

Hammond Taylor a migration law firm



Immigration Guide

Visa Pathways for General Practitioners with Employer Sponsorship.

General Practitioners
are in demand.

General Practitioners in demand

Each year the Department of Home Affairs publishes a list of occupations eligible for skilled migration and employer sponsorship. To date, all General Practitioners have made it onto these lists as they continue to be in high demand in Australia.

Occupations are grouped into three different lists, the short-term, the medium-to-long term and the regional lists. Only occupations on the medium-to-long term and regional lists have a pathway to permanent residency. As your agents we will ensure that you are informed of the status of your occupation and how it relates to access to further visas and permanent residency.

Employer Sponsorship with Jema Clinic

As you are being supported by Jema Clinic, the most straight forward pathway is likely to include a period of time on the 482 Temporary Skill Shortage ('TSS') visa, followed by an application for permanent residency through the Regional Skilled Migration Scheme 187 visa. This two-step process enables both the employer and employee to ensure there is a positive match and it provides time for General Practitioners to commence the full registration process with the Australian Health Practitioner Registration Authority ('AHRPA').

The 482 TSS Visa
lets you work and
stay in Australia for
up to 4 years.

The 482 Temporary Skill Shortage (TSS) Visa

The TSS visa allows you to stay in Australia temporarily for up to 4 years. Depending on circumstances and support of your employer, you will be eligible for permanent residency. You can include dependent family members on this visa.

What's involved?

- You will need to be nominated by an employer sponsor who has an approved sponsorship agreement with the Department of Home Affairs, in a full-time position as a General Practitioner. You will only be allowed to work for your sponsor
- You must have at least two years' experience as a General Practitioner or in a related field
- Have at least limited registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Meet certain minimum standards of English language proficiency unless exemptions apply
- There is no age requirement
- Have adequate arrangements for health insurance for you and your family members
- Meet health and character requirements

The RSMS visa
will allow you
and your family
members to stay
permanently in
Australia.

187 Regional Skilled Migration Scheme (RSMS) Visa

The RSMS visa will allow you and your family members to stay permanently in Australia, and apply for citizenship when you become eligible. After you are granted the RSMS visa you must work for your nominating employer in regional Australia for at least 2 years.

If the holder of an RSMS visa ceases employment within a period of 2 years there may be grounds for Home Affairs to cancel the visa, subject to a finding that the person made a 'reasonable effort' to fulfil the role.

What's involved?

- Your employer must be located in Regional Australia
- Meet certain work experience requirements depending on your personal circumstances
- Meet certain minimum standards of English language proficiency unless exemptions apply
- Continue to have at least limited registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- You are exempt from the age requirements
- Meet health and character requirements

Age exemptions

For many General Practitioners seeking to move permanently to Australia the current age limit of 45 to access permanent residency can be a major hurdle. One of the primary benefits of the 482 to 187 visa pathway is that there are exemptions for General Practitioners who have been employed in regional Australia as the holder of a 482, or 457, visa to qualify for permanent residency.

Workforce Participation Certificates

While there have been moves to limit the number of General Practitioners entering the Australian system, this has primarily focused on areas of saturation, principally in urban and suburban areas. As a regional health provider, Jema Clinic is unaffected by these changes.

Further information

For further information on how we can assist you to manage your compliance obligations contact Hammond Taylor Partner, Jackson Taylor, by phone on (03) 9044 9265 or by email at j.taylorhammond@hammond-taylor.com.au.

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