listed below if it was completed whilst in Australia and when all instruction was in English.

	Points
You have completed an Australian doctorate at an Australian educational institution after at least 2 years full-time whilst in Australia OR	25
You have completed an Australian Masters or Honours Degree (must be at least upper second class level) at an Australian educational institution whilst in Australia AND You were awarded an Australian Bachelor Degree as a result of at least 12 months full-time study whilst in Australia prior to completing the Masters or Honours Degree. AND You completed at least 3 academic years in full-time study whilst in Australia. OR You have completed an Australian Bachelor Degree at an Australian educational institution whilst in Australia AND Your award states that you were awarded honours at least upper second class level, based on your course results AND You completed at least 3 academic years in full-time study whilst in Australia. OR	15
You have completed an Australian degree, diploma or trade qualification whilst in Australia	5

AND You have completed at least 2 academic years in full-time study towards the award of a degree, diploma or trade qualification whilst in Australia.	
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A certified copy of your qualifications and/or a certified copy of your notification of your results and a transcript of your academic record must be included with your application in order to receive the points as stated above.

If you have completed your Australian qualification within 6 months of lodging your application, you do not need to meet the recent work experience requirement.

Points awarded for studying & living in regional Australia

If you are awarded points for an Australian qualification, you may also be awarded points if you have lived and studied in a regional or low population growth metropolitan area of Australia for at least 2 academic years.

	Points
If you meet the 2 year study requirement (not including study undertaken as distance education) AND You have lived in a part of Australia and undertaken your study at a campus or campuses where the postcode is listed as being in a regional or low population metropolitan growth area during that period.	5

Please see www.immi.gov.au/skilled/migration/ for a list of postcodes located in regional Australia/low population growth metropolitan areas.

Before you lodge your application, you will need to obtain evidence that you have lived and studied in regional Australia/low population growth metropolitan areas:

- You will need evidence of residence spanning the 2 year period . This can include documents such as utility bills and rental agreements.
- You may also be required to provide evidence of studying at a campus in regional Australia or a low population growth metropolitan area.

The above evidence will need to be supplied with your application in order to be awarded these points.

Points awarded for state/territory government nomination

	Points
You may awarded points if you have applied for a:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skilled – Sponsored visa (subclass 176 or 886) or• Skilled – Regional Sponsored visa (subclass 475 or 487) And have been nominated by a State or Territory government	10

Points awarded for designated area sponsorship

	Points
You may be awarded points if you have applied for a Skilled-Regional Sponsored visa (subclass 475 or 487) and have been sponsored by an eligible Australian relative who lives in a designated area.	25

Points awarded for partner skills

If you are including your spouse/independent partner in your application, you may be awarded points if they:-

	Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Satisfy the basic requirements including age, qualifications, recent skilled work experience or 2 year full-time study, nominated occupation, English language ability AND• Have obtained a positive skills assessment from the relevant assessing authority for their nominated occupation.	5

The above points can only be awarded if your partner is included in your application as an applicant. These points cannot be awarded if your partner is an Australian citizen, permanent resident or eligible New Zealand citizen.

In order to be awarded the above points, you must provide evidence that your partner satisfies the basic requirements:-

- A suitable skills assessment from the relevant assessing authority for your partner's nominated occupation
- Evidence of age
- Evidence of English language ability
- Evidence of recent work experience or recent Australian qualifications