



Migrant Skills Incentives

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: 21 December 2021

1. What are the Migrant Skills Incentives?

The Australian Government is supporting stronger economic growth through policies that increase workforce participation and address critical skills shortages.

The Government is introducing three Migrant Skills Incentives that will deliver faster, cheaper skills assessments and improve the employability of migrants who are in Australia and ready to work. This will enable onshore migrants who have unrecognised or under-recognised skills to join the workforce and contribute to Australia's economic recovery.

2. What incentives are available to onshore migrants?

The Australian Government has introduced three incentives:

1. **Incentive 1 - Faster Migrant Skills Assessments** – This incentive offers fast-tracked skills assessments for onshore migrants who have already submitted and paid for an application in a priority occupation and are awaiting an outcome.
2. **Incentive 2 - Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants** – This incentive offers onshore migrants who reside in Australia on a permanent family, partner, humanitarian or refugee visa with a free, fast-tracked skills assessment. This incentive is available to migrants who have never undergone a skills assessment for a priority occupation.
3. **Incentive 3 - Employability Assessments** – This incentive offers onshore migrants, who have previously received a suitable skills assessment outcome in a priority occupation, a free employability assessment and access to subsidised training to gain the specific skills required in the Australian job market.

3. Am I eligible for the Migrant Skills Incentives?

You may be eligible for **Incentive 1 - Faster Migrant Skills Assessments** if you:

- were residing in Australia at the time you submitted and paid for your skills assessment application,
- applied for a skills assessment on or before 28 February 2022,
- applied for a skills assessment in a priority occupation, and
- have not received the outcome of your skills assessment application.

You may be eligible for **Incentive 2 - Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants** if you:

- can apply for a skills assessment for a priority occupation from 28 February 2022,
- have not previously undergone a migrant skills assessment for the priority occupation with an assessing authority,
- are residing in Australia at the time you submit your skills assessment application, and
- are in Australia on a family, partner, humanitarian or refugee visa that was granted on or after 1 January 2019.

Eligibility for **Incentive 3 - Employability Assessments** will be advised shortly.

4. How much does it cost?

If you are eligible for the **Incentive 1 - Faster Migrant Skills Assessments**, the Assessing Authority you applied to will automatically fast-track your skills assessment outcome at no additional cost to you.

If you are eligible for **Incentive 2 - Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants**, the skills assessment is free.

If you are eligible for **Incentive 3 - Employability Assessments**, the employability assessment process is free, however a co-contribution will be required for any subsidised training you choose to undertake.

5. What are the timeframes for the Migrant Skills Incentives?

The **Incentive 1 - Faster Migrant Skills Assessments** incentive commences on 28 February 2022 and finishes on 17 June 2022.

The **Incentive 2 - Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants** incentive commences on 28 February 2022 and finishes in June 2023.

The **Incentive 3 - Employability Assessments** incentive commences in the middle of 2022.

6. How do I apply?

You should contact the [Assessing Authority](#) that is responsible for assessing skills and qualifications in your nominated occupation to obtain an application form.

7. How long will my fast-tracked skills assessments take?

Once you have provided all required documentation to your Assessing Authority to undertake the skills assessment, it should be completed in around 15 business days.

8. How can I find an Assessing Authority for my occupation?

A list of all Assessing Authorities can be found on the Department of [Home Affairs website](#).

9. What occupations are included in the Migrant Skills Incentives?

To be eligible for the Migrant Skills Incentives, your skills, experience and/or qualifications must be relevant to a priority occupation listed on the:

- Incentive 1 – Faster Migrant Skills Assessments Occupation List
- Incentive 2 – Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants Occupation List
- Incentive 3 – Employability Assessments Occupation List

10. Where can I find more information?

Contact the relevant [Assessing Authority](#) for your occupation and visit the [Migrant Skills Incentives web page](#).