

Migration Tasmania: Questions and Answers

Skilled Migration State Nomination Interim Allocations and Priorities August - October 2020

Contents

General questions	2
Why has the process changed?	2
What will happen after the Federal Budget? Will the process go back to normal?	2
When will my application be processed?	2
My visa is about to expire, can you prioritise my case?	2
How many places for subclass 491 visa and subclass 190 visa does the Tasmanian Government expect to approve?	3
What will happen if you have surplus places after nominating people with critical skills? Will you nominate other candidates?	3
How will Tasmania change its occupation list this year?	3
Critical Roles	3
What are critical roles?	3
Which critical sectors or occupations are preferred?	3
My employer says I am critical to the business, do I work in critical role?	3
I work in a food distribution warehouse	4
I am a delivery truck driver for a food distribution logistics company	4
I am a farmhand/meat processor	4
Do I work in a critical role?	4
I am a chef, do I work in critical role?	5
Do critical roles also include Registered or Enrolled Nurses and other skilled occupations in aged or disability care?	5
I operate a small business with strong income and turnover. Is this considered critical?	5
Tasmanian graduates	5
Will international students in Tasmania be able to be nominated in the future?	5
I've been in Tasmania for two years. I am a graduate but I don't work in a critical area. What should I do?	6
I'm planning to move to Tasmania to study, will I be nominated?	6

I am one year into a three year course at the University of Tasmania. Will I be able to be nominated after I graduate?..... 6

What skills do I need to be nominated? What should I study?..... 6

General questions

Why has the process changed?

The Department of Home Affairs has issued a small quota of nomination places for Tasmania to use until the Federal Budget is handed down on 6 October 2020. The Department of Home Affairs has directed that these places be used to support the COVID19 response, and industries critical to the economy. Every nomination must support economic recovery.

What will happen after the Federal Budget? Will the process go back to normal?

The Australian Government is still deciding the total size and shape of the state and territory nominated visa program. We do, however, expect the program will remain focussed on contributing to economic recovery for the 2020 – 2021 program year.

When will my application be processed?

Migration Tasmania will process applications and nominate according to the priorities set out by the Department of Home Affairs. This means applicants who are engaged in critical roles will be considered and nominated first, regardless of when they applied. Pending discussions with the Department of Home Affairs, other applicants may be nominated later if there are places remaining if they can demonstrate they will be able to make a genuine contribution to Tasmania’s economic recovery. This may mean some applicants will experience very long processing times and may want to investigate other visa options.

My visa is about to expire, can you prioritise my case?

No. Visa expiry is not a sufficient reason to prioritise a case, unless you are in a critical role. If your visa is about to expire you should contact the Department of Home Affairs or a Registered Migration Agent about your visa options.

How many places for subclass 491 visa and subclass 190 visa does the Tasmanian Government expect to approve?

We have been given a small interim quota to cover the period until the Federal Budget is handed down in October. Final program year allocations will not be known until after the Budget. We currently have many more applications than nomination places available.

What will happen if you have surplus places after nominating people with critical skills? Will you nominate other candidates?

We must be able to show how each nomination will contribute to economic recovery. If there are places remaining after nominating people in critical roles we may nominate other candidates if they can demonstrate their potential contribution to economic recovery. This position will, however, be subject to further discussions with the Department of Home Affairs.

How will Tasmania change its occupation list this year?

We are currently reviewing the Tasmanian Skilled Occupation List (TSOL) in line with the emerging needs of the Tasmanian economy and the advice of the Australian Government National Skills Commission. We expect to complete our review after the Federal Budget is handed down in October 2020.

Critical Roles

What are critical roles?

Which critical sectors or occupations are preferred?

My employer says I am critical to the business, do I work in critical role?

While you may be very important to your employer, this does not necessarily mean your role is critical. The Department of Home Affairs provides some guidance on critical roles or critical skills at <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/critical-skills-and-sectors#toc-1>. In relation to Tasmania these roles include:

- assisting directly in Tasmania's COVID-19 response (directly engaged by Tasmanian Government due to their specialist skills and experience)
- providing critical or specialist medical services or delivering medical supplies potentially associated with COVID-19 response. This includes all general nursing and medical positions with the Tasmanian Health Service

- directly involved in the supply of essential goods and services (medical technology, critical infrastructure, telecommunications, engineering and mining, supply chain logistics, agricultural technology, food production, and the maritime industry)
 - must be highly skilled and specialised roles
 - includes infrastructure engineering and maintenance including dams, large / high complexity bridges, irrigation schemes, transport logistics planning and maintenance
 - in agriculture includes specialist roles such as artificial insemination technicians, wool classers, livestock pregnancy scanners
 - supply of these essential goods and services in jeopardy without the applicant
 - does not include lower level positions such as retail workers, harvest labour, delivery drivers, warehouse staff

- delivering services in sectors critical to economic recovery (such as financial technology, large scale manufacturing, film and television production and emerging technology)
 - must be high value / highly skilled / specialised roles
 - would normally include a significant and recognised contribution to export income, significant flow-on employment and economic benefits, high value national / international exposure
 - would not normally include small scale, local oriented operations

In addition, Migration Tasmania will accept new applications from people employed in the following areas:

- health and allied health occupations, including in private and not-for-profit sectors
- senior support workers /enrolled nurses / registered nurses in aged, disability and community care (minimum Diploma qualified)

Migration Tasmania may add to these areas as the needs of Tasmania's economy evolves.

I work in a food distribution warehouse

I am a delivery truck driver for a food distribution logistics company

I am a farmhand/meat processor

Do I work in a critical role?

No. You must be directly involved in the supply of essential goods and services, and supply must be in jeopardy if your employment ceased. These would normally be highly skilled, specialist roles.

I am a chef, do I work in critical role?

No. However you may be able to demonstrate that your employment is important or vital to Tasmania's economy and recovery.

Do critical roles also include Registered or Enrolled Nurses and other skilled occupations in aged or disability care?

Registered and Enrolled Nurses, allied health professionals and senior support workers engaged in the aged, community and disability support sectors are critical to Tasmania. We will continue to accept applications from and nominate people engaged in this sector as a high priority if they have a minimum diploma qualification and are working in at least a senior support role.

Other workers in the sector will be considered alongside other applicants if there are available nomination places.

I operate a small business with strong income and turnover. Is this considered critical?

Small business owners making a strong or potential contribution to the local economy may be considered important to the state's economic recovery. Positive attributes may include:

- employment of locals
- flow-on effects to the local economy
- providing valuable services not otherwise available in the community
- strong export income
- contribution to Tasmania's brand image and exposure

Tasmanian graduates

Will international students in Tasmania be able to be nominated in the future?

We value the contribution that international student graduates make to the Tasmanian community and expect that they will continue to play an important role in Tasmania's migration program into the future. The current focus of the 2020 – 2021 skilled migration program is on people who can directly assist the COVID19 response and economic recovery. International student graduates who demonstrate their capacity in this area will have strong claims for nomination. While priorities for future program years are not yet clear, we expect that a focus on the skills and experience needed into the future will be important. We encourage students to study and obtain skills in areas which will give them the best chance of being able to contribute to Tasmania's economy in the long term.

I've been in Tasmania for two years. I am a graduate but I don't work in a critical area. What should I do?

If you have not yet applied for nomination you will not be eligible for consideration at this stage. You may consider applying for nomination sometime in the future when more places are available. You may want to investigate other visa options which will allow you to develop your skills and demonstrate your contribution to Tasmania's economy.

If you have already applied for Tasmanian state nomination and you can demonstrate your contribution to Tasmania's economic recovery, you may be considered for any nomination places available after we have exhausted higher priority candidates.

I'm planning to move to Tasmania to study, will I be nominated?

I am one year into a three year course at the University of Tasmania. Will I be able to be nominated after I graduate?

What skills do I need to be nominated? What should I study?

There is never any guarantee of state nomination. Nomination priorities change according to the needs of the Australian and Tasmanian economies. The current focus is on supporting critical industries and economic recovery. We encourage students moving to Tasmania to gain skills in areas which will be important to Tasmania's future needs. Some resources to guide you in your choice of study include:

- [Job Outlook](#)
- [Job Jumpstart](#)
- [Myskills](#)
- [Department of Education Skills and Employment](#)