

## Skilled Independent

Skilled migration is designed for people with professional or trade qualifications who are under 45 years old, speak reasonably good English and have recent work experience in a skilled occupation included in the Skilled Occupations List.

You must first have your skills assessed in Australia by the relevant assessing authority before you can lodge your visa application. You will usually have to achieve a pass mark in a points test (currently 120 points) .

Your prospects of success may also be enhanced if you have a close relative living in Australia.

All applications under the General Skilled Migration programme must be lodged at the Adelaide Skilled Processing Centre.

### SKILLED INDEPENDENT OVERSEAS STUDENT

In order to get this visa, you must:

- have the skills and qualifications to nominate a 60-point occupation on the Skilled Occupation List, or a 50-point occupation if you have completed a PhD in Australia;
- have completed an degree, diploma or trade qualification, while in Australia as a result of at least two years full-time study in a course on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS);
- apply within 6 months of completing this qualification –ie from the date when you met all academic requirements for this qualification;
- have held a Student visa within 6 months of lodging your application (excluding ELICOS, government sponsored, AusAid and Defence Sector Students);
- qualification awarded during this two-year period must be relevant to your nominated occupation

The major advantages of applying for this visa are exemption from the work experience requirement and also entitlement to a Bridging Visa

after your student visa expires. This means that you can lawfully remain in Australia while your application is being processed.

Please note that the information about visas is in general terms. There are many subclasses of visas that may be appropriate to your personal and unique situation that we can advise you about . Furthermore , the law concerning migration is subject to frequent amendment.