



New South Wales migration agents newsletter

No. 12/ July 2007

Welcome to the twelfth NSW newsletter for migration agents. In this edition we look at:

- 2006/07 NSW migration program results
- Seminars for newly arrived business migrants
- Penrith City Investors Forum
- Changes to General Skilled Migration & NSW
- Australia Needs Skills Expo Sydney 29 September 2007
- Processing times

NSW Migration Program Results for 2006/07

www.business.nsw.gov.au/migration

Business Migration

NSW received 454 applications for sponsorship in 2006/07, sponsored 438 visa applications and declined 26. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) approved 240 applicants sponsored by NSW and declined 46. Over 85% of applicants sponsored by NSW are granted a visa by DIAC.

STNI

NSW has received 245 applications for sponsorship in 2006/07, sponsored 168 applicants and declined 70. This includes 52 finance industry professionals, 33 experienced ICT specialists and 81 scientists and chemists. The 168 applicants included 14 PhDs. 25% of applicants are from India, 18% from UK/Ireland, 13% from China/Hong Kong and 7% from the Philippines.

Seminars for Newly Arrived Business Migrants

The NSW Department of State and Regional Development (DSRD) and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) will conduct information seminars over the next few months for business migrants on temporary and provisional visas on the requirements for obtaining permanent

residence under the business skills program. The seminars will also provide an opportunity for provisional visa holders to network with other business migrants.

All business skills migrants sponsored by NSW who have registered their contact details on arrival in NSW with DSRD will receive invitations to these events.

Newly arrived provisional visa holders who have not registered with DSRD should do so as soon as possible to receive an invitation to these seminars. To register provisional visa holders should email their NSW contact details to:

bizmigration@business.nsw.gov.au

Please note that these seminars are not open to migration agents.

Penrith Investor Forum

Penrith City Council will host an 'Investors Forum', supported by the Property Council of Australia, on Friday morning 17 August at the Twin Creeks Resort in Luddenham starting at 8.00 am. Presentations will include an overview of the current property market and the City's development and investment opportunities. There will also be a tour of some key development sites. Places are limited and strictly on a first come first served basis.

For an invitation please email bizmigration@business.nsw.gov.au

Changes to General Skilled Migration Program

www.business.nsw.gov.au/migration

DIAC will make changes to the General Skilled Migration program with effect from 1 September 2007.

NSW will continue to sponsor skilled migrants under the Skilled (Migrant) Sponsored subclass 176 (formerly known as STNI visa subclass 137) and Skilled (Provisional) Regional- Sponsored visa subclasses 475 and 487 (previously known as the SIR visa subclass 495).

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NSW selection criteria for sponsorship for these visa subclasses will remain unchanged after 1 September 2007.

Australia Needs Skills Expo Sydney 29 September 2007

www.immi.gov.au/skill Expos

The Commonwealth and NSW Governments will conduct an Australia Needs Skills expo at the Bayside Grand Hall, Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre Darling Harbour on Saturday 29 September 2007 from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.

This follows the success of last year's expo which attracted almost 6,000 visitors and over 60 exhibitors.

The expo targets overseas students, working holiday makers, tourists and 457 visa holders with skills in health care, engineering and trades as well as finance, ICT and biotechnology who are interested in staying in NSW on a longer term basis.

Exhibitors will include NSW Regional Certifying Bodies profiling career opportunities in regional NSW. Entry is free.

For information on exhibiting at the expo employers should call Shyamika Peeligama on 9032 4876 or Kerry Lambos on 9032 4371 or go to www.immi.gov.au/skill Expos

Finance Career Promotions

NSW promoted career opportunities for graduates and young professionals in the finance industry in NSW at seminars in Brisbane on 30 April and in Melbourne on 4 June 2007.

Over 100 people attended the two events and received presentations from senior executives from Morgan Stanley, State Street Global Advisors and Hamilton, James & Bruce. Participants also had the opportunity to meet the speakers and register their interest in careers with these organisations.

National Careers & Employment Expos

www.eocexpo.com.au

NSW promoted opportunities for skilled workers in NSW at Careers & Employment Expos: in Perth, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney between April and June 2007.

Over 440 visitors to the NSW stand received information on employment opportunities in NSW, were able to discuss their situation with NSW staff and registered their interest with the Department.

The Northern Inland Regional Development Board participated in the Brisbane expo and the Murray Regional Development Board attended the Melbourne expo. Each Board registered over 60 skilled workers interested in working in their regions.

Processing Times

Business migration processing times have improved significantly in recent months. You should allow 3-4 weeks for processing over the next few months.

STNI processing time is currently 2-3 weeks. You should allow 4 weeks for processing. If you need sponsorship prior to the 1 September changes to General Skilled Migration please get your application in as soon as possible.

Staff Update

The NSW Business Migration team would like to thank Claudia Crosio-Leonardi, who has joined the team over the last few months.



*Claudia Crosio-Leonardi, John Angeles, Tom McAlary, Henry Cheung & Lily Cheung (L to R). Lita Aganon was absent.
In front of St Mary's Cathedral in Hyde Park Sydney*