SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SKILLED VISA PATHWAYS FOR INTERNATIONAL GRADUATES
A South Australian education is your first step towards a successful career and life in Australia.

Our state offers an exciting future for international students, including an enviable lifestyle and significant opportunities to forge successful careers.

South Australia provides arguably the best on-shore student experience over the course of your studies including new programs to support your wellbeing and supplying quality student accommodation options.

With our various temporary and permanent migration pathways, South Australia offers a great opportunity for you to live, study and stay here longer.

The benefits of South Australia’s skilled visa pathways for international graduates include:

- Access to a more extensive occupation list including the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL), the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL) and Regional Occupation List which currently contains around 500 eligible occupations
- Additional points (five or 10) towards the Commonwealth Government General Skilled Migration (GSM) points test for the Skilled Nominated Visa (subclass 190) and the Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (Subclass 489)
- An extra year of post-study work rights (subclass 485 visa) for graduates of South Australian institutions who have completed a higher education or postgraduate qualification, and maintained residence in South Australia.
- Flexible state nomination requirements for international graduates of South Australia, including incentives for long-term residents of SA; work experience, English language and financial capacity waivers for eligible international graduates plus more flexible requirements for High Performing International Graduates of South Australia
- Opportunities for interstate graduates who are currently residing in South Australia to apply for South Australian State nomination (conditions apply)
- Priority processing of applications with the Department of Home Affairs. Adelaide is by far the largest Australian city eligible for priority processing arrangements
- Under the Supporting Innovation in South Australia (SISA) visa scheme, there are pathways for entrepreneurs with an innovative business idea to set up in Adelaide.
Skilled visa pathways for international graduates of South Australia

**Student visa**  
(subclass 500)  
- Temporary visa  
- Visa duration linked to course length

**Temporary graduate visa**  
(subclass 485)  
- Graduate work stream: Temporary visa, up to 18 months  
- Post-study work stream: Temporary visa, 2, 3 or 4 years depending on level of degree qualification*  
*From 2021, this will increase to 3, 4 or 5 years for graduates who study and commit to living in SA

**Supporting Innovation in South Australia (Entrepreneur Visa)**  
- Conditions apply  
- Temporary visa

**State Nominated**  
(additional 5-10 points)  
- General Skilled Migration (subclass 190)  
  Permanent Residency Visa  
- Skilled Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 489*)  
  Provisional visa, up to 4 years  
* Subclass 887 is the PR pathway for 489 state nominated

**Skilled Independent Visa**  
(subclass 189)  
Permanent Residency Visa

**Skilled Regional (provisional) Visa**  
- Family nominated (subclass 489*)  
  Provisional visa – additional 10 points  
* Subclass 887 is the PR pathway for subclass 489

**Employer sponsored**  
Relevant work experience requirements apply  
- Employer Nomination Scheme Visa (subclass 186)  
  Permanent Residency visa  
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme Visa (subclass 187)  
  Permanent Residency visa  
- Temporary Skill Shortage Visa (TSS Visa) (subclass 482)  
  Temporary visa, up to 4 years

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**International education and population growth**

International education is a key focus for South Australia and we want to ensure our graduates stay on post-study to live and work and contribute to the economy.

Premier of South Australia Steven Marshall has identified that sustainable population growth is crucial for achieving economic growth and has outlined an aspiration for the state’s population growth to match the national average.

Growing the number of international students who are proud to live, learn and stay in South Australia through targeted career and migration programs is one of the key priorities.

The key to the government’s growth agenda is:

- keeping young South Australians in the state
- increasing our share of international students, and
- encouraging more skilled and business migration.
DISCLAIMER:
The information provided in this paper is not legal or migration advice or intended as a substitute for legal or migration advice. Therefore, it should be used as guide only, and subject to changes by both Immigration SA and the Departments of Home Affairs. It is strongly recommended that providers and international students should seek their own independent advice.