

HANNAN TEW IMMIGRATION IS A SPECIALIST IMMIGRATION FIRM WITH EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE ASSISTING SKILLED APPLICANTS RELOCATE TO AUSTRALIA

Australia's General Skilled Migration (**GSM**) program is used by the Australian government to fill skill gaps in the Australian economy by targeting specific occupations and people with relevant skills and experience.

At Hannan Tew Immigration, our staff have had over 12 years of experience assisting skilled workers from all over the world relocate to Australia.

What are the GSM visa types?

There are three primary visa which fall under the General Skilled Migration Program:

1. Skilled Independent – Subclass 189;
2. Skilled Nominated – Subclass 190; and
3. Nominated or State Sponsored (Provisional) – Subclass 489.

The 189 and 190 visas are direct permanent residence visas whilst the 489 is a temporary visa which can lead to permanent residence when additional eligibility criteria is met.

What does this mean for Accountants?

Accountants are listed on the Australian government's Medium to Long Term Strategic Skills List. This means this occupation is in high demand in Australia, and may be eligible for the above visa types.

This document provides an overview to the eligibility requirements for Accountants.

FIRST STEP: WHAT IS AN ACCOUNTANT? DO YOU FIT THE DEFINITION OF ONE?

An Accountant (General) is defined by the Australia New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (**ANZSCO**) as an individual who provides services relating to compliance-based financial reporting, auditing, insolvency and accounting information systems; and advises on associated record-keeping requirements.

Registration or licensing may be required for certain services such as auditing. An Accountant must also undertake the significant majority of the following tasks:

1. *assisting in formulating budgetary and accounting policies*
2. *preparing financial statements for presentation to boards of directors, management, shareholders, and governing and statutory bodies*
3. *conducting financial investigations, preparing reports, undertaking audits and advising on matters such as the purchase and sale of businesses, mergers, capital financing, suspected fraud, insolvency and taxation*

4. *examining operating costs and organisations' income and expenditure*
5. *providing assurance about the accuracy of information contained in financial reports and their compliance with statutory requirements*
6. *providing financial and taxation advice on business structures, plans and operations*
7. *preparing taxation returns for individuals and organisations*
8. *liaising with financial institutions and brokers to establish funds management arrangements*
9. *introducing and maintaining accounting systems, and advising on the selection and application of computer-based accounting systems*
10. *maintaining internal control systems*
11. *may appraise cash flow and financial risk of capital investment projects.*

An Accountant must also have qualifications equivalent to an Australian bachelor degree or higher qualification.

SECOND STEP: CAN YOU OBTAIN A POSITIVE SKILLS ASSESSMENT?

An Accountant (General) is assessed through one of three skills assessing authorities, including (1) CPAA (2) CAANZ or (3) IPA. A summary of the requirements for the respective organisations is as follows:

1. **CPAA:** *To obtain a positive skills assessment with CPAA you will need to:*
 - a. *possess a qualification that is assessed by CPA Australia as equivalent to at least an Australian Bachelor degree;*
 - b. *have successfully studied all mandatory competency areas (mandatory including: Accounting Systems and Processes, Financial Accounting and Reporting, Management Accounting, Finance and Financial Management, Business Law, Economics, Quantitative Methods);*
 - c. *have met the English requirement (IELTS 7.0, PTE 65 or equivalent); and*
 - d. *pay lodgement fee (standard fee \$520).*

2. **CAANZ:** *To obtain a positive skills assessment with CAANZ you will need to:*
 - a. *possess a qualification that is assessed by CAANZ Australia as equivalent to at least an Australian Bachelor degree;*
 - b. *have successfully completed all mandatory competency areas (mandatory including: Accounting Systems and Processes, Financial Accounting and Reporting, Management Accounting, Finance, Business Law, Economics and Quantitative Methods); and*
 - c. *have met the English requirement (IELTS 7.0, PTE 65 or equivalent);*
 - d. *pay lodgement fee (standard fee \$550).*

3. **IPA:** *To obtain a positive skills assessment with IPA you will need to:*
 - a. *possess a qualification (with a major in accounting or relevant field) assessed as comparable (in both content and standard) to an Australian Bachelor degree;*
 - b. *have successfully completed all mandatory competency areas (mandatory including: Basic Accounting, Cost & Management Accounting, Financial Accounting & Reporting, Financial Management, Economics, Business Law and Statistics); and*
 - c. *have met English requirements (IELTS 7.0, PTE 65 or equivalent); and*
 - d. *pay lodgement fee (standard fee \$550).*

The processing times for the various skills assessing authorities vary, and can be viewed directly on their respective websites.



THIRD STEP: SKILL SELECT AND THE POINTS TEST

Unlike most visa applications which can be applied without invitation, an online platform called SkillSelect is used to manage the skilled migration program.

What is SkillSelect?

SkillSelect is split into two components:

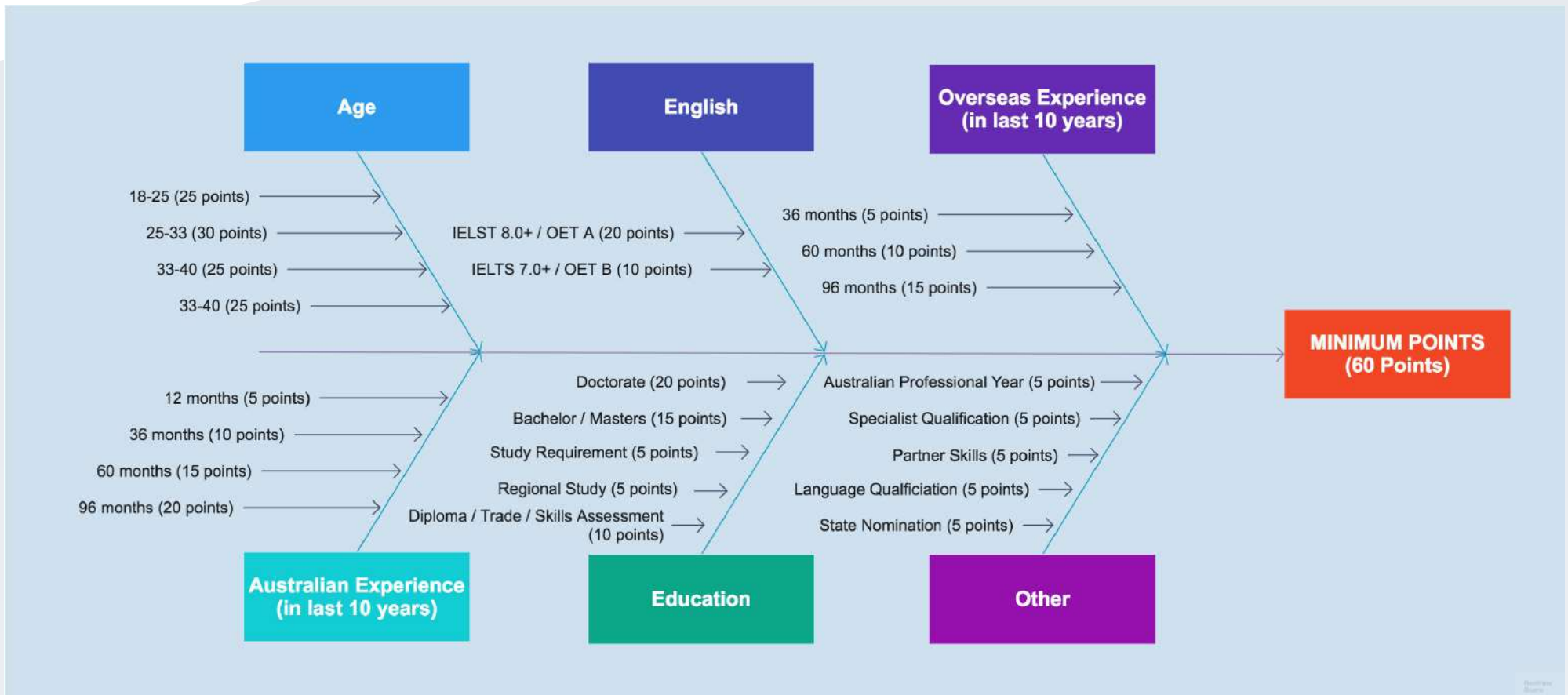
1. an Expression of Interest (EOI); and
2. if you comply with all relevant criteria, an Invitation to apply for the visa.

Once an EOI is submitted online through SkillSelect the system will automatically

provide you with a report of your score against the points test based on information you have provided.

How many points?

You will require a minimum of 60 points to be invited to apply for the visa. The below diagram sets out the points assessment.



ARE YOU AN ACCOUNTANT? WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR A GENERAL SKILLED MIGRATION VISA TO AUSTRALIA?

If you would like to know more about your pathways to permanent residence through Australia's GSM program, please contact us directly to undertake an initial consultation. With extensive experience in successful GSM applications, our staff will walk you through the eligibility criteria and determine your prospects of success.

We are also well versed in all other visa categories in Australia including investor, employer sponsored, student and family visas. If you seek our advice in consideration of these alternative visas, please contact us directly:

E: info@hannantew.com.au

W: www.hannantew.com.au

T: +61 3 9016 0484 / +61 2 8005 1484