

# Australia Immigration New Policy

# Requirement # Skill Visa  
# Investment immigration

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## Immigration Boom

In November 2021, the Australian government announced the introduction of two new methods of obtaining permanent residency for visitors from Hong Kong who have been in Australia for 3-4 years for working, studies purposes.

This new scheme ensures easy access to permanent residency for Hong Kong people. In general, any Hong Kong persons with Hong Kong passport or BNO may apply for permanent residency if they:

1. Complete and graduate from Australian local courses
2. Maintain their visa for 3 to 4 years
3. Fulfill the "Common Criteria" requirements

The new scheme will be officially implemented on 5th March, 2022. Currently, there are 8800 Hong Kong people residing in Australia eligible for this scheme.

### Requirement

Hong Kong people residing in Australia should have:

Temporary Business Visa (457 visa)

Temporary Skill Shortage Visa (482 visa)

Temporary Graduate Visa (485 Visa)

Or after 4 years on a temporary visa

After 3 years of working and living in designated locations and meet the Common criteria of character tests and medical examinations<sup>^</sup>

Skilled Independent Visa (189 Visa)

Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) visa (191 Visa)

- <sup>^</sup>Common Criteria are standards of health and character assessment enforced on the applicants.

### Australia Immigration Point System 2022: Skill Visa

Using Skill Independent Visa (189 Visa) as an example, below is the point criteria rubric.

Age	Points
at least 18 but less than 25 years	25
at least 25 but less than 33 years	30
at least 33 but less than 40 years	25
at least 40 but less than 45 years	15

English	Points
Competent English	0
Proficient English	10
Superior English	20

Overseas skilled employment – (outside Australia)

Number of years	Points
Less than 3 years	0
At least 3 but less than 5 years	5
At least 5 but less than 8 years	10
At least 8 years	15

### Australia Immigration Requirements and Costs: Investment Immigration

- Criteria is slightly more strict.
- The investment immigrant visa that is generally familiar to Hong Kong people is the business innovation and investment (provisional) visa (188).
- This visa allows applicants to own and manage a business in Australia, carry out business and investment activities locally, or make business innovation investments.
- Three qualifications must be met, including: submitting an EOI through the Immigration SkillSelect system, being nominated by a state or territory government agency, and being invited by the authorities
- Applicants have 60 days to apply for visa



188 is separated into these categories:

#### Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) Visa (188a)

- For businessmen
- Achieve 65 points on the scale and present evidence of business success (profit proof)
- \$1.25 million AUD (about HK\$7.1 million) investment requirement
- Application success grants 5 years residency in Australia, and once all requirements are fulfilled, applicant may apply for Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa (888). Can apply for naturalization - visa fee \$6,085 AUD. (about HK\$34,700)

#### Visa Business Visa (188b)

- Requires at least 65 points and nomination from a state or territory government agency
- Need to invest 2.5 million Australian dollars (about HK\$14.2 million) in a compliant investment portfolio designated by the Australian government, such as bonds, stocks, etc
- After meeting the specified requirements, you can apply for a Business Innovation and Investment (Permanent) visa (888) to be able to apply for naturalization. The visa fee is AU\$6,085 (approximately HK\$34,700).

#### Significant Investor Visa (188c)

- Applicants must be nominated by a state or territory government agency,
- Required to hold 5 million Australian dollars (about HK\$28.5 million) in compliance investment and maintain investment activities in Australia
- And after meeting the specified requirements, you can apply for a business innovation and investment (permanent) visa (888), and you can apply for naturalization. Visa fee of AUD 8,925 (approximately HK\$ 50,900)