

Implications of changes to Australian immigration policy on the Australian international education market



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Overview

- Student visas now
- Future pipeline and effects
- Intent of change
- Productivity Commission
- Change itself
- Implications to students
- Solutions
- Glass half full



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Current student visa market

- ✓ Student visas never better
- ✓ Approvals higher than ever before
- ✓ Congratulations!



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Pipeline and Security

- ✓ Volatility of international education market
- ✓ Insecurity and lack of trust in Aus government
- ✓ Rule of Law
- ✓ Education is Australia's third largest export industry – it is a key industry of the future in world economies
- ✓ A need for greater transparency



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The link that shall not be named



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Recoupling

- ✓ Reality of international students in Australia
- ✓ Many students are young and highly skilled – 25,000 PR places 2013-14
- ✓ Don't chuck out the baby with the bathwater



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Changes – what do they mean?

- ✓ Not just rebranding
- ✓ Clear separation of temporary and permanent visas
- ✓ Aim to reduce number of permanent residence applications
- ✓ Sustainable population



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Productivity Commission Inquiry Report

- ✓ Released to gov 13 April 2016, to public 12 Sept 2016
- ✓ 700 page report, notable points below
- ✓ Younger and more highly skilled workers required
- ✓ Age limit recommended to be reduced
- ✓ One list for all PR applications and points test for all visas
- ✓ Half PR visas went to those on uncapped temporary programs
- ✓ Immigration policy recognised as population policy
- ✓ Governments not competent in infrastructure planning
- ✓ Regional migration recommended if sound planning conducted



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Changes in brief announced Apr 17

- ✓ 457 to be abolished, new TSS
- ✓ By Mar 18 visa holders will need two years of full-time work experience – impact for students
- ✓ New lists STSOL and MLTSSL
- ✓ Occupation lists to change every 6 months
- ✓ ENS 186 – MLTSSL only after Mar 18



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Changes cont

- ✓ Citizenship – English test and 4 years PR
- ✓ RSMS 187 – Mar 18 3 years experience – MLTSSL and new regional occupations
- ✓ Age limit reduced to 45 rather than 50
- ✓ 10 visas sub-classes and AI
- ✓ Reversal of 2012 demand driven philosophy



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Implications for students

- ✓ See tables
- ✓ States may play an important role whilst being mindful of infrastructure costs
- ✓ Lobbying by industry bodies to states
- ✓ 18 month 485 visa will deprive students of ability to gain 2 years work experience for TSS

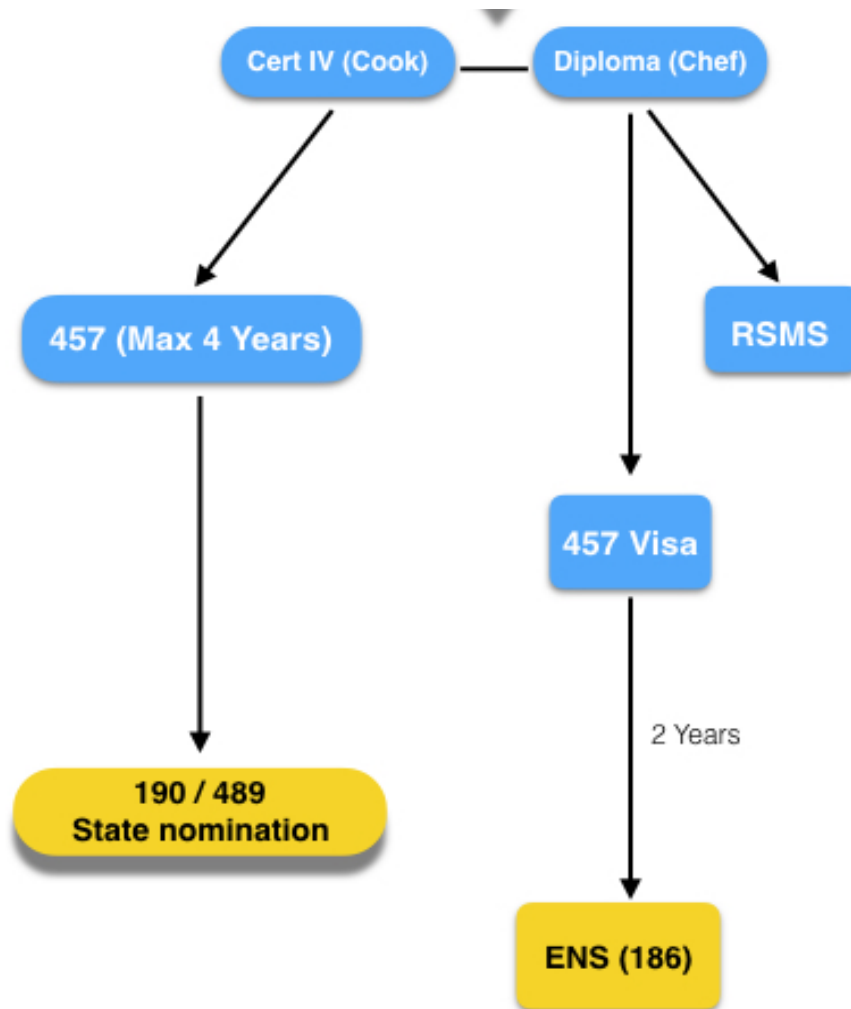


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Hospitality pre March 2018



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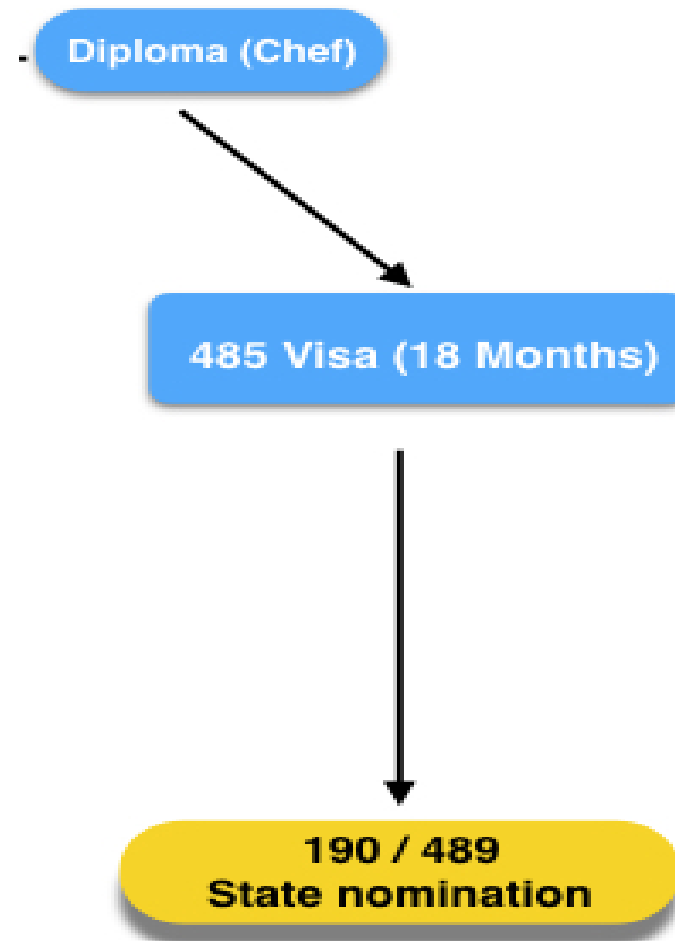
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Hospitality post March 2018



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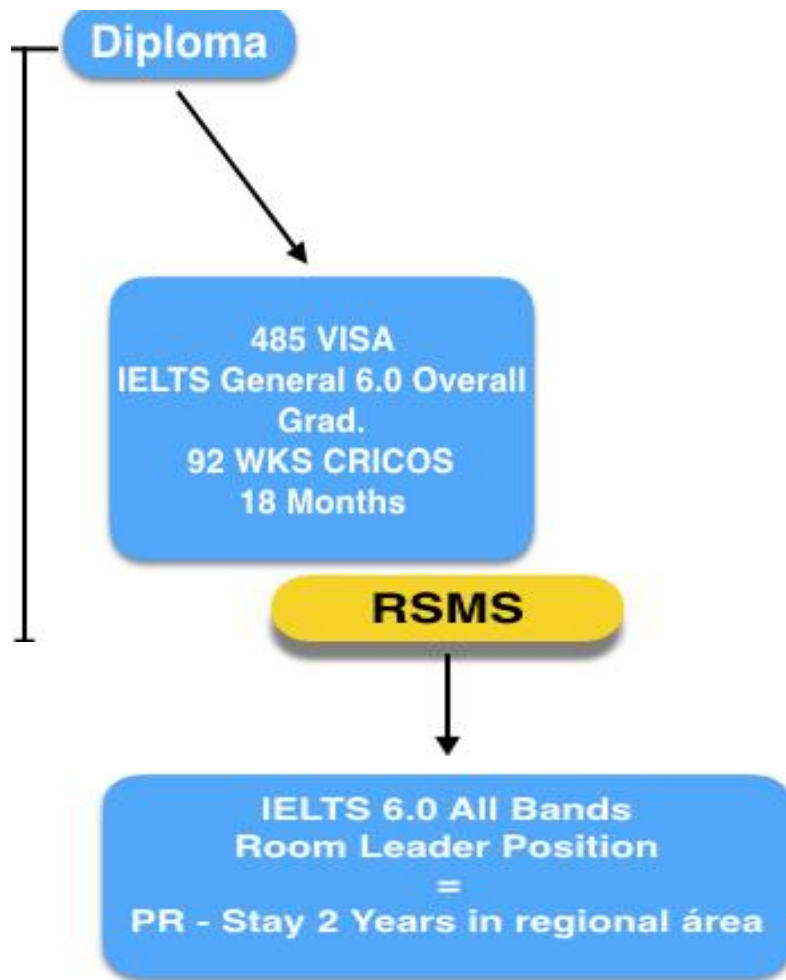
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Childcare pre March 2018



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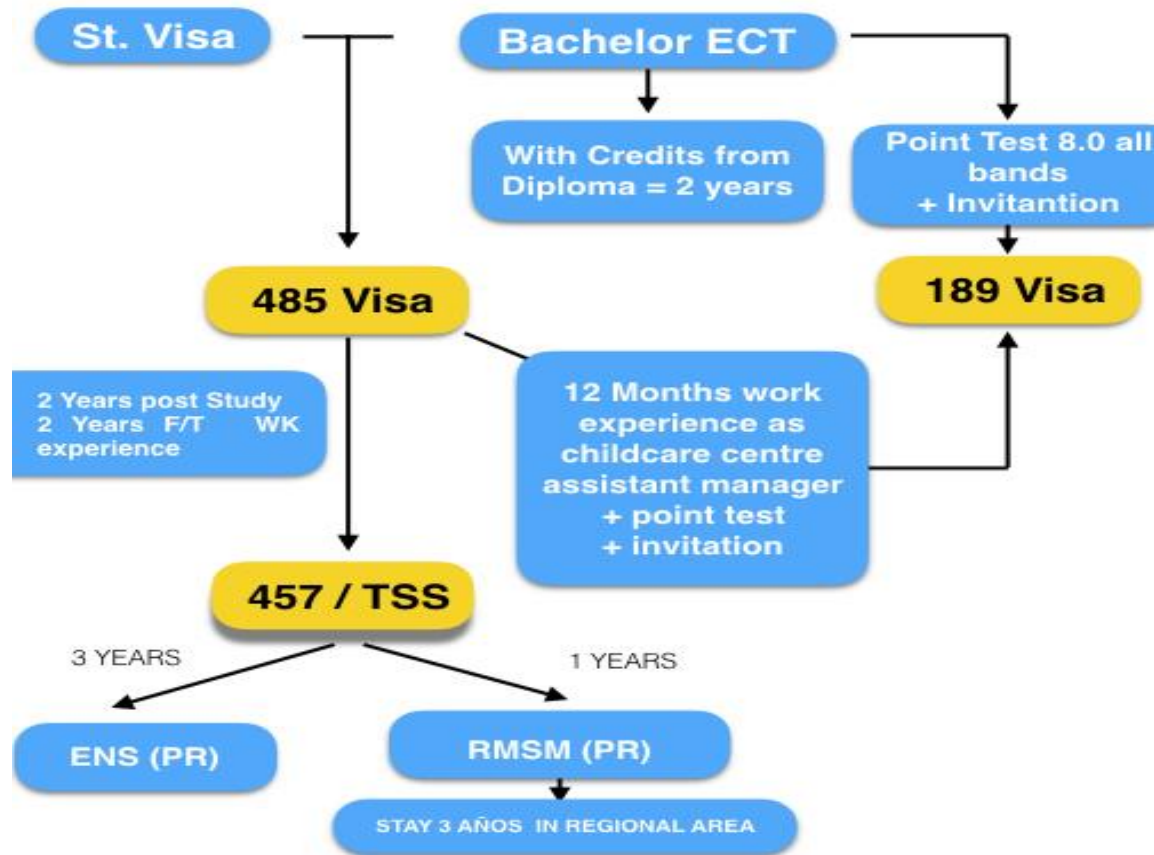
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Childcare post March 2018



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Student reactions

- ✓ Onshore students departing
- ✓ Leaving Master degrees
- ✓ Offshore clients looking at other countries eg Canada
- ✓ Business models to take into account other countries for offshore education agents



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Anti-migrant perception

- ✓ Aus government viewed as anti-migrant
- ✓ Affects whole temporary migrant program
- ✓ Education, Training and Tourism
- ✓ Long term pipeline effects



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Sledgehammer approach

- ✓ Aus government could have framed changes in more positive way
- ✓ More transparency required in reasons behind changes and benefits to Aus community
- ✓ Consultation with education agents beneficial



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Solutions

- ✓ Encourage growth in temporary residence
- ✓ In Education and Tourism
- ✓ Emerging markets such as education, robotics, AI, engineering, agriculture & care industry
- ✓ Labour agreements are a way to handle immigration needs in these fields



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Changing Times

- ✓ Changing face of immigration globally
- ✓ More transient migrants in future
- ✓ Not always seeking permanent visa



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When everything changes, change everything

- ✓ Need to reframe our dialogue with clients
- ✓ Forget pathways to PR now and forever
- ✓ Opportunity to improve quality of education
- ✓ Chance to upskill through 407 training program



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Let us be a guiding light



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