



## **Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) Visa**

### **About the TSS visa**

The TSS visa is a temporary visa which permits the holder to live in Australia, while working full-time for the sponsoring employer, in the nominated position. Dependent family members can be included in the application.

### **The TSS is split into two streams:**

1. Short-Term Skilled Occupations List (STSOL) – a two-year visa with the option to re-apply for another two years, but with no pathway to Permanent Residence (PR) . This list will be reviewed every six months.
2. Medium-Term Skilled Occupations List (MLTSSL) – a four-year visa that can be renewed as long as the occupation is still on the list, and with a PR pathway after three years.

### **TSS Requirements:**

#### **Occupation**

The nominated position must be listed on the Combined List of Eligible Skilled Occupations. Both the position description and the TSS visa applicant's employment and education history must reflect the description provided by the Australian New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).

#### **Skills**

The applicant must have the skills, qualifications and work experience required for the nominated position. Applicants will also need to meet English language requirements, unless exempted.

#### **Health & Character**



Health and character criteria will also need to be met. Police clearance certificates are required for every country in which the applicant has lived for 12 months or more since turning 16 years of age, within the last ten years.

## **Application Process**

There are three steps to the application process.

### **1. Standard business sponsorship**

A business must become approved as a Standard Business Sponsor in order to employ a TSS visa holder. To obtain a Standard Business Sponsorship agreement, the business must demonstrate lawful and active operation in Australia. This includes identifying the correct ABN to apply under, registering the business name, supplying Business Activity Statements (BAS) and financial statements, as well as showing a commitment to training Australian citizens and permanent residents and compliance with workplace and other Australian laws.

### **2. Nomination**

Following the SBS application, an employer must nominate a position within their business as one which must be filled by an overseas citizen. As part of this step, there are various requirements to be met:

- **Labour Market Testing**

in order to nominate an employee for a TSS visa, a business must demonstrate that they have a genuine need to do so. Evidence of labour market testing in the 12 months prior to making a nomination application will need to be supplied as part of the application.

- **Salary Level**

The salary for the nominated position must be above the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT). This threshold is set by DOH each year and is currently \$53,900 plus superannuation. Furthermore, the proposed salary must be within the market rate for the role to ensure that the applicant will be paid in line with Australian employees in comparable roles.



*Note: Some occupations will be subject to DIBP caveats that set a minimum remuneration level that is above TSMIT.*

- Training Levy

The introduction of the TSS visa brings with it a new Skilling Australians Fund (SAF) levy to be paid at nomination stage.

The amounts payable per applicant are set out as follows:

A business with turnover of less than \$10M will pay \$1,200 per nomination per year for a TSS visa. A business with turnover of more than \$10M will pay \$1,800 per nominee per year.

*The charge will be calculated according to the number of years for which the visa is required, as set out in the nomination, and will be payable in full at this time.*

*For example: If the employee is applying for a four year visa, this will require all four annual payments to be made at the time of application.*

### **3. Visa application**

Step three of the process is the visa application itself, at which time the nominee must demonstrate that they meet the requisite skill level for their occupation, as well as health and character requirements.

## **How much will the TSS visa cost?**

### Sponsorship & Nomination

- TSS sponsorship fee: \$420
- TSS nomination fee: \$330,

### TSS visa (Short-Term stream) Visa Application Charges:

- Primary Applicant: \$1,150
- Adult Dependent: \$1,150
- Child Dependent: \$290

### TSS visa (Medium-Term stream) Visa Application Charges

- Primary Applicant: \$2,400



- Adult Dependent: \$2,400
- Child Dependent: \$600