

A NEW MIGRATION STRATEGY FOR AUSTRALIA

On 11 December 2023, the Australian Federal Government announced a new migration strategy which contains **8 key actions**, over **25 new policy commitments** and areas for future reform.

8 KEY ACTIONS

1. Targeting temporary skilled migration to address skills needs and promote worker mobility through:

- Introduction of new streams;
- Simpler occupation lists;
- Simplified labour market testing process.

2. Reshape permanent skilled migration for long-term prosperity through:

- Reformation of points system;
- A new talent and innovations visa.

3. Strengthen the integrity and quality of international education through:

- Higher English language requirements for international students and graduates;
- More scrutiny of high-risk student visa applications and a \$19m investment into the Home Affairs student visa integrity unit;
- Restrictions on onshore visa hopping that undermines system integrity and drives permanent temporariness.

4. Tackling worker exploitation and the misuse of the visa system through a comprehensive suite of legislation, powers, penalties and policies to combat worker exploitation.

5. Planning migration to get the right skills in the right places.

6. Tailoring regional visas and the Working Holiday Maker Program to support regional Australia and its workers.

7. Deepening our people-to-people ties in the Indo-Pacific which includes direct pathway to citizenship for New Zealanders and increased mobility with Pacific Island and Southeast Asian countries.

8. Simplifying the migration system to improve the experience for migrants and employers which includes the removal of 20+ unnecessary and duplicative visas to simplify the visa system.

KEY DATES AND TIMELINES

The Federal Government announced various measures it wishes to undertake with likely timeframes of implementation. The comprehensive roadmap including measures and dates for implementation can be found on the Department's website [here](#).

- 1.** Develop a new Skills in Demand visa, with full mobility and clear pathways to permanent residence in late 2024.

- 2.** Streamlined Labour Market Testing by removing Workforce Australia requirements which has already been implemented and introducing 4-6 month LMT validity from late 2024.

- 3.** Legislate indexation of income thresholds to maintain system integrity on 1 July 2024.

- 4.** Develop a new Skills in Demand visa, with full mobility and clear pathways to permanent residence in late 2024.

- 5.** 180 days to find another sponsor by late 2024.



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