

8 February 2010 - Major Changes to the Australian General Skilled Migration Program

On 8 February 2010 the Australian Minister for Immigration & Citizenship announced major changes to the General Skilled Migration Program (GSM). The GSM is the mechanism whereby independent applicants are permitted to apply for Australian permanent residency.

The Minister has announced the following:

- the Migration Occupation in Demand List (MODL) has been abolished immediately - i.e. as at 8 February 2010. Accordingly, it is no longer possible for visa applicants to obtain additional points on the GSM points test for working in an MODL position.
De MODL lijst voor Skilled Workers wordt met onmiddellijke ingang afgeschaft. Voor de beroepen op deze lijst worden geen extra punten meer toegekend.
- GSM applications lodged before 1 September 2007 that have not finalised will be immediately cancelled. The Department of Immigration will refund lodgement fees. We understand 20,000 people will now have their applications immediately cancelled.
Skilled worker aanvragen ingediend voor 1 September 2007 worden niet meer behandeld. Deze aanvragen worden teruggestuurd en de betaalde fees teruggestort.
- a new Skilled Occupation List (SOL) will be announced soon (we understand in April 2010) to have effect from mid-year (we understand from 1 July 2010). The new SOL will replace the current MODL and Critical Skills List.
Een nieuwe SOL lijst wordt bekend gemaakt in April 2010 en ingevoerd per 1 juli 2010. Deze zal de huidige MODL en CSL lijst vervangen.
- a new points test will be announced soon (we understand in April 2010) to have effect from mid-year (we understand from 1 July 2010).
Een nieuwe puntenstelsel wordt ingevoerd en zoals we begrijpen per 1 juli 2010 ingevoerd.
- changes to priority processing schedule - see. Employer Sponsored residency applications are the number one priority of the Australian Government.
Wijzigingen in volgorde van behandeling treft u aan op <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/pdf/priority-processing.pdf>.