

# Skills Tasmania Policy Statement:

## Learner Eligibility: Visa Status

### Intent

The purpose of this policy is to provide a consistent approach to determining learner eligibility for Tasmanian Government subsidised training.

### Scope

The learner eligibility requirements apply to all students subsidised by the Tasmanian Government at any Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

### Policy Statement

The following Tasmanian residents are eligible for Tasmanian Government subsidised training:

- Australian citizens
- Permanent residents

And Tasmanian residents who have permission for work and study in Australia and:

- Are New Zealand citizens with a Special Category Visa
- Are holders of temporary humanitarian visas
- Are Tasmanian State Sponsored skilled migrant visa holders
- Are a dependent (aged over 18) or partner (spouse) visa holder of an eligible applicant

*All other visa holders are **ineligible** for subsidised training. This includes all bridging visa holders and Tasmanian State Sponsored business visa holders.*

### Administrative Requirements

RTOs are required to record the visa status of all students to confirm their eligibility for subsidised training, and must provide reports to Skills Tasmania on students and visa status when requested.

Copies of documentation must be kept as part of the RTO's admission procedures and according to data retention policies.

This policy statement will be reviewed annually to cover changes to Australian Government immigration policies, to analyse student data, and to establish any need for changes to the policy.

This section aims to help you determine the eligibility of any visa holder.

### Step 1

Look at the learner’s passport and, where relevant, other visa documentation.  
Go to Department of Home Affairs website: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.  
Search for the visa category number in the Search Function.

### Step 2

Read the visa conditions to find out if the visa holder fits into any of these eligible categories:

<i>Eligible category</i>	<i>Visa details</i>	<i>Evidence required</i>
Australian citizen	Australian citizens will have a passport, birth certificate, or citizenship certificate.	View and confirm.
Permanent resident	There are many visas that are classified as permanent visas. The visa category information will state the visa holder may “stay in Australia permanently”.	View and confirm visa status.
New Zealand citizen (Special Category Visa)	The Australian Government now automatically grants most New Zealand passport holders a Special Category Visa on entry to Australia.	Keep a copy of the visa.
Temporary Humanitarian visa	There are a range of humanitarian (protection) visas, both permanent and temporary. Permanent visa holders are permanent residents. Temporary visa holders who are allowed to work and study in Australia are also eligible for subsidised training. <i>Bridging humanitarian visas are <b>ineligible</b>.</i>	View and confirm visa status of permanent visas. Keep a copy of a temporary visa.
Tasmanian State Sponsored skilled migrant visa holders	Skilled migrants are eligible where the visa holder has a nomination letter from the Department of State Growth, Migration Tasmania. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>If there is no evidence of <b>Tasmanian</b> State Government sponsorship, applicants are <b>ineligible</b>.</i></li> <li>• <i>If the applicant has lost their evidence, they should contact Migration Tasmania at <a href="https://www.migration.tas.gov.au/contact">https://www.migration.tas.gov.au/contact</a></i></li> </ul> <i>Business migrants are <b>ineligible</b>.</i>	Keep a copy of the visa, and the sponsorship notification from the Department of State Growth.
Dependent (aged over 18) of an eligible applicant	When you search the visa category, it may state that the holder is a dependent of another visa holder. Dependents of the first four categories above are eligible for Tasmanian government subsidised training. Dependents under the age of 18 are eligible for study at Tasmanian Government schools.	Keep a copy of the visa and a copy, where relevant, of the primary visa holder’s visa and other documentation.
Partner (spouse) visa holder of an eligible applicant	Partners of eligible primary applicants (visa categories above, 1-5) are eligible if they are on a temporary or permanent visa. Partners who are waiting for a visa decision and are on a bridging visa are ineligible until they receive a temporary or permanent spouse visa, or a visa as a spouse of a primary visa holder (categories 2-4). <i>Bridging visa holders are <b>ineligible</b>.</i>	Keep a copy of the visa and the visa category of the primary visa holder.

### Step 3

If the visa holder does not meet any of the categories in Step 2, they are ineligible for Tasmanian Government Subsidised Training.

## Definitions

Tasmanian resident      An individual who lives in Tasmania and has a Tasmanian address.  
There is no requirement for residence duration.

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