



2025-26 State Nominated Migration Program process and requirements

(updated July 2025)

Candidates **may** be nominated by the Western Australian Government to live and work in Western Australia 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.
- Pay a non-refundable application fee of \$200 when lodging an application.

Expressions of interest

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

- The Department of Home Affairs is responsible for the assessment and granting of all visas.
- The State nominated 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, prioritisation ranking, and nomination criteria at any time.
- The State reserves the right to withdraw applications and any offer of nomination at any time.
- Applicants must be able to substantiate the claims made in their Expression of Interest at the time of invitation.
- 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.
- Expressions of Interest will be prioritized as follows:
 - Location²:
 - Candidates residing in Western Australia are given first priority.
 - Candidates residing in the rest of Australia or outside Australia will be given second priority.
 - Occupation:
 - Candidates with an occupation in the industry sectors below will be given first priority:
 - building and construction – trades;
 - building and construction – other occupations;
 - healthcare and social assistance;
 - hospitality and tourism;
 - education and training.
 - Candidates with an occupation in other industry sectors will be given second priority.



General Stream Candidates

- 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:
 - location²;
 - occupation;
 - occupation ceilings;
 - meeting the State nomination General stream minimum requirements;
 - meeting the Department of Home Affairs' points test pass mark; and
 - oldest Expression of Interest submission date.

Graduate Stream Candidates

- Invitations to apply for the State nomination **Graduate** stream will be issued to those with the highest-ranking Expression of Interest (in order of priority) as per Table 1 subject to:
 - location²;
 - occupation;
 - occupation ceilings;
 - nomination ceilings for university/higher education graduates and VET graduates;
 - meeting the State nomination Graduate stream minimum requirements;
 - meeting the Department of Home Affairs' points test pass mark; and
 - oldest Expression of Interest submission date.

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

Higher Education Graduates	VET Graduates
➤ completed a PhD ³ 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 ⁴ 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 or Certificate IV level in Western Australia;
➤ oldest Expression of Interest submission date.	➤ highest Expression of Interest points score; and
	➤ oldest Expression of Interest submission date.

- If an invitation is issued by WA Migration Services, the applicant will have **28 calendar days** from the date of invitation in which to apply for State nomination.
- An invitation to apply for State nomination does not guarantee nomination.
- The information provided in the Expression of Interest will be examined and verified by WA Migration Services.
- State nomination application will be assessed against the State nomination requirements for the relevant stream.



Western Australian State Nomination minimum requirements

General stream Western Australian skilled migration occupation list (WASMOL)

Schedule 1: Health and Medical Occupations

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

- have an occupation listed as available and eligible for the intended visa subclass on the *Western Australian Skilled Migration Occupation List – Schedule 1⁵*;
- be able to give evidence of relevant work experience⁶ – this requirement can be met through:
 - at least one year of Australian work experience in the nominated (or closely related⁷) occupation over the last 10 years; or
 - at least one year of overseas work experience in the nominated (or closely related⁷) occupation over the last 10 years;
- if applying for the Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190), have a contract of employment⁹ for full time employment¹⁰ for at least six months in the nominated or closely related occupation in Western Australia.

Schedule 2: All other occupations

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

- have an occupation listed as available and eligible for the intended visa subclass on the *Western Australian Skilled Migration Occupation List – Schedule 2⁵*;
- if applying for the Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190), have a contract of employment⁸ for full time employment¹⁰ for at least six months in the nominated or closely related occupation in Western Australia;
- applicants seeking nomination in a building and construction occupation do not need to have a contract of employment.

Graduate stream

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

- have an occupation listed as available and eligible for the intended visa subclass on the *Graduate Occupation List (GOL)⁵*;
- have gained a Certificate III or higher qualification in Western Australia, including a requirement to have completed at least two years of full time study¹¹ in Western Australia at a Western Australian university, higher education provider, TAFE, registered training provider or English language provider.

English Language proficiency

English language requirements are set by the Department of Home Affairs.

For tests taken on or before 6 August 2025 the Department of Home Affairs access scores from the following tests undertaken at a secure test centre for English language requirements:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS), including One Skill Retake (OSR);
- Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic);
- Cambridge English (CAE) (also known as C1 Advanced);
- Occupational English Test (OET), noting this is a test developed for health professionals;
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT).



For tests taken on or after 6 August 2025 the Department of Home Affairs assess scores from the following tests undertaken at a secure test centre for English language requirements:

- Cambridge C1 Advanced test (C1 Advanced)
- Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program General (CELPIP General)
- International English Language Testing System Academic (IELTS Academic), including One Skill Retake (OSR)
- International English Language Testing System General Training (IELTS General Training), including One Skill Retake (OSR);
- LANGUAGECERT Academic Test (LANGUAGECERT Academic)
- Michigan English Test (MET)
- Occupational English Test (OET);
- Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic);
- Test of English as a Foreign Language internet Based Test (TOEFL iBT).

For the 2025-26 State Nominated Migration Program the minimum English Language proficiency required for State nomination is **Competent English**.

To prove you have competent English, provide evidence of one of the following:

- That you are a citizen of and hold a valid passport issued by the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, New Zealand or the Republic of Ireland, with your application. British National (Overseas) passports are not acceptable as evidence of competent English.
- You have obtained one of the following English language test results:

Table 2: Approved English tests taken on or before 6 August 2025.

Results of approved tests taken on or before 6 August 2025 can be used (within their 3-year validity period) as evidence of English proficiency for visa purposes until 6 August 2028.

Competent English bands (test)	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
International English Language Testing System (IELTS), including One Skill Retake (OSR)	6	6	6	6
Occupational English Test (OET)	B	B	B	B
Test of English as a foreign language internet-based test (TOEFL-iBT)	12	13	21	18
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	50	50	50	50
Cambridge C1 Advanced	169	169	169	169



Table 3: Approved English tests taken on or after 7 August 2025.

Competent English bands (test)	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
Cambridge C1 Advanced Test	163	163	170	179
Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program General	7	7	7	7
IELTS Academic	6	6	6	6
IELTS General Training	6	6	6	6
LANGUAGECERT Academic Test	57	60	64	70
Michigan English Test	56	55	57	48
Occupational English Test**	290	310	290	330
PTE Academic	47	48	51	54
TOEFL iBT	16	16	19	19

The applicant must comply with the Department of Home Affairs requirements for English language tests. More information is available on the Home Affairs website at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/english-language>

Document verification

Verification checks will be undertaken for the documents provided by candidates during the application and assessment process. This includes contacting employers and institutions directly to confirm information and documents provided and genuine.

If WA Migration Services nominates the Expression of Interest in SkillSelect, the applicant will receive an invitation from the Department of Home Affairs to lodge a visa application.

Applicants who provide false or misleading information may have their application declined. The Department of Training and Workforce Development may also report false and misleading information to the Commonwealth Department of Home Affairs.



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	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. 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. Providers of English language programs, with a campus presence in Western Australia, registered with CRICOS, offering face-to-face delivery.

Endnotes

- 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 regional Australia. Regional Postcodes can be found [here](#).
- Applicants who receive an invitation for Western Australia nomination are agreeing to work, live and settle in Western Australia. Applicants receiving prioritisation for residing in Western Australia must be able to substantiate this claim by providing evidence of residency in Western Australia. Evidence may include residential property lease agreement, bank or mortgage statement, insurance policies, registration or drivers licence renewal notice.
- Doctor of Philosophy.
- Higher degree refers to Bachelor Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma.
- Available at migration.wa.gov.au.
- Evidence of relevant work experience may include:
 - Records of Payment/Payslips to demonstrate paid employment in the occupation or closely related occupation. The Record of Payment/Payslip must include the Employer's name and ABN, the name of the employee, the pay period, date the payment was issued, gross and net pay including any loadings, penalties or allowances, deductions and tax withheld.
 - A letter from an employer that provides evidence of employment, including the employee's name, job title, location of employment, duties performed and period of employment and the salary/hourly rate paid to the employee. The letter must include the business details, including company name and ABN (or overseas equivalent) and name and contact details of the employer for verification purposes.
- Closely related occupations are those sharing the first four digits of the ANZSCO occupation code.
- EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT** 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.

- 9 **SCHEDULE 1 EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS** From 1 July 2025, current employment, or a contract of employment for Schedule 1 of the General Stream occupations may include a Contracted Medical Practitioner Agreement, a Private Practice partnership agreement, Locum Tenens agreement or similar employment contract. The contract must include at least the following:
- full names of both the employer and the employee;
 - contract start date and end date (if permanent or a Private Practice partnership agreement, 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, indemnity insurance, among other things) that are no less favourable than those that would apply to an Australian citizen or permanent resident doing equivalent work;
 - employment location, including all work sites;
 - 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.
- 10 Full time employment is identified as 'on average at least 35 hours of work per week'.
- 11 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 was 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 as an 'onshore' international student with a WA education or training institution for study during the COVID-19 concession period (between 1 February 2020 to 25 November 2023).

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