

Ministerial Approval re CSOL Occupations



DEWR - Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance Team

To s 47F(1)

Cc DEWR - Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance Team

s 22(1)



Reply Reply All Forward ...

Wed 20/11/2024 9:34 AM

s 22(1)

Dear s 47F(1)

Thank you for agreeing to deliver skills assessments for the 20 occupations on the Core Skills Occupation List named in the attached document.

I am pleased to advise that the Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Skills and Training has approved VETASSESS as the relevant assessing authority for the occupations under 2.26B (1A)(a) of the *Migration Regulations 1994*. This relates exclusively to the CSOL for the core skills pathway of the SID Visa and the Direct Entry Stream of ENS.

Responsibility as the assessing authority for these occupations will take effect when the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs specifies VETASSESS as the assessing authority through the relevant legislative instrument.

We will advise you when this has occurred.

In the meantime, please be aware this is still in confidence until Home Affairs makes it public. You should, however, commence the process so you can commence assessing the new occupations as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Kind regards
The AAPA Team

Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance (AAPA) Function | International Support and Assurance Team
Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

VETASSESS Occupations

	ANZSCO Code	Occupation
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14	311314	Primary Products Quality Assurance Officer
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Australian Government
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

MS24-000878
Standard Brief

To Minister for Skills and Training
CC Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
Action Required For Decision

Approval of bodies as skilled migration Assessing Authorities under regulation 2.26B of the *Migration Regulations 1994* for new occupations on the Core Skills Occupation List (CSOL)

Timing Please action before **22 November 2024**.

Recommendations

1. That you **approve** the bodies mentioned in **Attachment A** as the relevant Skilled Migration Assessing Authorities for the new occupations in accordance with regulation 2.26B of the *Migration Regulations 1994*.

Approved / Not approved / Please discuss

2. That you **sign** the letter to the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs at **Attachment B**.

Signed / Not signed / Please discuss

Minister Giles

Date: 18 / 11 / 2024

Comments:

Clearing Officer:	s 22(1)	First Assistant Secretary Skills Careers International Defence & Assessment	Mob: s 22(1)
Contact Officer:	s 22(1)	Assistant Secretary, International Policy and Defence Skills Careers International Defence & Assessment	Ph: s 22(1) Mob: s 22(1)

Executive summary:

1. The Migration Strategy (<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/what-we-do/migration-strategy>) released on 11 December 2023 provides a roadmap for the future reform of Australia's migration system. The Migration Strategy also established a formal role for Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) in defining Australia's skill needs using evidence and advice from tripartite mechanisms. A result is the CSOL.

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2. The CSOL applies to the new Skills In Demand (SID) visa for temporary employer sponsored migration (replacing the Temporary Skills Shortage visa subclass 482) and the Direct Entry stream of the permanent Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS), visa subclass 186. The Skills Occupation List remains relevant for other skilled visa types.
3. Approving the Assessing Authorities for these new occupations will increase opportunities for prospective migrants and assist Australia in addressing its skills shortage.

Key Points:

4. Under regulation 2.26B of the *Migration Regulations 1994*, the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs must not specify a body as the relevant Assessing Authority for a skilled occupation unless the body has been approved as the relevant Assessing Authority for the occupation.
5. You are responsible for approving each occupation to be added to participating Assessing Authorities' scope.
6. Where possible, Assessing Authorities were selected by virtue of their national recognition as peak bodies in their respective fields. In 2 instances, the Assessing Authorities were selected for their ability to assess skills in occupations and fields that do not sit logically with other approved Assessing Authorities.
7. A list of the new occupations and recommended Assessing Authorities is at **Attachment A**.
8. A brief description of the recommended Assessing Authorities for the new occupations follows:

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- d. **VETASSESS** assesses 341 trade, professional and other occupations. It also assesses skills for industry organisations and consults with government agencies internationally on education and training initiatives. VETASSESS finalised 48,145 skills assessments in the 2023–24 financial year.

Public Sensitivities:

9. The date of effect for the CSOL in relation to the SID and ENS visas is 7 December 2024.

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Consultation: Yes

12. The department liaised with the Department of Home Affairs and the participating Assessing Authorities.

Legal advice / Legislative impacts:

13. Nil

Financial impacts:

14. Nil

Background

15. JSA have been working with the Department of Home Affairs to develop the new CSOL, which applies to the new SID visa and the Direct Entry stream of the ENS visa.
16. In October 2024, the department commenced in-confidence discussions with relevant Assessing Authorities to gauge willingness and capacity to add the potential new CSOL occupations to their remit.
17. On 31 October 2024, the Department of Home Affairs shared the final CSOL and gave the department permission for relevant Assessing Authorities to have in-confidence discussions within their organisations in order to plan for commencing assessments, subject to being the approved Assessing Authority by the Skills Minister.

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18. The final CSOL list contains 456 occupations, 34 of which do not have an Assessing Authority assigned under regulation 2.26B of the *Migration Regulations 1994*.
19. The remaining 422 occupations in the CSOL already have Assessing Authorities and so will not require ministerial approval.

Stakeholder Implications:

20. The department does not anticipate any implication to prospective skilled migrants as more occupations provide more opportunities.

Attachments:

- A:** List of recommended Assessing Authorities and relevant occupations
- B:** Letter Minister Burke

Attachment A – List of recommended assessing authorities and new occupations

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4. Recommended Skills Assessing Authority: **VETASSESS**

ANZSCO Code	Occupation
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311314	Primary Products Quality Assurance Officer
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**THE HON ANDREW GILES MP
MINISTER FOR SKILLS AND TRAINING**

MS24-000878

The Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

tony.burke.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister

I am writing to advise you that I have exercised my powers under regulation 2.26B of the *Migration Regulations 1994*, to approve an organisation as a skilled migration assessing authority as set out below.

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4. Participating Skills Assessing Authority: **VETASSESS**

ANZSCO Code	Occupation
311314	Primary Products Quality Assurance Officer

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I request that you reflect the above changes by specification under the *Migration Regulations 1994*. Should the Department of Home Affairs require further information from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to facilitate this change to the *Migration Regulations 1994*, please contact s 22(1) First Assistant Secretary via email at s 22(1)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely



ANDREW GILES

18 / 11 / 2024