

Currently in bridging visa (waiting for 485 visa to be granted)
Application date: 11/09/2008
Computer Professional (Nec) ASCO Code: 2231-79

I have spent about \$60,000 for my education purpose since November, 2004. This includes my tuition fees and educational materials. Also to prepare for Student Visa and GSM Subclass 485 visa I spent nearly \$8000.

Since I arrived in Australia I paid about \$7000 tax.

The new Visa Capping Bill 2010 will make a big impact on my application as my 485 visa still waiting for decision. It is been 1.5years I am waiting for a decision. I am mentally stressed all the time and I was hopping that I would get my visa done by this year. Also I was planning to work in an IT company as soon as my visa get confirmed. As I am in the bridging visa, so many companies in Australia not interested to hire anybody whoever in bridging visa. Because of that I have been refused in many interviews and jobs as I am holding a bridging visa. I tried to convince employees by telling them we are the recent graduate whoever applied for Subclass 485 visa or another permanent residency visa and waiting for decisions. We are allowed in Australia to work legally and without any restriction. But I failed to make them understand as I believe either many of the employers have no idea what actually bridging visa is or they can't relay on an employee who is holding a bridging visa. This situation has been disappointed me lot of times and finally I had to gave up to look for a job in my own field of study. At the moment I am doing some sort of trade job which not even I supposed to do after complete my graduation. I made up my mind and decided to apply for subclass 485 visa and then I was thinking when my 485 visa will be granted I can apply for a job within my field. But recent news of capping bill 2010 on migration will destroy my hope which I was planning for a long time. I am also planning to apply for PR after get a job as I believe I am eligible to get sufficient points to meet the PR application requirements.

If the government make these new changes then students like me will lose their hope which they are dreaming last 2/3 years. There is many ways government can get skilled employees for Australian economy. One of them is open a training program in cheaper price to teach the overseas graduate. Therefore, they can understand the culture of Australian working environment. Also it is necessary to make understand the Australian's companies about the visa eligibility and let recent overseas graduates to kick start their career on their own field.

I would like to request to the Parliament and Australian Government not to be cruel with overseas students who is living in Australia last 5/6 years or more than that. I also would like to request to make an alternative way rather than refusing all the visa applications waiting for long time just for a decision. I believe this overseas students or migrants will perform a great role in Australian economy to make it stronger.