



Priority Processing

Updated Priority Processing effective from 23 September 2009

The Minister has set priority processing arrangements which apply to the following visas from 23 September 2009:

- Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS)
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS)
- General Skilled Migration (GSM) visas except for:
 - Skilled – Recognised Graduate Subclass 476
 - Skilled – Designated Area – Sponsored (Residence) Subclass 883
 - Skilled – Regional Subclass 887

Under the Ministerial Direction, the following processing priorities (with highest priority listed first) apply:

1. Applications from people who are employer sponsored under the ENS and RSMS.
2. Applications from people who are nominated by State/Territory Government and whose nominated occupation is listed on the Critical Skills List (CSL).
3. Applications from people who are sponsored by family and whose nominated occupation is on the CSL.
4. Applications from people who are neither nominated nor sponsored but whose nominated occupation is listed on the CSL.
5. Applications from people who are nominated by a State/Territory Government whose nominated occupation is not listed on the CSL.

6. Applications from people whose occupations are listed on the Migration Occupations in Demand List (MODL); and Applications from people who are sponsored by family and whose nominated occupation is not listed on the CSL.
7. All other applications are to be processed in the order in which they are received.

If you have applied for an onshore or offshore GSM visa and your nominated occupation is on the CSL, it is estimated that your application will be finalised within twelve months from your lodgement date.

Please contact David Stratton, Ryan Curtis-Griffiths or Helen Zheng, Lawyers in our Migration Law Work Group, if you require further information in relation to this issue, or if you require legal advice regarding any other migration law matter.

Contact:

David Stratton Director T: 03 9614 7111	Helen Zheng Lawyer T: 03 9615 4325	Ryan Curtis-Griffiths Lawyer T: 03 9615 4309
email: dstratton@nevetford.com.au	email: hzheng@nevetford.com.au	email: rcurtisgriffiths@nevetford.com.au
Registered Migration Agent 58007	Registered Migration Agent 3327	Registered Migration Agent 741735
Melbourne office Level 42 South Tower Rialto 525 Collins Street Melbourne Victoria 3000	Ballarat office 40 Armstrong Street North Ballarat Victoria 3350	Bacchus Marsh office 127 Main Street Bacchus Marsh Victoria 3340
T 03 9614 7111 F 03 9614 3192 email: melbourne@nevetford.com.au	T 03 5331 4444 F 03 5333 2694 email: ballarat@nevetford.com.au	T 03 5367 1033 F 03 5367 4991 email: bacchusmarsh@nevetford.com.au

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