

GSM QUESTIONS

What is a General Skilled Migration (GSM) Worker Visa to Australia?

A General Skilled Migration (GSM) Worker Visa to Australia is a Permanent Resident (PR) Visa to Australia. It is granted by the Australian government to qualified skilled foreign workers and their eligible family members who meet the various requirements for this Australian immigration visa. Since this is a Permanent Resident (PR) Visa to Australia, qualified foreign nationals and their eligible family members who are issued an Australian GSM Worker Visa are authorized to live, work and study long-term (i.e., permanently) in Australia as long as they comply with the conditions of the visa.

How can I know if I am eligible for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia?

If you are a client of Eureka Migrations, our team can evaluate your eligibility to apply for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia. Contact any of our sales and marketing teams or contact us directly on info@eurekamigrations.com. Please fill in our preliminary assessment form and email it with your CV.

What is an Expression of Interest (EOI)?

An Expression of Interest (EOI) is your official notification to the Australian government of your desire to immigrate to Australia. If the Australian government decides that your skills are needed in Australia and that you seem to meet other criteria (based on the information you provided in your EOI), it may issue you an official Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia. Eureka Migrations will prepare your case for the EOI to ensure success of your application.

How many points are needed to be eligible to apply for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia?

A minimum of 65 points are required to be eligible. The points system is quite complex and Eureka Migrations can assist you in preparing you towards this eligibility.

What is the IELTS exam?

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam is used around the globe to evaluate English language abilities in four key assessment categories: (1) listening, (2) speaking, (3) reading and (4) writing. Scores are given in each of these four assessment categories. The minimum score you must receive in each of the four assessment categories is 6 to pass the English language requirement for the GSM Visa to Australia, but a score of 7 or 8 in each of the four assessment categories is preferred in order to receive points on this points-based Australian immigration system. In most cases, applicants for the GSM Visa to Australia will need to take the IELTS General Test, unless instructed by the assessing authority to take the IELTS Academic Test or other English language exam (such as the Occupational English Test sometimes requested for certain health practitioners). The IELTS exam is given at various locations around the world on different dates throughout the year and a fee is charged for taking the IELTS exam.

I am a native-speaker of the English language. Do I still have to take the IELTS exam?

Yes – it depends on various factors. The Australian government requires everyone who submits an Expression of Interest (EOI) to immigrate to Australia to have their English language abilities evaluated by taking the IELTS exam, with the exception of citizens from the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Republic of Ireland or New Zealand who also possess a valid passport from one of these countries. All other applicants must score at least a 6 in each of the four assessment categories (i.e., listening, speaking, reading and writing) of the IELTS exam to pass the minimum English language threshold.

What is a Skills Assessment?

Before you may file your completed Expression of Interest (EOI), you must receive your official Skills Assessment by the appropriate authorized assessing authority in Australia for your nominated occupation in order to evaluate to what extent your job skills are similar to the job skills of Australians working in the same occupation. There are approximately 36 authorized assessing authorities in Australia. A fee is charged by the assessing authority for the Skills Assessment.

I want to apply for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia, but I am not sure if I have an eligible occupation or the necessary job skills and experience. Can you help me?

Yes! If you are a client of Eureka Migrations, our team can evaluate your eligibility to apply for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia and, if you qualify, can use its expertise and many years of experience and high success rate in this field to help you through each stage of the Australian immigration procedure to both simplify the process for you and to make sure that everything is done properly and in a timely fashion.

What is a nominated occupation?

One of the requirements for submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) to immigrate to Australia is to have the necessary job skills and other criteria for a high-demand occupation that appears on a relevant Skilled Occupation List (SOL). Our team can analyze your information, including your resume/CV, and recommend the way forward for the occupation(s) relevant/best-suited to nominate in your EOI.

What is the difference between an EOI and an Application to Immigrate to Australia?

An Expression of Interest (EOI) is your formal notification to the Australian government that you want to apply for immigration to Australia. If the Australian government reviews the information you submitted in your EOI and assesses that you seem to meet its criteria for skilled foreign workers, it may then extend to you an official Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia (i.e., to file the actual Application for a Permanent Resident Visa to Australia). Immigration to Australia through the GSM Worker Visa Program is "by invitation only." . Eureka Migrations will again assist you in this processes.

Is there a maximum age limit to apply for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia?

Yes – you must be under 45 years of age at the time that the Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia is issued. Thus, if you are less than 45-years-old when you submit your Expression of Interest (EOI) to immigrate to Australia, you would need to receive your Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia from the Australian government before your 45th birthday in order to meet the age requirement for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia.

What are the major steps involved in applying for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia?

If you are eligible to apply for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia (our team can assess your eligibility), the basic steps involved in applying for immigration to Australia generally include the following:

1. having your English language abilities evaluated through the IELTS exam;
2. receiving your official Skills Assessment from the appropriate authorized assessing authority;
3. filing your Expression of Interest (EOI) to immigrate to Australia;
4. receiving from the Australian government an Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia;

5. having a medical exam and obtaining the related documents to verify good health;
6. getting any required police certificate(s) to confirm good character;
7. filing your GSM Visa Application and all documents within 60 days of receiving the Invitation to Apply;
8. paying the appropriate Australian Visa Application fee when the GSM Visa Application is submitted;
9. receiving a letter from the Australian government with its decision regarding the GSM Visa Application;
10. if approved for the visa, paying fees for dependents over age 18 lacking functional English skills;
11. making various arrangements for moving to Australia; and
12. actually moving to Australia!

Please note that this is a general overview of the basic steps involved in applying for the GSM Worker Visa to Australia and that our team can provide further details to our eligible clients as appropriate. Furthermore, the Australian government may change its immigration procedure at any time, however, our team stays updated on any revisions made to Australia's immigration law (another advantage of using our services).

If I am approved for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia, can I bring my spouse/partner and children with me to Australia?

Yes – if they meet the eligibility criteria! If you list your spouse/partner and/or dependent child/children (normally children under 18 years of age) in your application for the Australian GSM Worker Visa, and you and they meet the eligibility requirements, you may all be able to live, work and study long-term in Australia (contingent on the dependent child/children also being able to legally travel to Australia).

Can I include my same-sex spouse/partner in my Australian immigration application?

Yes! The Australian government allows eligible same-sex spouses/partners to be included in the application for a Permanent Resident Visa to Australia. The same basic rules that pertain to including a spouse/partner of the opposite sex applies to including a spouse/partner of the same sex on the Expression of Interest (EOI) and Australia Visa Application (e.g., providing acceptable documentation that verifies the legitimate relationship). The same-sex spouse/partner must also meet all other appropriate eligibility requirements for Australian immigration (e.g., health and character criteria, etc.).

How long does the Australian immigration process take?

There are various factors unique to each applicant that can affect how long the Australian immigration procedure takes. Immigration to another country is a process that usually takes time and involves completing different stages that require actions by both the applicant and others (such as the Australian government, assessing authorities, etc.). In general, immigration to Australia through the GSM Worker Visa Program can take up to 12 months from the time the process is first started until the Permanent Resident Visa to Australia is issued. This is one reason why it is important to start the Australian immigration procedure as soon as possible and to receive the expert assistance of experienced immigration lawyers who can help simplify the procedure for you and make sure everything is done correctly and in a timely manner. For example, the team of Eureka Migrations has a lot of experience in this field and a high success rate in helping clients immigrate to Australia.

How long does it take for a Permanent Resident of Australia to become an Australian citizen?

One of the many benefits of being issued a GSM Worker Visa to Australia, which is an Australian Permanent Resident (PR) Visa, is the opportunity to apply for Australian citizenship in as little as four years, once certain residency criteria are met! After becoming an Australian citizen, one can then apply for an Australian passport!

Can Eureka Migrations help me apply for a GSM Worker Visa to Australia?

Yes! Many of our clients choose to receive the expert assistance of our experienced team through each stage of the Australian immigration process in order to simplify the procedure and to make sure that everything is done correctly and in a timely manner.

Does Eureka Migrations charge a fee for its immigration-related services and products?

Yes – Eureka Migrations is a private company (not connected to the Australian government) which charges its clients a fee to pay for its professional immigration-related services and products that it provides to them.

Will the Australian Government charge any immigration-related fees?

Yes – the Australian government will charge various immigration-related fees, with the costs affected by different factors unique to each family. There is, for example, a GSM Visa “Base Application Charge” of \$3,520 (as of July 1, 2013). A fee is also charged for dependent family members listed in the GSM Visa Application who are over the age of 18 and lack functional English language abilities, which covers the cost of English language courses for them in Australia. Additional Australian government fees may be requested and the amounts of the Australian government fees are subject to change at any time.

Are there other immigration-related fees that must be paid?

Yes – you must pay a fee for the IELTS exam to have your English language abilities officially evaluated and also pay a fee for the official Skills Assessment before you file your Expression of Interest (EOI) to immigrate to Australia. If you receive an Invitation to Apply for immigration to Australia, in addition to paying the GSM Visa Application fee to the Australian government, you will need to pay for the medical exam(s) to verify good health and the police certificate(s) to confirm good character, among other immigration-related fees.

Are there other expenses related to Australian immigration?

Yes – besides the fees mentioned above, there are other expenses related to immigration to Australia. These include: paying for travel to Australia; accommodations in Australia upon arrival (for example, if the individual or family stays in a hotel until they find a more permanent place to live); shipment of possessions to Australia; having enough money to support oneself and all accompanying family members until one starts earning income from employment in Australia; and so forth. Often, foreign nationals who immigrate to Australia have sold their house, cars and perhaps other assets in their home country and then use this money to help them with the various expenses related to moving to Australia and establishing themselves in their new country.

JOB QUESTIONS

How soon can I get a Job

Australian job market is a vibrant market. The employment rates in Australia is one of the highest in the world. Typically in a profession of demand 12 to 16 weeks is a gestation period. Getting a job depends on a number of factors such as your resume/cv, interview skills, communication skills, attitude and aptitude. Australia provides one of the fairest systems for employment in the world giving everyone an opportunity to be gainfully employed.