



AUSTRALIAN VISA ALERT

DIAC ANNOUNCES CHANGES FOR EMPLOYER SPONSORED VISA

APPLICATIONS EFFECTIVE July 1, 2010

Summaries of DIAC's changes which are described in further detail below, became effective on July 1, 2010 are:

- ***Increase in the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) – Temporary Residence subclass 457***
- ***Increase in the Minimum Salary requirements Employer Nomination Scheme subclass 856***
- ***Increase in the income threshold for English Testing exemption for subclass 457***
- ***ANZSCO - new occupation listing which replaces ASCO***
- ***Increase in DIAC application fees***

Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold -- TSMIT

TSMIT has increased to **\$A.47,480.00**.

Note:

- a. If the market rate for a given occupation falls below the TSMIT, the occupation will not be approved under the subclass 457 visa Policy
- b. Under your company's sponsorship obligations, your current subclass 457 visa holders' individual guaranteed salaries must not at any time, fall below the revised annual TSMIT

Minimum Salary Requirements – Employer Nomination Scheme

The minimum annual salary threshold has increased to **\$A.47,480.00**, with exception of Information Technology and Communications occupations, which is **\$A.65,020.00**.

Note: Minimum salary for ENS is gross and must not include any allowances, such as superannuation, living away from home etc.



English Language Testing Exemption

The **base** salary for applicants claiming exemption from English Language Testing has increased to **\$A.85,090.00**.

ANZSCO

... is a classification system adopted by DIAC to provide standardised collection, analysis, and dissemination of occupation data. ANZSCO has replaced the outdated Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), and continues to provide a comprehensive listing which enables identification of the appropriate occupation classification.

Increase in DIAC Application Fees

In line with DIAC's annual fee increase on July 1st, all application fees have increased. Some, such as subclass 457 are marginal at \$5; others show a higher increase which Expat will advise you on prior to lodgement of an application.

IN CONCLUSION:

Under your company's sponsorship obligations as signed on your Standard Business Sponsorship application, it is important that you carefully review each subclass 457 visa holder's situation to ensure their salary and circumstances align with DIAC's mandates.

Expat will be pleased to discuss with you and advise on any aspects contained in this Newsletter.

Material contained within this Newsletter is intended for general information purposes only and is based on information provided by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Expat has the required knowledge and capability to review your company's specific situation to arrive at the best, or alternative arrangements to suit individual requirements.

Margaret McCartney
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