



AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION UPDATE

April 24, 2009

Temporary Residence Visa Applicants

⇒ **HEALTH ASSESSMENT CHANGES**

⇒ **ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT**

**INTRODUCING: EXPAT INTERNATIONAL'S
NEW VISA ADVISORY CONSULTING PROGRAM**

Changed Health Criteria

On March 28, 2009 criteria for assessing the health of temporary visa applicants was changed.

The new criteria will be used by the Department of Immigration (DIAC) to assess requirement for undergoing health examinations for temporary visa applications lodged on, or after 28 March 2009.

The changes mean that temporary visa applicants and dependent family members from "lower risk countries" such as North America, the U.K., and Greece** will not be required to undertake a health examination unless 'special significance' applies. Abolishing health examinations for applicants from these countries will hopefully speed up the visa assessment process. 'Special Significance' includes any applicant who:

- Intends to work as, or study to be a doctor, dentist or nurse
- Is likely to work (or be a trainee) at an Australian childcare centre, including preschools and crèches
- Is aged 70 years or older and are applying for a visitor visa (subclasses 676, 679, 456, 459).

It is important to note that DIAC might still request health examinations if there are indications that the visa applicants may not meet the health requirement, regardless of proposed length of stay in Australia.



** Expat will advise you at the time of authorising us to undertake visa application procedures as to whether the applicant and dependants will be required to undergo medical examinations.

English Language Requirement - Subclass 457 Program

Effective April 14, 2009 DIAC has announced an increase of the minimum International English Language Testing System (IELTS) requirement from an overall band score of 4.5 to 5.

This new condition applies to all principal employer-sponsored visa applicants who are nominated for an occupation in ASCO Groups 4-7, comprising tradespersons, clerical, sales and service workers, and production and transport workers.

Chefs and head chefs (ASCO 3322-11 and ASCO 3322-01) are no longer exempt from IELTS testing and must now achieve the overall band score of 5.

INTRODUCING:

EXPAT INTERNATIONAL'S

AUSTRALIAN AND GLOBAL VISA ADVISORY CONSULTING PROGRAM

The increasing pressures of reduced employment opportunities have resulted in stringent tightening and constant changes of ***Australian and Global Migration Regulations and Policy for Work and Residence Visa*** applications.

Expat's cost-effective Consulting Program will become your dependable resource throughout this current climate of commercial uncertainty, in resolving the increasingly complicated migration issues that will continue to impede international business for the foreseeable future.



Subscription to the Program is for 12 months, and provides clear access to Expat's specialist migration consultants. They will answer your queries, and guide you through the complexities of constant changes that will certainly occur more frequently in the coming months.

We will be pleased to discuss this supportive and specialised new Program that is offered to assist you through the uncharted times ahead.

Expat International is an independent global *migration, and relocation management consultancy* operating throughout Australia, New Zealand and in London, with established networks worldwide.

Since 1987 Expat's Visa Division has achieved 100% success rate, serving Australian companies and multi-nationals in the *management and acquisition of their Australian and global visa requirements.*

Expat's *combined delivery of in-house visa, together with relocation activities* has proved to simplify employee transfer schedules both inbound and outbound, and *provides a streamlined, unique, and cost-containment service* for your company,

We welcome discussion with you to arrive at best-possible solutions for your Australian or Global Visa and Relocation issues, and look forward to doing so.

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