



# Migration Strategy – Action Plan

*Implementation timeline for existing and new commitments  
and consultation timeline for areas for future reform*

Action	Measures	Commitment	Indicative Timeframe
Targeting temporary skilled migration to address skills needs and promote worker mobility	Raise the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) from \$53,900 to \$70,000	Existing commitment	Implemented July 2023
	Provide a pathway to permanent residence for temporary skilled visa holders		Implemented November 2023
	Develop a new Skills in Demand visa, with full mobility and clear pathways to permanent residence	New commitment	Implement late 2024
	Develop a Specialist Skills Pathway to drive innovation and job creation		Implement late 2024
	Develop a Core Skills Pathway to meet targeted workforce needs		Implement late 2024
	Legislate indexation of income thresholds to maintain system integrity		TSMIT indexation 1 July 2024
	Streamline Labour Market Testing (LMT) to reduce complexity		Implement Workforce Australia change late 2023 Implement 4 to 6 month LMT validity late 2024
	Take a coordinated, evidence-based, tripartite approach to identifying skills needs		Implement late 2024
	Establish a best practice service level agreement for processing times and a modernised accreditation pathway to better compete for talent		Implement mid to late 2024
	Consider how best to regulate migration for lower paid workers with essential skills		Area for future reform

Action	Measures	Commitment	Indicative Timeframe
Reshaping permanent skilled migration to drive long-term prosperity	Explore a reformed points test to better identify migrants who will drive Australia's long-term prosperity	Area for future reform	Discussion paper to be released early 2024
	Consider developing a new Talent and Innovation visa to drive growth in sectors of national importance		Consultation to begin early to mid-2024
Strengthening the integrity and quality of international education	Introduced a first set of measures to improve integrity in international education and support genuine students	Existing commitment	Ongoing
	Increase English language requirements to improve the quality of students' educational experience in Australia and reduce potential workplace exploitation	New commitment	Implement early 2024
	Apply greater and more targeted scrutiny to student visa applications from high risk providers		Implement visa processing priorities Ministerial Direction late 2023 Implement Genuine Student Test and Genuine Student Test Ministerial Direction early 2024
	Bolster the student visa integrity unit in the Department of Home Affairs to reduce misuse of Australia's student visa system		Implemented late 2023
	Strengthen requirements for international education providers		Implement 2024
	Restrict onshore visa hopping that undermines system integrity and drives 'permanent temporariness'		Implement early to mid-2024
	Strengthen and simplify Temporary Graduate visas		Implement mid-2024
	Support international students and graduates to realise their potential		Area for future reform

Action	Measures	Commitment	Indicative Timeframe
Tackling worker exploitation and the misuse of the visa system	Introduced legislation, new powers and large penalties to punish unscrupulous employers	Existing commitment	Implement mid-2024 pending passage of legislation through the Parliament
	Supported migrant workers by introducing protections against visa cancellation and giving migrants opportunities where they have experienced exploitation		Implement mid-2024
	Better regulated migration agents to crack down on unscrupulous activity		Ongoing
	Helping migrants understand their workplace rights to reduce worker exploitation		Ongoing
	Established real-time priority processing of Protection visa applications		Implementation underway
	Created a united intelligence, investigations and compliance capability in the Department of Home Affairs		Phased implementation is ongoing
	Develop a public register of approved sponsors to enable monitoring and oversight	New commitment	Implement late 2024 in line with new Skills in Demand visa
	Strengthen integrity in the approved sponsor application process	Area for future reform	Consultation to begin early to mid-2024
	Improve post-arrival monitoring and compliance including through coordination with the tax system		Ongoing

Action	Measures	Commitment	Indicative Timeframe
Planning migration to get the right skills in the right places	Plan migration over a longer-term horizon to better manage the migration intake, with greater state and territory collaboration	New commitment	National Cabinet agreed in August 2023 to developing a multi-year planning model for migration  Further consultation with state and territory governments underway
	Work with states and territories to ensure population planning is based on the best available population data and forecasts		Ongoing
	Establish a formal role for Jobs and Skills Australia in defining Australia's skills needs using evidence, including advice from tripartite mechanisms		Implement late 2024
	Improve the approach to skills recognition and assessment to better unlock the potential of migrants		Implement early to mid-2024
	Launch an enhanced outreach program to improve access to the migration system		Implement early 2024
	Bring an evidence-based, tripartite approach to evaluation and monitoring		Ongoing
Tailoring regional visas and the Working Holiday Maker program to support regional Australia and its workers	Increased skilled migration to help meet labour shortages in regional Australia	Existing commitment	Ongoing
	Designate visa processing to regional Australia as the highest processing priority	New commitment	Implement late 2023
	Evaluate regional migration settings and the Working Holiday Maker program to ensure migration supports development objectives in regional Australia and does not contribute to the exploitation of migrant workers	Area for future reform	Discussion paper to be released early 2024

Action	Measures	Commitment	Indicative Timeframe
Deepening our people-to-people ties in the Indo-Pacific	Established a direct pathway to Australian citizenship for eligible New Zealanders to reflect the strong ties between our two countries	Existing commitment	Implemented July 2023
	Reformed the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme, and delivering a new Pacific Engagement Visa (PEV) to encourage more mobility from our region		PALM reform implemented July 2023 PEV to be implemented in 2024
	Providing a special visa arrangement for Tuvalu citizens under our bilateral treaty, the Australia Tuvalu Falepili Union		In progress
	Making it easier for Southeast Asian businesses and eminent people to travel to Australia		In progress
Simplifying the migration system to improve the experience for migrants and employers	Invested to reduce the visa backlog and modernise the visa system experience for migrants and employers	Existing commitment	Ongoing
	Abolish unnecessary and duplicative visas to simplify the visa system	New commitment	Initial consolidation to occur in 2024
	Embed simplification as a key objective of all actions in the Migration Strategy		Ongoing

*This indicative timeline reflects the Government's intended implementation and consultation dates and will be subject to further implementation and systems changes. The Government will provide more specific timing closer to the implementation dates of each commitment.*