

New South Wales migration agents newsletter

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Welcome to the sixteenth NSW newsletter for migration agents and recruiters. In this edition we look at recent amendments to NSW selection criteria under the Skilled Sponsored 176/886 visa program.

NSW Skilled Sponsored 176/886 Visa Program

To reflect recent changes in the NSW employment market, outlined in recent survey data from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, NSW has made some minor amendments to its selection criteria for the Skilled Sponsored 176/886 visa program. These are the first changes to this program in almost three years.

Migration agents will be aware that this program is designed to attract highly skilled workers with skills in short supply in NSW.

Finance

NSW sponsorship as an Accountant - Internal Auditor (ASCO* Code 2212-13) now requires three years recent experience in a chartered accounting firm. NSW criteria previously required three years experience as an Internal Auditor but did not specify in any more detail the experience required. There are no other changes to NSW selection criteria in finance under this program.

Information & Communications Technology (ICT)

NSW requires three years of recent experience in particular specialisations in ICT to qualify for NSW sponsorship. NSW has amended the list of specialisations we will sponsor. NSW will no longer sponsor specialists in Unix, Java, J2EE and .Net Technologies. NSW has added to the list of specialisations we will sponsor Oracle E Business, C++ and C.

Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Sector
NSW will no longer sponsor the occupations of Chemistry Technical Officer (ASCO 3112-11) or Pharmacist (Retail) (ASCO 2382-11). NSW now requires applicants seeking sponsorship as

a Chemist (ASCO 2111-11) to have at least five years recent experience as a Chemist. There are no other changes to NSW selection criteria in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sector.

Updated selection criteria for this program are available on the NSW Migration web site at:

www.business.nsw.gov.au/migration

**ASCO: Australian Standard Classification of Occupations*

Changes to Skilled Migration Processing

The Commonwealth Minister for Immigration and Citizenship announced changes to skilled migration processing on 17 December 2008. The Minister announced that State/Territory Governments would be given greater scope to meet critical skill shortages in their jurisdiction. This would include places beyond existing lists of eligible occupations.

NSW will continue to sponsor applicants who meet the selection criteria specified on our web site. NSW published lists of occupations which it will sponsor will incorporate any greater scope provided by the Commonwealth to meet critical skill shortages.

NSW Migration Staff



Sue Hargreaves, Lily Cheung, Antoine Germaine (no longer with DSRD), Henry Cheung, Lita Aganon, Tom McAlary, John Angeles L to R).