

I am writing to express my concerns in relation to the Skilled migration scheme especially The Recent Graduate category. My name is Satoshi Okawa and currently studying community welfare at Ultimo TAFE. I plan to apply for Australia permanent residency after my graduation in December 2009. Since I started this course, our skill assessment authority Australian institution of welfare and community workers AIWCW has changes their assessment policy 3 times. These frequent changes have influenced negatively on our mental. These changes that have been made after commencing the course were obviously miscarriage of natural justice since we already paid for tuition fee, travel allowance, accommodation and booking and preparation fee for IELTS examination. Both psychological and financial effects of these frequent changes on internationals students should be concerned by Australian government.

Secondly, I feel uncomfortable about the stands of the Department of immigration and citizenship. When an officer from DIAC conducted a pathway session for immigration at our campus, we criticised the frequent changes of the skill assessment policies. However, the officer said that DIAC issues student visa for education purpose, not for immigration purpose. There is a big gap between the international student's aim to study and the DIAC's aim to issue student visa. Most of international students hope to work in the sector where they studied, and desire to work in the workplace where their qualifications are recognised valuable. I believe that the desire to work in Australia is the natural desire. In Addition, DIAC does not have rights to claim that the student visa is issued only for education purpose, but not for immigration purpose. It is because they have The Recent Graduate category in Skilled migration scheme.

Finally, the welfare system for international students would be valuable for both international students and Australian society, if the contradictions between DIAC's intention and their policy were fixed at first.