

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 for eligible visa holders.

Scope

The learner eligibility requirements apply to all students seeking to access Tasmanian Government subsidised training being delivered by a Skills Tasmania endorsed 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; or
- Are holders of temporary humanitarian visas; or
- Are Tasmanian State Nominated Skilled Migrant visa holders; or
- Are on a bridging visa and awaiting a decision on a Tasmanian State Nominated Skilled Migrant visa; or
- Are a dependent (aged over 18) or partner (spouse) visa holder of eligible applicants.

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

Note: as per section 1.3 of the *Tasmanian Traineeships and Apprenticeships Committee Guidelines*, a training contract cannot exceed an eligible learner's visa duration.

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.

Records of the visa status of all students must be kept as part of the RTO's admission procedures and according to data retention policies outlined in section 11.4. Retention of records in the Skills Tasmania Grant Agreement and Standard Conditions Manual.

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.

Determining eligibility

Step One

Look at the learner's passport and, where relevant, other visa documentation.

Review relevant visa documentation, including either a visa grant notice, application acknowledgment letter or VEVO print out.

Go to Department of Home Affairs website: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/>.

Search for the visa category number in the Search Function.

Step Two

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

Eligible Category	Eligible Visa Details	Evidence required
Australian Citizen	Australian citizens will have a passport, birth certificate, or citizenship certificate.	View and confirm citizenship status only.
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 indefinitely". Holders of all types of permanent visas are eligible for subsidised training".	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. Special Category Visa holders are eligible for Tasmanian Government subsidised training (including when issued as a dependent visa): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Category Visa (subclass 444).	View and confirm visa status only.
Temporary Humanitarian visa	Temporary visa holders who are allowed to work and study in Australia are also eligible for subsidised training (including when issued as a dependent visa): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Temporary Protection visa (subclass 785)• Safe Haven Enterprise visa (subclass 790). <i>Bridging humanitarian visas are ineligible</i>	View and confirm status of the temporary visa(s).

<p>Tasmanian State Nominated Skilled visa holders and applicants</p>	<p>Holders of the following skilled visa types are eligible (including when issued as a dependent visa)*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skilled Regional Sponsored (subclass 489) • Skilled Work Regional (subclass 491) • Skilled Nominated (subclass 190 - permanent) • Permanent Residence Skilled Regional (subclass 191- permanent) • Skilled Regional visa (subclass 887 – permanent). <p><i>Tasmanian State Nominated Business visa holders are ineligible.</i></p> <p><i>*In addition to skilled visa holders identified above, applicants are also eligible if they hold a bridging visa <u>and</u> are awaiting a decision on a Tasmanian State Nominated skilled visa.</i></p>	<p>View and confirm visa status.</p> <p>For bridging visas (only), the applicant's visa documentation may not indicate if the bridging visa is associated with state nomination. If this is the case, a visa application acknowledgement letter confirming the person's application for a Tasmanian Skilled Migration State Nomination visa will be sufficient.</p>
<p>Partner (spouse) visa holder of an eligible applicant</p>	<p>Partners of eligible primary applicants (visa categories 1-5 above) are eligible if they are on a temporary or permanent visa.</p> <p>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, <i>or</i> a visa as a spouse of a primary visa holder (categories 2-4). The following visa types are eligible*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner - Migrant (subclass 100) • Partner – Provisional (subclass 309) • Partner (subclass 801) • Partner (subclass 820). <p><i>*Applicants who have not held a temporary Partner visa and are on a bridging visa are ineligible.</i></p>	<p>View and confirm visa status and, where relevant, view and confirm visa status of the primary visa holder's visa.</p>

Step Three

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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Owner: Policy, Quality and Compliance Team
Contact: General Manager, Skills and Workforce
Date of Issue: 1 April 2025
Last Updated: January 2025
Last Reviewed: January 2025