



Appendix D: Summary of the main criteria for visas under the Business Skills Programme¹

Independent Provisional (temporary) Visas

Business Owner (Subclass 160)

This visa is for people who have a successful business career, and a genuine and realistic commitment to be involved as an owner in a new or existing business in Australia.

- Net business assets of \$200,000 and net business/personal assets of \$800,000
- Annual business turnover of \$500,000
- Aged less than 45 years and have vocational English skills

Senior Executive (Subclass 161)

This visa is for senior executive employees of a major overseas business, who have significant net assets and a genuine and realistic commitment to participate in the management of a new or existing business in Australia.

- Occupied a position in top 3 management levels of a major business
- Net business/personal assets of \$800,000
- Aged less than 45 years and have vocational English skills

¹ Department of Immigration and Border Protection, *Submission 14*, Attachment A, pp. 1-4.

Investor (Subclass 162)

This visa is for people who have a successful business or investment career, and have a genuine and realistic commitment to be involved in investing or business in Australia.

- Will make a designated investment of \$1,500,000
- Net business/personal assets of \$2,250,000
- Aged less than 45 years and have vocational English skills

State/Territory Sponsored Provisional (temporary) Visas

State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Subclass 163)

This visa is for people sponsored by a state or territory of Australia, with a successful business career, and a genuine and realistic commitment to be involved as an owner in a new or existing business in Australia.

- Net business/personal assets of \$500,000
- Annual business turnover of \$300,000
- Aged less than 55 years, and
- No English requirement but applicants having less than functional English must pay additional visa application charge (VAC)

State/Territory Sponsored Senior Executive (Subclass 164)

This visa is for senior executive employees of a major overseas business, sponsored by a state or territory of Australia, who have significant net assets and a genuine and realistic commitment to participate in the management of a new or existing business in Australia.

- Occupied a position in top 3 management levels of a major business
- Net business/personal assets of \$500,000
- Aged less than 55 years, and
- No English requirement but applicants having less than functional English must pay additional VAC

State/Territory Sponsored Investor (Subclass 165)

This visa is for people sponsored by a state or territory of Australia, who have a successful business or investment career, and have a genuine and realistic commitment to be involved in investing or business in Australia.

- Will make a designated investment of \$750,000
- Net business/personal assets of \$1,125,000
- Aged less than 55 years,
- No English requirement but applicants having less than functional English must pay additional VAC

Independent Permanent Visas

Established Business in Australia (Subclass 845)

This visa is for people who, as a temporary resident, have established a business in Australia, and have a proven ownership interest in one or more successful businesses in Australia.

- Ownership in a business for at least 18 months
- Net business assets of \$100,000 and net business/personal assets of \$250,000
- Annual turnover of \$200,000 or exports of \$100,000
- Employ at least 3 Australian permanent residents/citizens
- Score 105 points in the established business points test

Business Owner (Subclass 890)

This visa allows an applicant from a provisional visa to stay in Australia on a permanent basis for the purpose of owning a new or existing business.

- Ownership in a business for at least 2 years
- Net business assets of \$100,000 and net business/personal assets of \$250,000
- Annual turnover of \$300,000
- Employ at least two Australian permanent residents/citizens

Investor (Subclass 891)

This visa is for people who hold an Investor (provisional) visa and have maintained their designated investment/s for at least 4 years.

- Holder of a provisional investor visa for at least 2 years in the 4 years immediately prior to making an application
- Have a genuine and realistic commitment to continue business or investment activity in Australia
- Held a designated investment in Australia for at least 4 years

State/Territory Sponsored Permanent Visas

Regional Established Business in Australia (Subclass 846)

This visa is for people who, as a temporary resident, have a proven ownership interest in one or more successful businesses in Australia and are sponsored by a state/territory government authority.

- Ownership in a business for at least 2 years
- Net business assets of \$75,000 and net business/personal assets of \$200,000
- Annual turnover of \$200,000 or exports of \$100,000
- Score 105 points in the established business points test

State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Subclass 892)

This visa is for people who hold a provisional visa, sponsored by a state or territory of Australia, to stay in Australia on a permanent basis for the purpose of owning a new or existing business.

- Ownership in a business for at least 2 years
- Net business assets of \$75,000 and net business/personal assets of \$250,000
- Annual turnover of \$200,000
- Employ at least 1 Australian permanent residents/citizens

State/Territory Sponsored Investor (Subclass 893)

This visa is for people who hold an Investor (provisional) visa and have an overall successful record of business or investment activities, and significant net assets to invest in a designated investment in Australia for four years.

- Holder of a provisional investor visa for at least 2 years in the 4 years immediately prior to making an application
- Have a genuine and realistic commitment to continue business or investment activity in Australia
- Held a designated investment in Australia for at least 4 years

Business Talent visa (subclass 132)

This visa is for high calibre business people, sponsored by a state or territory of Australia, who are owners or part owners of an overseas business and have a genuine and realistic commitment to participate in the management of a new or existing business in Australia.

- Direct pathway to permanent residence for high calibre business migrants
- For at least 2 of the 4 fiscal years immediately before the application is made
- Must have had net assets of at least \$400,000 in a qualifying business
- Main business had an annual turnover of \$3,000,000
- Able to transfer net personal and business assets of at least \$1,500,000 to Australia.