

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Mandeep Kaur, I'm living and working (currently working in Aged care facility as care service employee) in regional NSW, I have applied for skilled regional sponsored 489 visa in September 2019 as Chef. It's been 17 months since I'm waiting for the grant. I got Case officer contact for more documents in March 2020, they asked for my spouse English test, we instead requested to make VAC2 payment. That was paid in May 2020. As per my knowledge case officer only sends invoice for VAC2 payment when application is decision ready. But after that there's no update on my visa application since after paying for spouse English requirement. I tried to contact department of home affairs by global feedback unit but every time they have different response. In last response they said they give priority to people working in aged care, even I'm working in aged care and it's already updated in my visa application, again nothing happened in my favour. I'm already in Australia and me and my spouse living and working in regional NSW. I don't know why department is neglecting my visa application. It's not only me, there are lots of people who have been waiting over a year or two to get their 489 visa grants and are onshore. Unfortunately department of home affairs are granting 491 visa to even offshore applicants who even can't travel to Australia due to pandemic 🙄 because 491 got priority over 489. But government has no concern about skilled people who are already onshore and contributing to their economy, they put our 489 onshore applications on the hold, that's very unlawful. Could you please raise this matter to parliament or somewhere where it can reach to them. Even in the budget on 6th October 2020 they mentioned that people who applied regional skilled visas will get priority for grants but nothing happened for subclass 489. Please help us in anyway so we can get some relief in this stressful situation.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Kind regards

Mandeep Kaur