



## Appendix E: Glossary<sup>1</sup>

**456 Visa**                      See *Business Visitor (Short Stay)*

**457 Visa**                      See *Temporary Business (Long Stay)*

**AEI-NOOSR**                See *NOOSR*

### **Business Skills**

- **Business Talent (Migrant)** for high calibre business people owning/part owning an overseas business with a successful business career, significant business assets and who have a commitment to participate as a principal in the management of a new or existing business. (This category must be sponsored by a State/Territory Government.)
- **Provisional/Resident** for those with successful business record as business owners, senior executives or investors either in Australia or overseas wishing to work in Australia and use their skills and experience in business ventures. Comprises:
  - ⇒ *Senior Executive (Provisional)* for senior executive employees of major overseas businesses responsible for strategic policy development who have significant net assets and a genuine commitment to participate as a principal in the management of a new or existing business. This category may be sponsored by a State/Territory Government, with lower level criteria applying.
  - ⇒ *Business Owner* - initially a *provisional* visa for people with a successful business career, who have significant business assets

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<sup>1</sup> More information on most of the terms may be found on the source of much of this information, the DIMIA website, <http://www.immi.gov.au>

and a genuine commitment to participate as a principal in the management of a new or existing business. A *residence visa* depends on the provisional visa holder owning an interest in a business in Australia for at least 2 years with significant turnover and personal and business assets as well as a minimum number of employees. (May be sponsored by a State/Territory Government, with lower level criteria applying.)

- ⇒ *Investor* Initially a *provisional* visa for investors/business people who have an overall successful record of business/investment activities, significant net assets, who are willing to invest in a Designated Investment in Australia for four years and have a genuine commitment to maintain business and investment activity in Australia. Conversion to a *residence visa* is achievable if the provisional visa holder has a Designated Investment for the minimum 4 years and has lived in Australia for at least 2 years in the 4 years immediately before the application is made. (This category may be sponsored by a State/Territory Government, with lower level criteria applying.)
- ⇒ *Established Business in Australia visa* for proprietors who show at least a 10 percent ownership in an Australian business, for at least 18 months prior to application; total net assets in Australia greater than A\$250,000; with net assets in business greater than A\$100,000.
- ⇒ *Regional Established Business in Australia* (see REBA)

### **Business Visitor - Short Stay**

Permits temporary entry of business people who come to Australia for short visits (up to 3 months at a time).

### **Designated Area**

For *REBA* defined as any area *except* Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, and Perth. For *Skilled-Designated Area Sponsored* the designated areas are all parts of Australia *except* Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Perth and Brisbane.<sup>2</sup>

### **Employer Nomination**

Employers may nominate personnel from overseas for permanent entry through the *Employer Nomination Scheme*; the *Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme*; *Labour Agreements*; and *Invest Australia Support Skills* (previously *Regional Headquarter Agreements*).

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<sup>2</sup> DIMIA *Regional Australia Programs: REBA*, [www.immi.gov.au/migration/regional/reba.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/migration/regional/reba.htm) *Regional Australia Programs: Family Sponsorship*, [www.immi.gov.au/migration/regional/regional4.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/migration/regional/regional4.htm) updated 30/11/03.

**ENS (Employer Nomination Scheme)**

Allows Australian employers to fill 'highly skilled' positions with overseas employees when they are unable to fill a vacancy from within the Australian labour market or through their own training programs.

**Invest Australia Support Skills**

Encourages international firms to choose Australia as a location for foreign direct investment. It allows companies that make a significant investment in Australia to bring out essential key expatriate managers and specialist employees from within the company group (this program replaced *Regional Headquarters* agreements from 1/7/02).

**Labour Agreements**

Permit temporary and/or permanent entry employment under agreements between employers and the Commonwealth. These enable Australian employers to recruit (either permanently or temporarily - mainly for 3 years) a specified number of workers from overseas in response to identified or emerging labour market (or skill) shortages in the Australian labour market.

**Medical Practitioner temporary entry**

Medical Practitioners are recruited to fill identified "area of need" positions with the focus being on providing services to regional and remote areas. Maximum of 2 or 4 years depending on registration status.

**National Integrated Settlement Strategy (NISS)**

A planning framework within which Commonwealth, State/Territory and local government agencies, and community organisations work together to provide migrants, refugees and humanitarian entrants with services essential to their settlement and to help them to access those services when they need them so that they become independent, productive members of the community as quickly as possible.

**NOOSR (also identified as AEI-NOOSR)**

National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition is responsible for approving assessment authorities. It is part of Australian Education International (AEI) Division located within DEST.

**REBA (Regional Established Business in Australia)**

Applicants have to be in Australia on a Business - Long Stay (457) visa, own at least 10% of a business in a *designated area* for at least two years and be registered with a State/Territory Government authority which will provide sponsorship.

**Regional**

In the *Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme*, “regional” refers all areas of Australia except Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong, Melbourne and Perth. In the context of “regional or low population growth areas” applicable to overseas students’ places of study in Australia, it includes all parts of Australia except the ACT, Sydney, Newcastle, the Central Coast, Wollongong, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane and the Gold Coast.<sup>3</sup>

**RSMS (Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme)**

Designed to address skills shortages in regional and low population growth areas of Australia, and to achieve a more balanced dispersal of migrants by enabling employers in regional Australia to fill positions with overseas workers where the positions are of a skilled nature and cannot be filled from the local labour market.

**Regional Certifying Bodies**

Gazetted bodies based in local regions which certify that a job has been unable to be filled locally, enabling employers to take the next step in sponsoring suitably qualified staff from overseas.

**Skilled Australian Sponsored**

Permanent entry for those meeting minimum requirements for the core criteria of skill, age and English language ability; must be sponsored by a relative already living in Australia and have an assurance of financial support. Points tested. If the sponsor lives in a designated area applications can be made under the Skilled – Designated Area Sponsored (SDAS) visa which is not points tested.

**Skilled Independent:**

Permanent non-sponsored entry scheme, points tested on English language ability, age, skills, and work experience, i.e. the ability to maximise the potential to contribute quickly to the Australian economy.

**SDAS (Skilled Designated Area Sponsored Visa):**

State/Territory Governments seek skilled migrants to settle in designated areas of Australia. The applicant must have a sponsor who is a relative and assurer. Not points tested, but must satisfy the basic requirements of age, English language, qualifications, nominated occupation and recent work experience.

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3 DIMIA, Fact Sheet 26: *State/Territory Specific Migration - Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme*, (19/2/04), <http://www.immi.gov.au/facts/26state.htm>; *General Skilled Migration to Australia: Regional Australia/low population growth metropolitan areas* (30/11/03) <http://www.immi.gov.au/migration/skilled/regional.htm>

**SMD (Skill Matching Database):**

Designed to link people whose qualifications meet Australian standards and who are interested in going to regional Australia, with either specific vacancies or a State or Territory where the applicant's skills are in demand.

**SMV (Skill Matching Visa):**

Provides opportunities for skilled people who do not meet the current pass mark under the Skilled-Independent category to be included on the SMD without having to pay the initial visa application charges.

**STNI (State/Territory Nominated Scheme):**

States and Territories sponsor Skilled-Independent and Skill Matching Visa category applicants who are willing to settle in States and Territories where their skills are in demand. They can be identified through the Skill Matching Database.

**Temporary Business (Long Stay) subclass 457 visa:**

Temporary entry by people recruited by Australian companies as skilled personnel (3 months up to 4 years). Employers must demonstrate that the entry of overseas personnel will provide benefit to Australia; that suitably qualified Australians could not be found to fill the positions; and that they have a satisfactory commitment to training Australian residents.

Labour market testing is not required but positions that a sponsor nominates to be filled must meet minimum skill and salary levels (award wages or at least a designated minimum salary of \$37,720) to be approved.

