



SKILLED MIGRATION PATHWAY FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM UNIVERSITY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australia welcomes international students to study, live and work!

After graduation, international students who develop skills Australia needs have the option of applying for permanent residence. In 2018 the Government of Western Australia introduced a new Graduate stream to its State Nominated Migration Program (SNMP) which provides a pathway to skilled migration for international students who graduate from university in Western Australia.

Through the SNMP, the Government of Western Australia nominates eligible migrants for the Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190) and Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 489).

To be eligible for State nomination, Western Australian university graduates must:

- Have an occupation on Western Australia's Graduate Occupation List; and
- Be able to meet Western Australia's State nomination criteria for the SNMP Graduate stream.



Graduate Occupation List

The Graduate Occupation List (GOL) includes occupations available to the State nomination program and which have mainly higher education occupational outcomes. To check occupations on the GOL, visit Western Australia's Migration Portal at <https://www.migration.wa.gov.au/services/skilled-migration-western-australia/occupation%20lists>.

International students graduating with a PhD or Masters can access the full list of occupations available on the GOL. All other university graduates can access a more limited list of occupations aligned with occupations which are a priority for Western Australia.

It is important to note that occupations on the GOL change over time.

Criteria for the SNMP Graduate Stream

To be nominated by the Government of Western Australia, international university graduates must be able to meet the following criteria:

- Have gained a higher education qualification in Western Australia, including a requirement to complete at least two years of full time study at a university in Western Australia;
- Demonstrate work experience (1 year in Australia or 3 years overseas in the occupation you nominate) (Note: PhD and Masters graduates are exempt from the work experience requirement);
 - Demonstrate an English language level of 'proficient' (please refer to the table of English language testing providers on the Migration Portal <https://migration.wa.gov.au/Pages/Skilled%20Migration%20WA/State-nomination-requirements.aspx>); and
 - Have a full time permanent, or fixed term job offer for at least 12 months in the occupation you nominate.

Applying for Western Australian State nomination

Graduates need to submit an Expression of Interest in the Australian Department of Home Affairs SkillSelect database, and wait to be invited to apply for Western Australian State nomination. Invitations are issued each month using the following selection priorities based on the information in SkillSelect:

1. Completed a PhD or Masters qualification in Western Australia;
2. Completed an Honours degree or other post-graduate degree in Western Australia;
3. Completed a Bachelor degree in Western Australia;
4. The highest amount of Australian work experience in their nominated or closely related occupation;
5. The highest level of English language proficiency;
6. The highest total SkillSelect points score; and
7. The earliest submission date.

What happens next?

Once a graduate receives an invitation to apply for Western Australian State nomination, the application can be submitted. Successful applicants are nominated by the Government of Western Australia in SkillSelect. The person is then invited by the Australian Department of Home Affairs to apply for a visa.

Further information

Western Australian Migration Portal
www.migration.wa.gov.au

